

**St Andrew's and St George's West  
Order of Service, 24th September 2023**

**10.30am**

**'Upside-Down Kingdom'**



**Gathering music**

**Welcome**

**Call to worship**

- <sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- <sup>2</sup> **Sing to him, sing praises to him;  
tell of all his wonderful works.**
- <sup>3</sup> Glory in his holy name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- <sup>4</sup> **Seek the LORD and his strength;  
seek his presence continually.**
- <sup>5</sup> Remember the wonderful works he has done,  
his miracles, and the judgements he has uttered,
- <sup>6</sup> **O offspring of his servant Abraham,  
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.**

*Psalm 105: 1-6*

**Hymn 132** Immortal, invisible, God only wise

## **Opening Prayer and 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 641** Seek ye first the kingdom of God

## **Scripture Readings (NRSV)**

### **Exodus 16: 4-8**

<sup>4</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, 'I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. <sup>5</sup> On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.' <sup>6</sup> So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, 'In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, <sup>7</sup> and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?' <sup>8</sup> And Moses said, 'When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.'

**Anthem** Blessèd is the man *by* Noel de Jongh

### **Matthew 20: 1-16**

**20** 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup> When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; <sup>4</sup> and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. <sup>5</sup> When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup> And about five

o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" <sup>7</sup> They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." <sup>8</sup> When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." <sup>9</sup> When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup> Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup> And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup> saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." <sup>13</sup> But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? <sup>14</sup> Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup> Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" <sup>16</sup> So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

**Hymn 336** Christ is our light! The bright and morning star

**Reflection** 'Upside-Down Kingdom'

**Hymn 522** The Church is wherever God's people are praising

**Prayers of the People**

**Hymn 449** Rejoice! The Lord is King

**Sending and blessing**

**Benediction**

**Sending music**

Worship Leader: Very Rev Dr Angus Morrison

Worship Assistants: Jane Brown

Scripture Reader:

Organist/pianist: David Stewart

Technical team:

Sources:

Scripture reading(s) taken from the New Revised Standard Version unless otherwise stated.

All hymns from Church Hymnary 4th Edition unless otherwise stated

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