

St Andrew's and St George's West Church

Order of Service, 29th October 2023

10.30am

'Imitation of Christ'



Gathering music

Welcome

Call to worship

Jesus has given us a new commandment:

We are commanded to love one another.

Just as Christ has loved us,

So we ought to have love for one another.

By this, everyone will know we are Christ's disciples:

By our love for one another.

Come, let us join our hearts in worship:

Worship God by loving one another.

Based on John 13: 34-35

Hymn 457 All hail the power of Jesus' name! (tune: Diadem)

Opening Prayer

Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you
and also with you

Hymn 551 In heavenly love abiding

Scripture Reading (NRSV) *Philippians 2: 1-11*

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Anthem A New Commandment Music: Richard Shephard

Scripture Reading (NRSV) *John 17: 20-24*

²⁰ 'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

Hymn 443 He is Lord, he is Lord

Reflection 'Imitation of Christ'

Hymn 374 From heaven you came, helpless babe

Prayers of the People

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **Amen.**

Hymn 19 Ye gates, lift up your heads on high

Unveil elements.

INVITATION

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Psalm 116: 5, 12, 13

Let us celebrate this joyful feast.

People will come from east and west and north and south,
and sit at table in the kingdom of God.

Luke 13:29

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is our duty and delight, always and everywhere, to give you thanks and praise, Almighty God, eternal and holy Father. You created the heavens and the earth; you made us in your image; and in countless ways you show us your mercy. For all your goodness to us, known and unknown, we give you thanks with the Church universal, and with the whole company of heaven we praise you in the angels' hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We bless you for the gift of Jesus Christ.

Born of Mary, **he shares our life.**

Eating with sinners, **he welcomes us.**

Dying on the cross, **he rescues us.**

Risen from the dead, **he gives us new life.**

By the presence and power of the Holy Spirit bless and consecrate these gifts; so that the bread which we break may be for us a sharing in the body of Christ, and the cup which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ, for the forgiveness of sins and the hallowing of all our lives and work.

Receive us, O God, as, together with our praise, we offer to you our very selves.

And now, as Jesus taught us, we say:

Our Father in heaven

hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,

your will be done on earth as 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.

Holy Communion

We do this as Christ appointed. On the night he was betrayed, he took bread (*the minister takes bread*) and, after giving thanks to God, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is broken for you; do this remembering me.'

In the same way he took the cup (*the minister raises the cup*) and said: 'This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do it remembering me.'

Jesus, Lamb of God

have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,

have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world

grant us peace.

(The minister gives bread)

Take this and eat it: this is the body of Christ which is broken for you. Do this remembering him.

(The minister offers the cup)

This cup is the new covenant sealed by Christ's blood which was shed that the sins of many might be forgiven. Drink from it, all of you.

(After all have received)

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. *(Cover elements)*

Prayer

Great is the mystery of faith

Dying, you destroyed our death

Rising, you restored our life

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Remembering all the witnesses and martyrs of the faith and in communion with our sisters and brothers who have fallen asleep in Christ.

Gracious God, You have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us and renewed us for service.

Help us, who have shared Christ's body and blood, to be his faithful disciples, so that our daily living may be part of your kingdom, and our love be your love, reaching out into the life of the world. **Amen.**

Hymn 14 The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want (tune: Bays of Harris *at CH4 31*)

Sending and blessing

Benediction

Sending music

Worship Leader: Very Rev Dr Angus Morrison

Worship Assistants: Jocelyn and Michael Cunliffe

Scripture Reader: Margaret McGregor

Organist/pianist: David Stewart

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

St Andrew's & St George's West Church of Scotland Edinburgh. Charity SC008990

www.stagw.org.uk