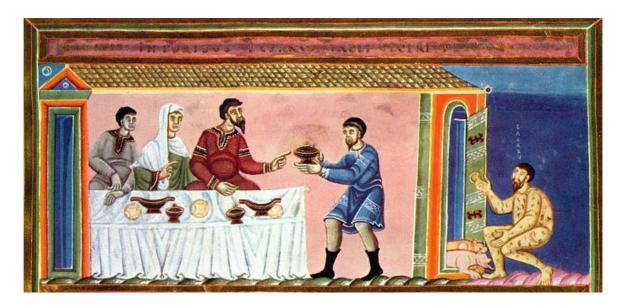
St Andrew's and St George's West Order of Service Sunday 25 September 2022



Dives and Lazarus

Gathering music

Welcome

Call to worship

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is
in them and

who executes justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets prisoners free and lifts up those who are bowed down.

The Lord watches over the stranger and upholds the orphan and the widow.

The Lord will reign forever. Praise the Lord!

Hymn 137 All things bright and beautiful

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

- Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, he made their glowing colours, he made their tiny wings:
- The purple-headed mountain, the river running by, the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky:
- The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden, he made them every one:
- 4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818–1895)

Opening Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Short talk

The sharing of Christ's peace

Hymn 616 There's a spirit in the air

- 1 There's a spirit in the air, telling Christians everywhere: 'Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world!'
- 2 Lose your shyness, find your tongue, tell the world what God has done: God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today!
- When believers break the bread, when a hungry child is fed, praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working, in our world.
- 4 Still the Spirit gives us light, seeing wrong and setting right: God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today!

- When a stranger's not alone, where the homeless find a home, praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working, in our world.
- 6 May the Spirit fill our praise, guide our thoughts and change our ways. God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today!
- 7 There's a Spirit in the air, calling people everywhere: praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working, in our world.

Brian Wren (b. 1936)

Scripture Readings:

Amos 6: 1a, 4-7

Complacent Self-Indulgence Will Be Punished

Alas for those who are at ease in Zion,

Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and lounge on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the stall;

who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music;

who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

St Luke 16: 19-31

The Rich Man and Lazarus

'There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house— for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.""

Anthem: Psalm 149 v1-2: Cantate Domino by Giuseppe Pitoni

Cantate Domino canticum novum: laus eius in ecclesia sanctorum. Laetetur Israel in eo qui fecit eum: et filiae Sion exultent in rege suo.

Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of his loyal servants. Let Israel rejoice in their maker; let the people of Zion exult in their king.

Sermon

Hymn 694 Brother, sister, let me serve you

- 1 Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.
- We are pilgrims on a journey, and companions on the road;

- we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.
- 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
- 4 I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you; I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.
- When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony, born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.
- 6 Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

Richard A. M. Gillard (b. 1953)

Dedication of Offerings

Prayers of the People, with the response: Merciful God, hear our prayer

Minister:

Sisters and brothers, as Christ offered himself for the life of the world, let us pray for the needs of the world, saying, Merciful God: hear our prayer

Reader 1:

We pray for your church in all the world.

May your church work for the good of all and the uplifting of those who are down.

We remember the efforts of relief organisations, especially Christian Aid, seeking to assist the victims of climate change, of flood and drought, striving to provide justice for the poor, working among the world's marginalised people.

Help your people here in and in every place to welcome the stranger and the outcast and to resist social divisions that honour the rich and forsake the poor.

For your church in all the world, merciful God, hear our prayer.

Reader 2:

At this time of change we pray for our nation:

May King Charles and his household know your comforting presence as they continue to mourn the death of a dear mother, grandmother, and great grandmother.

Give wisdom and discernment to all elected to Parliament at Holyrood and at Westminster, and to those who serve in local government.

Lead them all to do what is right in upholding the common good.

For our nation and its leaders,

merciful God, hear our prayer.

Reader 1:

We pray for peace among the nations, especially between Russia and Ukraine, food for the hungry, safe drinking water, justice for the poor, and a life of dignity for all people; and for peace within nations:

Sudan, Tigray, Afghanistan and all countries torn apart by civil strife. For the nations of the world, merciful God, hear our prayer.

Reader 2:

For all who suffer in any way we pray.

We remember those who have no home or security,

who have no one to care for them,

people who feel unwanted or rejected, all who have been betrayed in love, all who have been deserted.

We remember all in our country who fear the impact of a cost-of-living crisis and will be faced with difficult choices about household expenditure.

We pray for people who are ill, at home, in hospitals, or in care homes, and those who care for them,

and especially those whose well-being is our concern...

For the weak, the vulnerable, and the afflicted,

merciful God, hear our prayer.

Minister:

With thanksgiving we remember those who, though lowered into the grave, have been raised to life with you, ever-living God.

We give thanks for those dear to our memory who taught us love by loving us.

Inspire us to follow their example of faith and love and hope and bring us with them to your eternal joy.

These prayers we offer through Christ by the power of your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Hymn 261 Father Eternal, Ruler of Creation

- 1 Father Eternal, Ruler of Creation,
 Spirit of Life, by whom all things are made,
 through the thick darkness covering every nation,
 light to our blindness, come now to our aid!
 Your kingdom come, O Lord, your will be done.
- Races and peoples, still we stand divided, and, sharing not our griefs, no joy can share; by wars and tumults Love is mocked, derided, his conquering cross no kingdom wills to bear;
- 3 Envious of heart, blind-eyed, with tongues confounded, nation by nation still goes unforgiven; in wrath and fear, by jealousies surrounded, building proud towers which shall not reach to heaven.
- 4 Lust of possession causes desolations; meekness is honoured nowhere on the earth. Led by no star, the rulers of the nations still fail to bring us to the blissful birth.
- 5 How shall we love you, holy, hidden Being, if we love not the world which you have made? Oh, give us purer love, for better seeing your Word made flesh and in a manger laid.

Laurence Housman (1865–1959) (alt.)

Sending

Blessing

Sending music

Worship Leader: Rev Peter Graham

Reader:

Musician: James NcNeill

Image: Meister des Codex Aureus Epternacensis, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Technical team:

Scripture Reading from the New Revised Standard Version Hymns from Church Hymnary 4th Edition Hymns used under licence from CCLI 247862 Streaming licence 351013 and ONE LICENSE #A-734408

St Andrew's & St George's West Church of Scotland Edinburgh Charity SC008990 www.stagw.org.uk