

**St Andrew's and St George's West
Order of Service, 27 June 2021**

Reaching out to Christ



Piano Music *Mélancolie* (1940)

Francis Poulenc

Welcome

Call to Worship

Adapted from Psalm 121

We lift up our eyes to the hills –
from where does our help come?
It comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth:
the One who neither sleeps nor slumbers and who keeps us from all evil.
**We come with honesty and with trust
for we have seen God's love, authority and glory in Jesus.**

Hymn Love divine, all loves excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver ;
let us all thy life receive ;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation :
pure and spotless let us be ;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Prayer of Confession

God calls us in our lives to take a risk,
to be like the woman in the gospel
who reaches out to Jesus for healing for herself;
or the father who risks the scorn of others
to bring Jesus to his dying daughter.
Let us ponder for a moment the places in our lives
where we may resist turning to God for healing and change.

(silence)

Litany of Confession

When we resist your call to open our hearts to allow
the freshness of your grace to enter:
God have mercy.

When we close our eyes to your new and unexpected possibilities
of healing and reconciliation.
Christ have mercy.

When we let fear overwhelm us,
and cling to the security of what we know
instead of risking new steps toward your freedom and justice:
God have mercy.

Assurance of Grace

God's mercies are fresh every morning.
In Christ God offers forgiving grace
and welcome into a community of trust, abundance, and hope.
Let us give thanks for the mercy of God,
and pass the peace of Christ in community among us. **Amen**

Dedication of Offerings followed by The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven.
Hallowed be your name
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Psalm 130: 1-7 (NIV)

Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD;
Lord, hear my voice.
Let your ears be attentive
to my cry for mercy.

If you, LORD, kept a record of sins,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness,
so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,
and in his word I put my hope.
I wait for the Lord
more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.

Israel, put your hope in the LORD,
for with the LORD is unfailing love
and with him is full deliverance.

New Testament Mark 5:21-43

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet and begged him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live." So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. Now there was a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years. She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew

worse. She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." Immediately her haemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?" And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?'" He looked all around to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?" But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. When he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha cum," which means, "Little girl, get up!" And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Shared Vulnerabilities – a conversation

Hymn I heard the voice of Jesus say

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest ;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast':
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn, and sad ;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water ; thirsty one,
stoop down and drink, and live':
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream ;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's Light ;
Look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright':
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my Star, my Sun ;

and in that light of life I'll walk,
till travelling days are done.

Prayers for Others

Loving God, we give you thanks for every goodness in our lives, for your presence within and around us. You encourage us to come to you with all of our concerns, and so we bring you now our prayers for others.

We pray for those suffering in mind, body, or spirit, for the isolated and lonely, for those who grieve the loss of a loved one, and those who are facing death.

Let us remember those who are on our hearts: _____
(*pause while the community prays in silence or aloud as the Spirit moves*).

We continue to pray, Lord, for all who are caring at home or in hospitals for those who are sick, and for the staff in care homes witnessing the distress of families kept apart by Covid regulations. We thank you for our privileged access to vaccines and pray for those countries around the world that cannot afford what is needed to protect their people. Continue to move, Lord, in the hearts of world leaders that they may grow in generosity and willingness to share resources for the good of all.

O God, hear our prayer,
and let our cry come unto you.

We pray for an end to conflict and violence in families, in our communities, and between warring peoples around the world. Let us remember those places of conflict:
_____ (*members of the congregation may call out names of places in the world where there is violence*).

We pray for all working for peace, both world leaders and diplomats around conference tables, and people of faith called to be peacemakers in their own communities. We remember especially our Christian brothers in South Sudan working to reconcile tribal factions in a long civil war.

O God, hear our prayer,
and let our cry come unto you.

We pray for all those who are fighting to resist evil and promote justice. and to bring about a fairer and more equitable world. Let us remember individuals and organisations defending the oppressed and standing up for what is right: _____.
(*pause while the community prays in silence or aloud as the Spirit moves*).

We pray also for those around the world who face discrimination, persecution or even death because of their faith in you. Give them strength, courage and comfort, and the joy of knowing that you are with them in their suffering.

O God, hear our prayer,
and let our cry come unto you

We offer to you these prayers from our hearts, O God, in thankfulness that you hear us.
In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

Hymn Christ is made the sure foundation

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and corner-stone,
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the Church in one,
holy Zion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call you,
come, O Lord of Hosts, today :
with your constant loving-kindness,
hear your servants as they pray,
and your fullest benediction
shed within its walls always.

Praise and honour to the Father,
praise and honour to the Son,
praise and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One,
One in might and One in glory
while unending ages run.

Blessing

When you're afraid, when you're alone, when you're angry, when you're hurting,
when you're so overwhelmed that there's not a part of you that doesn't feel broken,
may you reach out to the living Christ.

May you be constantly surprised by the grace expressed in God's unrelenting,
transforming, and healing love for you.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far
more than all we can ask or imagine,
to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus
to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Organ Music

Fantasia in C BWV 570

J.S. Bach

Worship Leaders: The Reverend Rosie Magee, Dorothy Tarrant, The Reverend Peter Millar

Scripture Reader: Andrena Crawford and Donald Macrae

Director of Music: Brigitte Harris

Vocal ensemble: Adrienne and Philippa Burgess, Eleanor Cozens, Mary Godden,

Seonaid Martin, Tim Cooper, Andrew Carvel

Pianist: Eleanor Cozens

Technical team: Alison Bruce, Philippa Burgess, Andrew Carvel, Susan McLarty, Mary

Margaret Scott

Digital Coordinator: Andrew Carvel

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Prayer and Litany of Confession by Rev Susan A Blain, posted on the Worship Ways website. <http://uccfiles.com>

Prayers for Others: based on Seasons of the Spirit, Wood lake Publishing.

Scripture readings taken from the New Revised Standard Version unless otherwise stated.

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