

**St Andrew's and St George's West  
Order of Service  
19<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**Seeing light in dark times**



**Gathering music**

**Call to Worship:** Psalm 90

**LEADER** O Lord you have always been our dwelling place

**RESPONSE** **Before you created the hills or brought the world into being**

**L** You were eternally God

**R** **and will be God for ever**

**L** Let us see your mighty deeds

**R** **let our descendants see your glorious power**

**L** Lord, our God, may your blessings be with us

**R** **and prosper the work of our hands.**

**Hymn 210** Awake my soul and with the sun

**Prayer and Lord's Prayer**

**The Peace:** The Peace of Christ be with you  
**and also with you**

*(Let us share peace with one another)*

**Prayer**

**Hymn 641** Seek ye first the kingdom of God

**Gospel Reading: Matthew chapter 25, verses 14-30**

**14** 'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; **15** to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. **16** The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. **17** In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. **18** But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. **19** After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. **20** Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." **21** His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." **22** And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." **23** His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." **24** Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; **25** so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." **26** But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? **27** Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. **28** So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. **29** For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. **30** As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

**Anthem** Christ whose glory fills the sky Music: Andrew Carvel

**Epistle Reading: 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians, chapter 5, verses 1-11**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. **2** For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. **3** When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! **4** But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; **5** for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. **6** So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; **7** for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. **8** But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. **9** For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, **10** who died for us, so that whether we are

awake or asleep we may live with him. **11** Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

**Hymn 425** The Saviour died but rose again

**Sermon:** Seeing the Light

**Hymn 543** Longing for light

**Prayers of the People**

**Hymn 472** Come, thou long-expected Jesus

**Blessing**

**Sending music**

Worship leader: Rev Alistair Keil

Reader: Amy Marcham

Prayers of the people: Mary Scott

Musician: Jamie Turnbull

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