## St Andrew's and St George's West Order of Service, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2023

'Philemon and Cancel Culture'



#### **Gathering music**

#### Welcome

#### **Call to worship**

O God, you are my God; I seek you; my soul thirsts for you;

#### my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

# Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

From Psalm 63

#### Hymn

CH4 100 O Lord thou art my God and King

#### **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 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 the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you

#### and also with you

#### Hymn

**CH4 527** Lord, make us servants of your peace (tune: *O Waly, Waly*)

## **Scripture Readings (NRSV)**

### Micah 6: 6-8

<sup>6</sup> "With what shall I come before the LORD and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?
<sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"
<sup>8</sup> He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

## Anthem

## Philemon 1 – 25

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To our beloved co-worker Philemon, <sup>2</sup> to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup> because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup> I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. <sup>7</sup> I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

<sup>8</sup> For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, <sup>9</sup> yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an

old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup> I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup> Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. <sup>12</sup> I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. <sup>13</sup> I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup> but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. <sup>15</sup> Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, <sup>16</sup> no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup> If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup> Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

<sup>22</sup> One thing more: prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you.

<sup>23</sup> Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, <sup>24</sup> and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my co-workers.

<sup>25</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

#### Hymn

CH4 555 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound

## Reflection

## Philemon and Cancel Culture

Hymn CH4 694 Brother, sister, let me serve you

### **Prayers of the People**

Hymn

CH4 130 Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim

## Sending and blessing

## Sending music

Worship Leader: Very Rev Dr Angus Morrison Worship Assistants: Susan McClarty Scripture Reader: Laura Shepherd Organist/pianist: Jamie Turnbull Sources: Scripture reading(s) taken from the New Revised Standard Version unless otherwise stated. All hymns from Church Hymnary 4th Edition unless otherwise stated Hymns used under licence from CCLI 247862 Streaming licence 351013 and ONE LICENSE #A-734408

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