

**St Andrew's with Castle Gate URC**  
**Order for Worship for 21<sup>st</sup> June 2020 at 11.00am**

**Welcome and Notices**

**Call to Worship** – Psalm 92:1, 2 & 4

**Hymn** – R&S 274. God is love, his the care

1. God is love, his the care  
tending each, everywhere.  
God is love – all is there!  
Jesus came to show him,  
that we all might know him:

*Sing aloud, loud, loud,  
Sing aloud, loud, loud,  
God is good,  
God is truth,  
God is beauty: praise him!*

2. Jesus came, lived and died  
for our sake, crucified,  
rose again, glorified:  
he was born to save us  
by the truth he gave us:

3. None can see God above;  
Jesus shows how to love;  
thus may we Godward move,  
joined as sisters, brothers,  
finding him in others:

4. To our Lord praise we sing –  
light and life, friend and King  
coming down love to bring,  
pattern for our duty,  
showing God in beauty:

Percy Dearmer (1867 – 1936)

**Opening Prayers and the Lord's Prayer** led by Rev'd Amanda Linney

God our Father,  
Lord of heaven and earth.  
Your word tells us that – of all your names, your favourite is  
Father.  
You invite us to address you quite simply as our Father, Yet  
powerfully as our Eternal Father.

**We praise you Lord.**

We draw close to your presence today,  
allowing your Holy Spirit to saturate our hearts and our souls.

**We praise you Lord.**

Father, your love is beyond ways any father could love us.  
You call us to be your family,  
a people united through your Son, Jesus Christ,

and through him you have revealed your love:  
a love that reaches out to us today.

**We praise you Lord.**

Father, we thank you for all the earthy fathers;  
for the love and care they freely give to their children  
and for the expectations placed on the role of being a dad today.  
We also thank you for those who are father figures to many  
children.  
We give thanks for the dads who turn to you in prayer for  
guidance.

**We praise you Lord.**

Father, there are those occasions, when we are like the prodigal  
child.  
We turn from you and get caught up in the twists and the turns of  
life.  
We lose our peace and worry clouds our paths.  
Yet, regardless of our short comings,  
You watch and You wait,  
for that light bulb moment,  
when we hear your voice  
and respond to your goodness.  
You forgive our foolish ways and dust us down,  
putting us back on our feet and focusing on the way that we  
should go.  
Abba, Father, we love and honour you.

**We praise you Lord.**

We are honoured to be able to call you, "Our Father".

**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** – Isaiah 40:28-31 read by Mr Mark Hodgson

**Hymn** – R&S 108. The love of God is broad

1. The love of God is broad like beach and meadow,  
wide as the wind, and an eternal home.  
God leaves us free to seek him or reject him,  
he gives us room to answer Yes or No.

*The love of God is broad like beach and meadow,  
wide as the wind and an eternal home.*

2. We long for freedom where our truest being  
is given hope and courage to unfold.  
We seek in freedom space and scope for dreaming,  
and look for ground where plants and trees can grow.

3. But there are walls that keep us all divided;  
we fence each other in with hate and war.  
Fear is the bricks and mortar of our prison,  
our pride of self the prison coat we wear.
4. O judge us, Lord, and in your judgement free us,  
and set our feet in freedom's open space;  
take us as far as your compassion wanders  
among the children of the human race.

© Anders Frostenson (1906 - )  
Tr. by Fred Kaan (1929 – 2009)

**Blessing for our Young Friends** led by Prof Nicola Royan

**Reading** – Mark 4:26-34 read by Miss Kathleen Pass

**Talk 1** – Fatherly Love

**Hymn** – R&S 518. Father, I place into your hands

1. Father, I place into your hands  
the things that I can't do.  
Father, I place into your hands  
the times that I've been through.  
Father, I place into your hands  
the way that I should go,  
for I know I always can trust you.

2. Father, I place into your hands  
my friends and family.  
Father, I place into your hands  
the things that trouble me.  
Father, I place into your hands  
the person I would be,  
for I know I always can trust you.
3. Father, we love to see your face,  
we love to hear your voice.  
Father, we love to sing your praise,  
and in your name rejoice.  
Father, we love to walk with you  
and in your presence rest,  
for we know we always can trust you.

Jenny Hewer, 1975.

**Talk 2**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession** led by Mrs Jean Hudson

Gracious God, we thank you for the promises of Jesus your son, who showed us your nature and your desire for us to live in relationship with you as loved children.

We want to walk with you, rest in your presence and we know we can trust you in all things; believing that in times of struggle, uncertainty, and challenge you are always with us, loving us, supporting us and guiding us.

We thank you for all those people who continue to work for their communities in difficult circumstances. Particularly, this

week, we thank you for the medical researchers whose studies have identified a drug to treat Covid 19 that could help many to recover throughout the world.

We pray for all those who are frail or sick, at home, in hospital or care homes and those caring for them.

We pray for the bereaved, thinking particularly of those not able to properly say goodbye to loved ones.

We pray for the hungry, the homeless and those living in poverty, for those who are anxious about the future and uncertain employment, income or health prospects and we pray for those who are scared and lonely at this time.

We pray for our Government and those advising them. Please guide them and give them wisdom when making difficult decisions about guidance they issue and support available. Help them to balance the conflicting interests of different sections of society and not be afraid of criticism.

We thank you for the organisations continuing to provide support to those in need in whatever ways are possible at this time; thinking particularly of the many we know supported by our local churches.

We place in your hands all those in our hearts who need the comfort of your loving presence, enfold them in your love and give them peace.

**Father, hear the prayers we offer in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

**Amen**

**Hymn – R&S 345. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah**

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty,  
hold me with thy powerful hand:  
    bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore.
  
2. Open thou the crystal fountain  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
    strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield.
  
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
    songs of praises,  
I will ever give to thee.

William Williams (1717-91)

**Benediction:** We say together the Blessing of St Columba -

**Be Thou a bright flame before me,  
Be Thou a guiding star above me,  
Be Thou a smooth path below me,  
Be Thou a kindly shepherd behind me,  
Today and forever. Amen.**

CCL 114191