St Andrew's and St George's West Order of Service, 22 January 2023

THEME

Christian Unity

Gathering music

Introit?

Welcome (AM)

Call to worship (AM or MD)

¹ How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

It is like the precious oil on the head,
 running down upon the beard,
 on the beard of Aaron,
 running down over the collar of his robes.

³ It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

Psalm 133

Hymn: CH4 608 Spirit of truth and grace

Prayer of Approach and Confession (MD both or just Confession)

Hymn: CH4 624 In Christ there is no east or west

Readings (members of St John's Church)

Ephesians 4: 1-13

4 I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: ⁴ there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your

calling, ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷ But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it is said,

"When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."

⁹ (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

Anthem?

Matthew 18: 15-20

¹⁵ "If your brother or sister sins against you, ^[a] go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Reflection (JK, St Cuthbert's)

'Christian Unity'

Hymn: CH4 739 The Church's one foundation

Prayers of the People (member of St Andrew's and St George's West)

Hymn: CH4 436 Christ triumphant, ever reigning

Sending and blessing (AM)

Sending music

Sources: title slide, Graham Carnie
Scripture reading(s) taken from the New Revised Standard Version unless otherwise
stated.
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St Andrew's & St George's West Church of Scotland Edinburgh. Charity SC008990 www.stagw.org.uk