

**St Andrew's with Castle Gate URC**  
**Order for Worship for 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 11.00am**  
**Ascension Sunday**

**Welcome and Notices**

**Call to Worship** – Matthew 28:18-20

**Hymn** – R&S 262. Crown him with many crowns

1. Crown him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon his throne;  
hark! how the heavenly music drowns  
all music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing  
of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy chosen king  
through all eternity.
2. Crown him the Son of God,  
before the worlds began:  
and ye, who tread where he hath trod,  
crown him the Son of Man;  
who every grief hath known  
that wrings the human breast,  
and takes and bears them for his own,  
that all in him may rest.

3. Crown him the Lord of life,  
who triumphed o'er the grave,  
and rose victorious in the strife  
for those he came to save:  
his glories now we sing  
who died, and rose on high;  
who died eternal life to bring,  
and lives that death may die.
4. Crown him, the Lord of Love!  
behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds, yet visible above  
in beauty glorified.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
for thou hast died for me:  
thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.

Matthew Bridges (1800 – 94) (vv 1, 4) altd  
Geoffrey Thring (1823 – 1903) (vv 2, 3)

**Opening Prayers and the Lord's Prayer**

Almighty and Eternal God, we offer this special time for worshipping you, for bringing our praises and for dedicating our lives in a new way to your service.

We worship you as the Lord of Creation,

**through whom all things were made and in whom we live and move and have our being.**

We worship you as the Lord of Life,

**whose love is all around us at all times.**

We worship you as the Lord of Light,

**who enables us to confront evil and darkness in ourselves and in the world and who strengthens us to work for justice and peace.**

Eternal God, we bring you our worship and our praise, praying that in this time of worship your name may be glorified and we may be inwardly renewed for our lives of discipleship.

Eternal God, as we come to worship, so we also come to ask for your forgiveness where we have failed you and where we have denied your calling.

If we have failed to show love to someone who desperately needed a loving touch;

**Please forgive us and renew us.**

If we have been too slow to forgive, or too quick to pass judgement and so have been careless of the needs of others:

**Please forgive us and renew us.**

If we have allowed petty divisions to destroy a relationship or our concern for our own well-being to cloud out the overwhelming needs of others:

**Please forgive us and renew us.**

Please assure us once again of your love and your mercy and grant us that inner peace and joy that only you can give. For we have been born into a living hope, our sins forgiven, our lives renewed and our calling restored.

We sum up our prayers as we say together the prayer that Jesus himself taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Reading** – Philippians 4:4-13

**Hymn** – R&S 261. At the name of Jesus T. Camberwell

1. At the name of Jesus  
every knee shall bow,  
every tongue confess him  
King of glory now.  
'Tis the Father's pleasure  
we should call him Lord,  
who from the beginning  
was the mighty Word.
2. Humbled for a season,  
to receive a Name  
from the lips of sinners  
unto whom he came,  
he became a witness,  
faithful to the last,  
and returned victorious  
when from death he passed.

3. In your hearts enthrone him;  
there let him make new  
all that is not holy,  
all that is not true.  
He is God the Saviour,  
he is Christ the Lord,  
ever to be worshipped,  
trusted and adored.

4. When this same Lord Jesus  
shall appear again  
in his Father's glory,  
there with him to reign,  
then may we adore him,  
all before him bow,  
as our hearts confess him  
King of glory now.

Caroline M. Noel (1817 – 77) altd.

### **Blessing for our Young Friends**

**Reading** – Luke 24:44-53

**Talk 1** – Waiting on God

**Hymn** – R&S 253. God is gone up on high

1. God is gone up on high,  
with a triumphant noise;  
the clarions of the sky  
proclaim the angelic joys:

*Join all on earth, rejoice and sing;  
glory ascribe to glory's King.*

2. God in the flesh below,  
for us he reigns above;  
let all the nations know  
our Saviour's conquering love:

3. All power to our great Lord  
is by the Father given;  
by angel hosts adored,  
he reigns supreme in heaven:

4. High on his holy seat  
he bears the righteous sway;  
his foes beneath his feet  
shall sink and die away:

5. till all the earth, renewed  
in righteousness divine,  
with all the hosts of God  
in one great chorus join:

Charles Wesley (1707 – 88)

**Talk 2**

### **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

Almighty and Eternal God, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all that enriches our lives and gives our living meaning and purpose.

For those special people who make us feel special,

**We give you our thanks and praise.**

For all those who have shared themselves with us over the years, especially for those who have stood beside us and held us when life became difficult,

**We give you our thanks and praise.**

For those who have taught us the skills we need for life, those who have taught us what really matters and who gave us a set of values to live by,

**We give you our thanks and praise.**

For the fellowship of disciples to which we belong, where we find friendship, acceptance and a shared desire to worship and to follow the way of Jesus,

**We give you our thanks and praise.**

For all those amazing people who day by day are putting their lives at risk, both in hospitals and in the community in order that we might be given the healing we need, the support we need and the essentials for life and well-being,

**We give you our thanks and praise.**

We give thanks, Eternal God, for all those who care for us. We pray for all with whom we work and for all with whom we have daily dealings, that all our relationships may be grounded in love and in honesty.

Almighty and Eternal God, we pray for all those who are feeling badly bruised by life; those who are ill, especially those in

hospital, those who are recovering from illness or operations at home, those who have suffered an accident, those who feel that life is just not going their way,

**that you will comfort and strengthen them with the assurance of your healing touch.**

We pray for all those who suffer physically and for all those who suffer emotionally and spiritually; we pray for those struggling with anxiety or mental illness, those with memories that disturb or frighten them, those who cannot sleep at night, **that you will give them the gift of your peace and the assurance of your abiding love in all situations.**

We pray for all who have lost confidence in themselves or in others on whom they rely. We pray for the world-weary, those who are too weak to live as they would wish to live and those who are worn down by the burdens they carry, **that you will give them renewed strength and resilience and the determination to keep going when all seems lost.**

Almighty and Eternal God, we remember with heartfelt thanks all those that we have known and loved and who are now with you in eternity. We pray that we, with them, may one day come to know the joy and the peace of your eternal Kingdom. All these our prayers and the many unspoken prayers of our hearts we offer to you in the knowledge that it is impossible to pray honestly and for nothing to happen.

**And to you, Eternal God, be all honour, glory and praise, now and forever more. Amen.**

**Hymn – R&S 293. Ye servants of God**

1. Ye servants of God,  
your Master proclaim,  
and publish abroad  
his wonderful name;  
the name all-victorious  
of Jesus extol;  
his kingdom is glorious  
and rules over all.
2. God ruleth on high,  
almighty to save;  
and still he is nigh,  
his presence we have;  
the great congregation  
his triumph shall sing,  
ascribing salvation  
to Jesus our King.
3. Salvation to God,  
who sits on the throne!  
let all cry aloud  
and honour the Son;  
the praises of Jesus  
the angels proclaim,  
fall down on their faces,  
and worship the Lamb.

4. Then let us adore,  
and give him his right,  
all glory and power,  
all wisdom and might,  
all honour and blessing,  
with angels above,  
and thanks never ceasing,  
and infinite love.

Charles Wesley (1707 – 88)

**Benediction**

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