

Welcome to
St Andrew's Church Thornhill Square



All Age Service
6th Sunday of Easter
5th May 2024

We expect to **livestream** this service.
We all join in the words in **bold** type.
At the points where you are invited to **stand**,
please remain **seated** if you prefer.

We Gather to Worship God

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Introduction

Hymn Please STAND

To God be the glory! great things he has done;
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord!

Let the earth hear his voice.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord!

Let the people rejoice.

*O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he has done.*

2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

3 Great things he has taught us,
great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.

FANNY CROSBY (FRANCES JANE VAN ALSTYNE 1820–1915)

Please SIT

We Say Sorry to God

Holy God, parent of us all, we know we don't
always treat each other as you want us to.
Lord God, forgive us,
and help us to be more loving.

There are times when we insist on getting our
own way, despite what others feel.
Lord God, forgive us,
and help us to be more loving.

Sometimes we forget everyone is special
and loved by you.
Lord God, forgive us,
and help us to be more loving.

Often we say things which hurt each other.
Lord God, forgive us,
and help us to be more loving.

Help us to love one another as you love us.
Lord God, forgive us,
and help us to be more loving.

A minister says

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve
him in the world, through Jesus Christ our
Lord. **Amen.**

Saying Hello

Collect

O God,
from whom all good things come,
grant that,
by your inspiration,
we may discern what is right,
and by your merciful guiding may do it;
through Jesus Christ
who is alive with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

We Hear God's Word

First Reading Psalm 98

¹ Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things;
his right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.

² The Lord has made his salvation known
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

³ He has remembered his love
and his faithfulness to Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
⁴ Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth,
burst into jubilant song with music;
⁵ make music to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of singing,
⁶ with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn—
shout for joy before the Lord, the King.
⁷ Let the sea resound, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it.
⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands,
let the mountains sing together for joy;
⁹ let them sing before the Lord,
for he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

Hymn *Please STAND*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2 Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns!
let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

ISAAC WATTS (1674–1748)

Please SIT

Second reading John 15:9-17

Reader At a time when all his disciples are feeling as if they are about to be uprooted, Jesus sketches a picture of this new life as a flourishing vineyard – a labyrinth of vines and strong branches, steeped in rich soil, with abundant grapes hanging from their vines ripening in the sun.

Jesus sculpts a new garden of Eden in their imaginations – one that is bustling with fruit, sustenance and satisfying aromas.

This is the Kingdom life.

It is all about connection, sustenance and beauty. But within this promise of life is the warning that people must be in Christ or they will not experience these blessings.

Jesus 'I have loved you as the Father has loved me. Abide in my love.

Follow my example in obeying the Father's commandments and receiving his love. If you obey my commandments, you will stay in my love. I want you to know the delight I experience, to find ultimate satisfaction, which is why I am telling you all of this.

'My commandment to you is this: love others as I have loved you.

There is no greater way to love than to give your life for your friends. You celebrate our friendship if you obey this command.

I don't call you servants any longer; servants don't know what the master is doing, but I have told you everything the Father has said to me. I call you friends.

You did not choose me. I chose you, and I orchestrated all of this so that you would be sent out and bear great and perpetual fruit.

As you do this, anything you ask the Father in my name will be done.

This is my command to you: love one another.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Talk

We Proclaim Our Faith

Please STAND

We continue our journey of faith using our hearts and minds, and affirm our trust in God who leads us on.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father who made the world?

I believe and trust in God.

Do you believe and trust in God's Son, Jesus Christ, who has redeemed us?

I believe and trust in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God's Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God?

**I believe and trust in the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Hymn Please STAND

We gather the **collection** as we sing.
If you are a regular giver, or would like to be, see the **Notice** over the page.

I will sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me,
how he left the realms of glory
for the cross on Calvary.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me –
sing it with his saints in glory,
gathered by the crystal sea.

2 I was lost but Jesus found me,
found the sheep that went astray,
raised me up and gently led me
back into the narrow way.
Days of darkness still may meet me,
sorrow's path I oft may tread;
but his presence still is with me,
by his guiding hand I'm led.

3 He will keep me till the river
rolls its waters at my feet:
then he'll bear me safely over,
made by grace for glory meet.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me –
sing it with his saints in glory,
gathered by the crystal sea.

FRANCIS HAROLD ROWLEY (1854–1952)

Please SIT

We Pray for God's World

Hold the jigsaw piece in your hand and pray for yourself.

- ◇ Ask God to help you.
- ◇ Thank him for the good things in your life.
- ◇ Ask him to help you see the big picture of the plan he has for your life.

Look at the parts of your piece that reach outwards (the 'tabs').

- ◇ Pray for people who reach out and help and show love to others.

Look at the parts of your piece that have hollows waiting to be filled.

- ◇ Pray for people who have lost someone or who feel they have something missing in their lives.
- ◇ Ask God to help them to know that they are loved by him.

Try to fit your piece into the piece of the person next to you (it probably won't fit!)

- ◇ Pray for people who find it hard to fit in.
- ◇ Pray that they will find peace, friends and happiness.

Hold your piece and think of someone from your community, your friends or family that you would like to pray for.

- ◇ Thank God for that person and ask God to bless and help them.

The Lord's Prayer

**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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Notices

If you are - or would like to be - a **regular giver to St Andrew's**, why not use the **Parish Giving Scheme**? You can join by using this QR Code or calling 0333 002 1271 and quoting our parish code: 230623116.



We Go Out to Serve God

Hymn Please STAND

*Shine from the inside out,
that the world will see
you live in me.*

*Shine from the inside out,
that the world will see
you live in me.*

You know me
and you love me;
you fill me,
so send me.

You know me
and you love me;
you fill me,
so send me to
*shine from the inside out,
that the world will see
you live in me.*

*Shine from the inside out,
That the world will see
you live in me.*

Know me, love me, fill me, send me.
Know me, love me, fill me, send me.
Know me, love me, fill me, send me to
*shine from the inside out,
that the world will see
you live in me.*

*Shine from the inside out,
That the world will see
you live in me.*

Know me, love me, fill me, send me.
Know me, love me, fill me, send me.
Know me, love me, fill me, send me to shine!

NICK JACKSON

Blessing

God the Father, watch over us,
(hands reaching up high above the body)

God the Son, walk with us,
(hands reaching out wide either side of the body)

God the Spirit, work through us,
(hands crossed over the body)

until we meet again.
(shake hands or 'high-five' each other)

Go in the light and peace of Christ.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, alleluia.

*Please stay for refreshments —
you'll be very welcome!*

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