

**St Andrew's and St George's West
Order of Service, 6 February 2022**

Catch and Release



Gathering music

Vater Unser im Himmelreich' BWV 737, J.S Bach

Welcome

Call to worship

Caught hold by a story,
the Word of God
is the lure that attracts us,
a message of love for all.
Redeemed by Jesus—
is the net that gathers all in,
a promise of Love for all.
In that assurance of unconditional love,
we worship,
the God who draws all in.

Hymn O Lord, our Lord, throughout the earth

Psalm 8

O Lord, our Lord, throughout the earth
how glorious is your name,
and glorious too where unseen heavens
your majesty proclaim.

On infant lips, in children's song
a strong defence you raise
to counter enemy and threat,
and foil the rebel's ways.

When I look up and see the stars
which your own fingers made,
and wonder at the moon and stars,
each perfectly displayed ;
then I must ask, 'Why do you care ?
Why love humanity ?
And why keep every mortal name
fixed in your memory ?'

Yet such as us you made and meant
just less than gods to be ;
with honour and with glory, Lord,
you crowned humanity.
And then dominion you bestowed
for all made by your hand,
all sheep and cattle, birds and fish
that move through sea or land.

Coda:

O Lord, our Lord, throughout the earth
how glorious is your name !

Prayer of adoration and confession and the Lord's Prayer

O God, we have searched deep and wide for answers to our questions,
for solutions to our problems and for relief from those things
that threaten to destroy us.

And you have brought us here, to the last place many think of turning.
Through Jesus Christ, you fill our nets to bursting and renew
us in your Holy Spirit.

Inviting God,
in the midst of our everyday lives, you come close;
you draw us in and invite us to go deep.
You assure us that, in the deep places,
we will find new life in abundance.
You ask us to trust and to take risks –
to cast ourselves fully into the depths of community
where we will find our true selves
and be empowered to serve.

We hear your invitation
but we do not always respond in faith.
We hold back and do not follow your lead.
We recognize how we have fallen short in a moment of silence.

Words of assurance

Though we fall short,
Love draws near to us again and again
bringing us out of our fear and resistance
and into our calling as reflections of Christ.

**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 Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

‘Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.’

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: ‘Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!’

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: ‘Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.’ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I; send me!’

Holy, Holy, Holy

Hymn Holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty!
early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
God ever living through eternity.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,
though the sinful human eye thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty!
all thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

Dedication of offerings

**For the wondrous gift of life, we are thankful, O God.
Your generous outpouring of grace reminds us of the fruitful life we are called
to bear. May our gifts of time and labour embody our desire to share and
contribute to your coming reign among us. Amen.**

Sharing the Peace

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Scripture Reading Luke 5:1-11

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

Catch and release

Hymn When Jesus saw the fishermen

When Jesus saw the fishermen
in boats upon the sea,
he called to them, 'Come, leave your nets
and follow, follow me'.
They followed where he healed the sick
and gave the hungry bread,
and others joined them as they went
wherever Jesus led.

And now his friends are everywhere ;
the circle once so small
extends around the whole wide world,
for Jesus calls us all.
In this great circle we belong,
wherever we may be,
if we will answer when he calls,
'Come, follow, follow me'.

Prayers of the People

Wise and generous God
we take time today to do as the old hymn suggests
and 'count our blessings' naming them silently one by one
and giving thanks to You the source of all that is good.

We pray for those whose troubles we do not know
Or whose names we would not say aloud,
We mention them now in the silence which you understand.

We thank you for the ministries of those who have gone before us,
remembering the great heroes of faith – like the disciples of Jesus
who called them from their daily work to follow him.

For all the expectations and hope placed on their shoulders.

May your children today hear your voice and gladly answer your call
to serve your church.

We give thanks for all the servants of Christ
who have given of themselves to build communities of faithful witness
in our cities, towns and villages.
May we, in turn, build upon that work, finding new ways,
relevant to our own communities,
that bring hope and peace, good news and grace.

We may not have experienced the visions of Isaiah, but each of us
has our strengths and accomplishments to offer in your service.
As your people, help us to work for the coming of your kingdom
Here on earth as it is in heaven.
help us to bring light, bring hope, bring love wherever we are
in our small corner of your world.

In communities where hope seems removed,
where peace is a twisted joke,
where women's rights and education are removed and the privacy of
their bodies is invaded and mutilated,
where violence is unchecked,
where corruption is rampant,
we pray for people to stand firm,
we pray for resilience and fortitude
for those seeking to bring restoration and healing,
for agencies seeking to bring honesty and truth

and for people like us,
ordinary folk
to find the courage to speak out
naming what we see taking place.

We ask your blessing for the people of Afghanistan and the Ukraine and grant that governments and rulers throughout the world make wise and humane decisions in these volatile times.

Bless Elizabeth our Queen that she may fulfil her calling as a Christian ruler.
Support her in her long service of many peoples.

And dear Lord, we ask you to bless our church and church leaders throughout this period of change. Help us to embrace opportunities which lead us forward.
We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn As a fire is meant for burning

As a fire is meant for burning
with a bright and warming flame,
so the Church is meant for mission,
giving glory to God's name.
Preaching Christ, and not our customs,
let us build a bridge of care,
joining hands across the nations,
finding neighbours everywhere.

We are learners ; we are teachers ;
we are pilgrims on the way.
We are seekers ; we are givers ;
we are vessels made of clay.
By our gentle, loving actions,
we will show that Christ is light.
In a humble, listening Spirit,
we will live to God's delight.

As a green bud in the springtime
is a sign of life renewed,
so may we be signs of oneness
'mid earth's peoples, many-hued.
As a rainbow lights the heavens
when a storm is past and gone,
so may we reflect the radiance
of God's new and glorious dawn.

Sending and blessing

God draws us to Godself
not to capture or contain us
but to release us to freedom.
The freedom found in and through Christ.

Redeemed and released,
follow Jesus out into the world
with the message of love for all.

May the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the companionship Holy Spirit
journey with you
now and always. Amen.

Sending music

Carillon de Longpont, Louis Vierne

Worship Leaders: Rosie Mage, Marie Austin

Organist: George Barrett

Scripture Reader: Donald Macrae

Technical team: Alison Bruce, Susan McLarty, Mary Margaret Scott,
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Sources:

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