

St Andrew's and St George's West
Order of Service, 8th October 2023 10.30am
'Owners or Tenants?'



Gathering music

Welcome

Call to worship

¹ The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

² Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.

⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure,
making wise the simple;

¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Verses from Psalm 19

Hymn 500 Lord of creation, to you be all praise!

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 399 My song is love unknown (omit vv. 4 & 5)

Scripture Reading (NRSV) Psalm 80: 7-15

- ⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.
- ⁸ You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.
- ⁹ You cleared the ground for it;
it took deep root and filled the land.
- ¹⁰ The mountains were covered with its shade,
the mighty cedars with its branches;
- ¹¹ it sent out its branches to the sea,
and its shoots to the River.
- ¹² Why then have you broken down its walls,
so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?
- ¹³ The boar from the forest ravages it,
and all that move in the field feed on it.
- ¹⁴ Turn again, O God of hosts;
look down from heaven, and see;
have regard for this vine,
- ¹⁵ the stock that your right hand planted.

Anthem God so loved the world Music: Stainer arr. Ridout

Scripture Reading (NRSV) Matthew 21: 33-46 *The Parable of the Wicked Tenants*

³³ 'Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance." ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' ⁴¹ They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.'

⁴² Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes"?

⁴³ Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.'

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realised that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Hymn 78 Oh! Set ye open unto me

Reflection 'Owners or Tenants?'

Hymn 154 O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder

Prayers of the People

Hymn 392 When I survey the wondrous cross

Benediction

Sending music

Worship Leader: Very Rev Dr Angus Morrison

Prayers: Diana Thurston Smith

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

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