

**St Andrew's with Castle Gate URC**  
**Order for Worship for 12<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 11.00am**  
**Pet and Soft Toy Family Service**

Praise with elation,  
praise every morning,  
God's re-creation  
of the new day!

Eleanor Farjeon (1881 – 1965)

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship** – Psalm 100

**Hymn** – R&S 45. Morning has broken

1. Morning has broken  
like the first morning,  
blackbird has spoken  
like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing,  
praise for the morning,  
praise for them, springing  
fresh from the Word!
2. Sweet the rain's new fall  
sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall  
on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness  
of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness  
where his feet pass.
3. Mine is the sunlight;  
mine is the morning,  
born of the one light  
Eden saw play!

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

Almighty and Eternal God, we praise you that you are with us now and we rejoice in the knowledge of your love all around us. We praise you for all the love, all the security, all the joy we find in our family life together and in our homes.

**Eternal God, we praise you for all the many blessings you give us.**

We praise you for our pets and for all the companionship and joy we receive from them. We praise you for all the creatures that are important to our day to day living, and for the opportunity to grow and to become better people through our relationships with them, with each other and with you.

**In our worship now, we offer you our praises for all that you provide for us and we pray that through this time of worship we might be strengthened and renewed.**

God of grace, you have shown us what you require of us; that we treat others fairly and that we are prepared to forgive others as you forgive us. In the knowledge of your acceptance and love, we confess our failings. When we have been rude to those we love or in frustration have responded with anger,  
**Please forgive us and renew us.**

When we have twisted the truth out of fear or to protect ourselves or when we have found amusement in another's misfortune,

**Please forgive us and renew us.**

When we have been far more concerned about meeting our own needs and so have completely ignored the needs of those around us,

**Please forgive and renew us.**

Please surround us once again with your forgiving love. Please help us to change our ways and to become the people that you know we can be and that you long for us to be. We sum up all 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** – Isaiah 55:10-13

**Hymn** – R&S 367. I want to walk with Jesus Christ

1. I want to walk with Jesus Christ  
all the days I live of this life on earth,  
to give to him complete control  
of body and of soul:

*Follow him, follow him, yield your life to him,  
he has conquered death, he is King of kings.  
Accept the joy which he gives to those  
who yield their life to him.*

2. I want to learn to speak to him,  
to pray to him, confess my sin,  
to open my life and let him in,  
for joy will then be mine:
3. I want to learn to read his word,  
for this is how I know the way,  
to live my life as pleases him,  
in holiness and joy:
4. I want to learn to speak of him;  
my life must show that he lives in me,  
my deeds, my thoughts, my words must speak  
of all his love for me:
5. O holy Spirit of the Lord,  
enter now into this heart of mine,  
take full control of my selfish will  
and make me wholly thine:

C. Simmonds (1964 - )

## Blessing for our Young Friends

**Almighty and Eternal God, we ask for your blessing on our young friends, wherever they are. We pray that you will give them a sense of your surrounding love, a sense of your strength in all situations and the knowledge of your guiding hand, keeping them and protecting them at all times. May they find the friendship and companionship they need, a renewed sense of meaning and purpose in life and the confidence to live life to the full. We offer our prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Redeemer. Amen.**

**Reading – Matthew 13:1-9**

**Talk 1 – The Ground of our Being**

**Hymn – R&S 594. Peace, perfect peace, is the gift**

1. Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of Christ our Lord.  
Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of Christ our Lord.  
Thus, says the Lord, will the world know my friends.  
Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of Christ our Lord.
2. Joy, perfect joy, is the gift of Christ our Lord.  
Joy, perfect joy, is the gift of Christ our Lord.  
Thus, says the Lord, will the world know my friends.  
Joy, perfect joy, is the gift of Christ our Lord.
3. Love, perfect love, is the gift of Christ our Lord.  
Love, perfect love, is the gift of Christ our Lord.  
Thus, says the Lord, will the world know my friends.  
Love, perfect love, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Words and Music by Kevin Mayhew

## Talk 2

### Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Almighty and Eternal God, we give you our thanks for all of those people who are closest to us, our families and our friends, by whom we are loved and cherished and helped to find safety and security.

**Eternal God, please receive our thanks for all those who love us.**

Eternal God, we give you our thanks for our pets, for the animals, reptiles, birds and fishes that have been and continue to be a central part of our family life. We thank you for all the joy we receive from them and for all the companionship that they provide for us.

**Eternal God, please receive our thanks for our pets.**

Eternal God, we give you our thanks for anything that provides us with a sense of comfort and security, especially in those times when we are worried and afraid.

**Eternal God, please receive our thanks for everything that gives us an awareness of your peace and your strength.**

**Eternal God, we give you our thanks for the many blessings of this life and for all the goodness and love that brings joy and peace to our daily living. We offer you our gifts, in whatever way we can give them, as an expression of our gratitude, asking your blessing upon them, that all that we offer in your name may be used for the sharing of your Kingdom of love amongst us and across our world.**

Almighty and Eternal God, we bring to you our prayers for others, knowing that our prayers are important to you and that you are already working in us and in our world. We continue to pray for all those who are suffering because of the current pandemic; we pray for all those in hospital, all those recovering at home, all those awaiting treatments and operations that have been delayed, all those who are anxious and afraid about what the future may hold. We pray that you will bring healing and renewed energy for living.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, we pray for all those who are struggling with mental illness, or with a personality disorder, or with depression or with overwhelming worry and fear. We pray that you will give them an abiding sense of your peace and that you will bring comfort and reassurance to troubled souls.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for our families, our pets and all our loved ones, praying that you will keep us all safe and secure in these difficult days and that you will bring us to the day when we can be together again without fear and without distancing.

**Eternal God, we offer you all our prayers in the knowledge that it is impossible to pray honestly and for nothing to happen. And to you, Eternal God, be all glory, honour and praise, now and for evermore. Amen.**

**Hymn** – R&S 415. You shall go out with joy (x2)

You shall go out with joy and be led forth in peace,  
and the mountains and the hills shall break forth in singing.  
There'll be shouts of joy, and the trees of the field  
shall clap, shall clap their hands;  
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,  
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,  
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,  
and you'll go out with joy.

Stuart Dauermann (1944 - ), based on Isaiah 55:12

**Benediction:** We say the words of 'The Grace' together.

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, today and always. Amen.**

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