

**St Andrew's and St George's West**  
**Order of Service, 2 October 2022**  
***Fan to a flame***



**Gathering music**

**Welcome**

**Call to worship**

**We gather, as a people of action and prayer**  
Lord, open our hearts to you.

**We gather as a people of faith and waiting:**  
Lord, give us patience and healing.

**We gather as a people of courage and wisdom,**  
Lord, give us strength and gentleness.

**Oh that today, we would listen to His Voice,**  
Lord, harden not our hearts.

**Hymn 608: Spirit of truth and grace**

- 1 Spirit of truth and grace,  
come to us in this place  
as now in Jesus' name God's people gather.  
Open our eyes to see  
truths that will ever be,  
and in communion draw us close together.

- 2 Spirit of joy and peace,  
make all anxieties cease  
with knowledge of the Father's perfect caring.  
Then may God's children know  
love that won't let us go  
and joy that fills each day, beyond comparing.
- 3 Spirit of life and power,  
revive us in this hour  
and stir our hearts to praise with true devotion.  
Fill us with heavenly fire,  
and every heart inspire,  
that we may serve the world with your compassion.

### **Opening Prayer**

Let us pray,

Creator God. You delight in seeing your people meet in community. Be with us today. Help us bring to you all we are thinking and feeling at this time. A time of uncertainty, in our world, in our country, in our church and in our parish. Help us to feel the coolness of your peace like balm, the warmth of your embrace, and the fire of your inspiration in us. Let us feel confident in your closeness, in our times of prayer and in the events of our lives, and let us trust in you, that it is your will that will be done in our lives, as we dare to say....

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread and 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.**

### **Short talk**

#### **The sharing of Christ's peace**

#### **Hymn 360: Jesus Christ is waiting**

- 1 Jesus Christ is waiting,  
waiting in the streets ;  
no one is his neighbour,  
all alone he eats.  
Listen, Lord Jesus,  
I am lonely too :  
make me, friend or stranger,  
fit to wait on you.
- 2 Jesus Christ is raging,  
raging in the streets,  
where injustice spirals  
and real hope retreats.  
Listen, Lord Jesus,  
I am angry too :  
in the Kingdom's causes  
let me rage with you.

- 3 Jesus Christ is healing,  
healing in the streets,  
curing those who suffer,  
touching those he greets.  
Listen, Lord Jesus,  
I have pity too :  
let my care be active,  
healing, just like you.
- 4 Jesus Christ is dancing,  
dancing in the streets,  
where each sign of hatred  
he, with love, defeats.  
Listen, Lord Jesus,  
I should triumph too :  
where good conquers evil  
let me dance with you.
- 5 Jesus Christ is calling,  
calling in the streets,  
'Who will join my journey ?  
I will guide their feet.'  
Listen, Lord Jesus,  
let my fears be few :  
walk one step before me,  
I will follow you.

### **Scripture Readings (Jerusalem Bible)**

#### **2 Timothy 1: 6-8,13-14**

I am reminding you now to fan into a flame the gift that God gave you when I laid my hands on you.

God's gift was not a spirit of timidity, but the Spirit of power, and love, and self-control.

So you are never to be ashamed of witnessing to the Lord, or ashamed of me for being his prisoner; but with me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God.

Keep as your pattern the sound teaching you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

You have been trusted to look after something precious; guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

#### **Luke 17:5-10**

The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith'.

The Lord replied, 'Were your faith the size of a mustard seed you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.

'Which of you, with a servant ploughing or minding sheep, would say to him when he returned from the fields, "Come and have your meal immediately"?

Would he not be more likely to say, "Get my supper laid; make yourself tidy and wait on me while I eat and drink. You can eat and drink yourself afterwards"?

Must he be grateful to the servant for doing what he was told?

So with you: when you have done all you have been told to do, say, "We are merely servants: we have done no more than our duty".'

## Reflection

### Hymn 689: Just as the tide creeps over silver sand

- 1 Just as the tide creeps over silver sand  
flooding the bay with slow and steady gain,  
like brightening dawn across the eastern land,  
certain and sure is love that comes again.
- 2 When empty eyes stare at the vacant chair  
and none can touch or fill the heart's deep pain,  
into our void of desolate despair,  
Jesus, pour out the love that comes again.
- 3 When every road ahead seems blocked and barred  
and doubt corrodes our will like acid rain,  
reveal your wounds to us whom life has scarred,  
and help us see the love that lives again.
- 4 When threat and fear conspire friends to betray,  
and bitter failure every hope has slain,  
when broken trust makes dark the dismal day,  
Jesus, speak of the love that comes again.
- 5 As sure as tide and dawn your love has come,  
come to redeem our failures and our pain ;  
Jesus, come now, and find in us a home,  
revive us with the love that comes again.

## Dedication of Offerings

### Prayers of the People

Loving God, you know all of our pain and suffering. Hear our prayers now as we turn to you with our hurts, fears and concerns at this time.

We pray for peace. We pray in particular for those facing mobilisation and conscription in Russia, and for their families at this time. We pray for those in Ukraine who are suffering and we pray for all those in part of the world torn apart for war. We pray too for those who command and create wars, that they will learn to study for peace.

Oh that today they would listen to His voice

**Harden not their hearts.**

We pray for our own country, in the current state of anxiety and stability. We pray that those who have it in their gift to work for the common good will do so, and that wisdom and care for the vulnerable would prevail.

Oh that today they would listen to His voice

**Harden not their hearts.**

We pray for our beautiful and fragile earth, particularly as we come to the end of the season of creation. We pray for all those whose homes and ways of life are lost or in danger because of the climate crisis, and we pray that we will become a people who will do all we can to protect all life.

Oh that today we would listen to His voice

**Harden not our hearts**

We pray for our church community here at St Andrew's and St George's West. We pray for gifts of discernment, patience and wisdom at this difficult time. We ask that we would stay trusting and open to God and one another at this difficult time.

Oh that today we would listen to His Voice

**Harden not our hearts.**

**Even at times of test and trial Lord, harden not our hearts and let them always be open to your ways and your love, and to the work you have for us to do. In Jesus name, Amen.**

### **Hymn 250: Sent by the Lord am I**

- 1 Sent by the Lord am I ;  
my hands are ready now  
to make the earth the place  
in which the kingdom comes.  
Sent by the Lord am I ;  
my hands are ready now  
to make the earth the place  
in which the kingdom comes.
- 2 The angels cannot change  
a world of hurt and pain  
into a world of love,  
of justice and of peace.  
The task is mine to do,  
to set it really free.  
Oh, help me to obey ;  
help me to do your will.

### **Sending**

### **Blessing**

### **Sending music**

Worship Leader: Sally Fraser, Workplace Chaplain, with Nick and Sally Evans

Musician: George Barrett

Image:

Technical team: Alison Bruce, Susan McLarty, Mary Scott

Scripture Readings from: Jerusalem Bible

Hymns from Church Hymnary 4th Edition

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**St Andrew's & St George's West Church of Scotland Edinburgh**

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