

**St Andrew's and St George's West
Order of Service, 16 January 2022**

Abundance - from Cana to kingdom come



Preparing for worship

'I saw you leisurely hanging out on a couch,
laughing at a joke the best man told,
when your mother interrupted
and whispered something in your ear.
You were reluctant,
but she was persistent.
And you transformed water into wine.
And you blessed the party.
And you made the wedding guests happy.
And you kept the celebration going,
not just for a week,
or for a year,
but for a lifetime-
A panoramic vision of blessing
stretching from Cana to kingdom come.'

by Rick Fry

Gathering music Minuet from Sonata in G

L van Beethoven

Welcome

Call to worship

Come as we gather to worship
the God of surprises.

Come as we gather to worship
Jesus of miracles.

Come as we gather to worship
the Spirit of wonder.

Come let us worship God.

Hymn Jesus calls us here to meet him

- 1 Jesus calls us here to meet him
as, through word and song and prayer,
we affirm God's promised presence
where his people live and care.
Praise the God who keeps his promise ;
praise the Son who calls us friends ;
praise the Spirit who, among us,
to our hopes and fears attends.
- 2 Jesus calls us to confess him
Word of life and Lord of all,
sharer of our flesh and frailness,
saving all who fail or fall.
Tell his holy human story ;
tell his tales that all may hear ;
tell the world that Christ in glory
came to earth to meet us here.
- 3 Jesus calls us to each other,
vastly different though we are ;
creed and colour, class and gender
neither limit nor debar.
Join the hand of friend and stranger ;
join the hands of age and youth ;
join the faithful and the doubter
in their common search for truth.
- 4 Jesus calls us to his table
rooted firm in time and space,
where the Church in earth and heaven
finds a common meeting place.
Share the bread and wine, his body ;
share the love of which we sing ;
share the feast for saints and sinners
hosted by our Lord and King.

Opening prayer and the Lord's prayer

Creator God, we bring you our thanks and praise.
Everything we have and all that we are
flow from your goodness.

Jesus, worker of miracles,
we bring you our thanks and praise.
When our faith or our imagination fail us
you have the power to bless and multiply and transform.

Spirit of life and joy,
we bring you our thanks and praise.
You draw us into community and friendship.
You invite and provoke and inspire.

Three-in-one God,
we bring you ourselves.
Knowing that our lives and our fears and our desires
are an open book before you.
We confess that sometimes
it's not until we get to the end of our own resources,
until we find ourselves running on empty,
that we turn to you.

We turn to you now,
admitting that we sometimes don't know what do with ourselves.
We anger at the slightest insult, real or imagined,
and slight those who we feel have wronged us.
We come before you now in silent confession.
Forgive us and make us whole.

Silence

Assurance of pardon

Friends, hear the good news.
There is no hurt or harm that is beyond God's redeeming love.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

As forgiven people we pray together the words that Jesus taught saying:

**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 reading 1 Cor 12:1-11

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Dedication of offerings

Sharing Christ's Peace with one another

The peace of Christ be with you
And also with you.

Hymn O Love that wilt not let me go

- 1 O Love that wilt not let me go,
 I rest my weary soul in thee :
 I give thee back the life I owe,
 that in thine ocean depths its flow
 may richer, fuller be.
- 2 O Light that followest all my way,
 I yield my flickering torch to thee :
 my heart restores its borrowed ray,
 that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
 may brighter, fairer be.
- 3 O Joy that seekest me through pain,
 I cannot close my heart to thee :
 I trace the rainbow through the rain,
 and feel the promise is not vain,
 that morn shall tearless be.
- 4 O Cross that liftest up my head,
 I dare not ask to fly from thee :
 I lay in dust life's glory dead,
 and from the ground there blossoms red
 life that shall endless be.

Scripture reading John 2:1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Reflection

Hymn Christ is our light!

1. Christ is our light! the bright and morning star
covering with radiance all from near and far.
Christ be our light, shine on, shine on we pray
into our hearts, into our world today.
2. Christ is our love! baptized that we may know
the love of God among us, swooping low.
Christ be our love, bring us to turn our face
and see in you the light of heaven's embrace.
3. Christ is our joy! transforming wedding guest!
Through water turned to wine the feast was blessed.
Christ be our joy; your glory let us see,
as your disciples did in Galilee.

Prayers of the people

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

Hymn Great is thy faithfulness

- 1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not,
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;*

*all I have needed thy hand hath provided —
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

- 2 Summer and winter, and seed-time and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
- 3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide ;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside.

Sending and Blessing

We go from this place,
remembering that the call to mission
is a call to participate in miracles.

May God's will be done here,
where we live,
and all over the world
though impossible, extravagant, abundant things
that are to the glory of God
and for the sake of God's kingdom

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
abide with us, within us, and between us
this day and every day. Amen.

Sending music

“The Prince of Denmark’s March”

Jeremiah Clarke

Worship Leader: Rosie Magee

Musicians: Selda Dow (piano) and David Dow (trumpet)

Scripture Reader: Helen Cox

Technical team: Alison Bruce, Susan McLarty, Mary Margaret Scott,
Phillipa Burgess, Amy Marcham

Sources:

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