St Andrew's and St George's West Order of Service, 1 August 2021

"Jesus, Bread of Life"



Introit Oculi omnium

Oculi omnium in te sperant, Domine, Et tu das escam illorum in tempore opportune, Gloria Domine, Amen.

Translation: Patiently all creatures look to you To feed them throughout the year; Quick to satisfy every need, You feed them all with a generous hand.

Words: Psalm 145, v 15, sung in Latin; Music: Charles Wood (1866-1926)

Welcome

Call to worship

We come from different places with different skills and abilities, and different occupations. We come to the same place, to share skills and abilities and worship together. Let us gather together to worship God.

Hymn 124 Praise to the Lord

Praise to the lord, the Almighty, the King of creation Praise God, my soul, for in him are my health and salvation Come all who hear Into his presence draw near Joining in glad adoration. Praise to the Lord, who in all things is wondrously reigning Shields you from harm and is gently yet firmly sustaining Have you not seen How your heart's wishes have been Granted by God's wise ordaining

Praise to the Lord, who with blessing and power will defend you Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you Ponder anew What the Almighty can do God will forever befriend you

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
Sound from God's people again
Gladly for ever adore him.

Opening Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Let us pray Loving God, we come, like the prophets, because we are called to follow you. We come, like the disciples before us, because we are called to follow our Saviour Christ Jesus. We come, we who are counted amongst humanity but ever striving to be like You.

We come in this time of change in our world because we look to you for strength and courage. Bless our lives as we seek to leave the darkness of fear, and walk into the light of hope, for we come as we are, in need of your care, comforted in your love, giving thanks for your freely given grace. We come, as we are, in need of forgiveness for what we have done and what we have failed to do.

We come, separated in space but united in community. Help us today and every day to know what it is to follow you, to walk in the footsteps of those who came before, to live like Jesus, and to be strengthened in the Spirit. We have been called, loving God, so we come, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Now let us say The Lord's Prayer together, as taught to us by our Lord and Saviour, Jesus 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.

Sharing of the Peace

Introduction to the reading

Scripture Reading John 6: 24-35

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.' Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Hymn 553 Just as I am

Just as I am, without one plea But that your blood was shed for me And that you call us 'Come to me' O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about With many a conflict, many a doubt Fightings and fears within, without O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am you will receive Will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve Because your promise I believe O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am – your love unknown Has broken every barrier down – Now to be yours, and yours alone, O lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love
The breadth, length, depth and height to prove
Here for a season, then above –
O Lamb of God. I come.

Scripture Reading 1st Corinthians 15: 12-20

But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Reflection "Jesus the Bread of Life"

Anthem Locus iste by Anton Bruckner

Locus iste a Deo factus est, inaestimabile sacramentum, irreprehensibilis est.

Translation: This is God's house, a temple God the Lord has made. O holy covenant beyond all telling, worthy of his glorious Name.

Prayers of the people

Loving God, in praise and in hope, with eyes open to the wonder of your grace, we present ourselves before you in this building, in our homes, apart in space but united in your love.

Be among us today, join us together in the radical spirit of change and new perspectives, shine your light on the possibilities and the potential for a different way through you.

As your church continues to discern our path forward we ask for the boldness to hold to what is good, and overturn what blocks our path towards service of you and each other. We pray for all those who bear the heavy burden of leadership, that they may find the wisdom to serve all peoples. We pray for our Minister Rosie and all those who carry responsibility within our church.

We pray for the isolated and the lonely, that they will find strength and comfort in you. We pray for all those who are ill that they will find healing in your love.

We pray for all those who mourn, remembering Jimmy Campbell and his family at this sad time of loss. May he find strength in his faith in you and may he know that he will always find love and support in this congregation.

And on this day as we strive to follow your son Jesus, on the path of love for all, may we remember to care for each other and for ourselves. Help us to work tirelessly to see and to seek the changes that are needed both in our communities and in the wider world. In Jesus' name we pray.

Loving God, help us today as we try to see you in all the people that we meet; help us to understand what makes us 'us'. Help us to remember that every person is different and help us not to judge others, but seek the good in them and love and appreciate them for who they are.

In our busy lives guide us towards each other; help us to care for the world and our environment, and the people all around us. Help us to see that you love us now and forever, and help us to live our lives spreading this same love - today and every day.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Hymn 625 O Thou who camest from above

O thou who camest from above The pure celestial fire to impart Kindle a flame of sacred love On the mean altar of my heart

There let it for thy glory burn
With inextinguishable blaze
And trembling to its source return
In humble prayer and fervent praise

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire To work, and speak, and think for thee Still let me guard the holy fire And still stir up thy gift in me

Ready for all thy perfect will My acts of faith and love repeat Till death thy endless mercies seal And make the sacrifice complete.

Congregational sung blessing Hymn 786

May the God of peace go with us As we travel from this place May the love of Jesus keep us Firm in hope and full of grace

Benediction

Organ Music

Pasticcio by Jean Langlais

Worship Leaders: Rev Colin Douglas with Selda and David Dow

Director of Music: Brigitte Harris

The choir of St Andrew's and St George's West

Technical team: Alison Bruce, Andrew Carvel, Susan McLarty, Mary Margaret Scott,

Philippa Burgess

Digital Coordinator: Andrew Carvel

Sources:

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Scripture readings taken from the New Revised Standard Version

Call to worship from Seasons of the Spirit https://www.seasonsonline.ca Prayers from Spill the Beans https://www.spillthebeans.org.uk

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