

**St Andrew's and St George's West
Order of Service, 18 Sept 2022
The Lost Sheep**



Gathering music

Welcome

Call to worship

Leader: O God, who called all life into being,
All: the earth, sea and sky are yours.

Leader: Your presence is all around us,
All: every atom is full of your energy.

Leader: Your Spirit enlivens all who walk the earth,
All: with her we yearn for justice to be done.

Leader: Christ has come to turn the world upside down:
All: to humble the powerful and to lift up the lowly.

Leader: Christ has come to turn the tables:
All: to topple vain idols and to stand with the poor.

Leader: Christ has come to proclaim God's kingdom:
All: for the hungry to be fed,

Leader: For captives to be released,
All: for your kingdom of peace to come on earth

Leader: Christ has come to turn the world upside down:
All: to overthrow the present order with a revolution of love.

Hymn 724 Christ's is the world in which we move

Christ's is the world in which we move;
Christ's are the folk we're summoned to love;
Christ's is the voice which calls us to care,
and Christ is the one who meets us here.

*To the lost Christ shows his face,
to the unloved he gives his embrace,
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,
Christ makes, with his friends, a touching place.*

Feel for the people we most avoid -
strange or bereaved or never employed.
Feel for the women and feel for the men
who fear that their living is all in vain.

Feel for the parents who've lost their child,
feel for the women whom men have defiled,
feel for the baby for whom there's no breast,
and feel for the weary who find no rest.

Feel for the lives by life confused,
riddled with doubt, in loving abused;
feel for the lonely heart, conscious of sin,
which longs to be pure but fears to begin.

Opening prayer and 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 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.**

The sharing of Christ's peace

God makes peace within us.
Let's claim it.
God makes peace between us.
Let's share it.
Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

Short talk/all age talk

Hymn The King of love my Shepherd is 462 v 1-3 and 6

The King of Love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home rejoicing brought me.

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house forever!

Scripture Readings

Luke 15:1-10

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

The Parable of the Lost Coin

⁸ “Or what woman having ten silver coins,^a if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Reflection

Hymn 362 Heaven Shall Not Wait

Heaven shall not wait
for the poor to lose their patience,
the scorned to smile, the despised to find a friend:
Jesus is Lord;
he has championed the unwanted;
in him injustice confronts its timely end.

Heaven shall not wait
for the rich to share their fortunes,
the proud to fall, the élite to tend the least:
Jesus is Lord;
he has shown the master's privilege –
to kneel and wash servants' feet before they feast.

Heaven shall not wait
for the dawn of great ideas,
thoughts of compassion divorced from cries of pain:
Jesus is Lord;
he has married word and action;
his cross and company make his purpose plain.

Heaven shall not wait
for triumphant Hallelujahs,
when earth has passed and we reach another shore:
Jesus is Lord
in our present imperfection;
his power and love are for now; and then for evermore.

Prayers of the People

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer

Hymn 685 For everyone born a place at the table

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead

*And God will delight
when we are creators of justice and joy,
yes, God will delight
when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy!*

For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands kind and wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong.

For just and unjust a place at the table,
abuser, abused, with need for forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mind-set of mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live.

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free

Sending

Benediction

Sending music

Worship Leader: Rev Dr Urzula Glienecke

Reader: Helen Cox, Prayers: Katie McNeill

Musician: James McNeill

Image: Rev Dr Urzula Glienecke

Technical team: Philippa Burgess, Ruth Forrester, Susan McLarty, Mary Scott

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

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