

St Andrew's with Castle Gate URC
Order for Worship for Sunday 4th September 2022 at 11.00am

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship – Philippians 4:4-7

Hymn – R&S 95. God is love: let heaven adore him

Opening Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

Reading – Psalm 139:1-14, 23-24

Baptism of Arthur John Rudy Jennings

Anthem – “A Clare Benediction” by John Rutter

Hymn – CH4 137. All things bright and beautiful T. (1)

*All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.*

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings;
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings!

The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning
That brightens up the sky:

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them every one:

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well:

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-95)

Blessing for the Offertory and for the Junior Church
(Junior Church leave)

Reading – Philemon 1-21

Talk – Saying ‘Thank You’

Hymn – R&S 41. For the beauty of the earth T. R&S 184

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Invitation to the Table

Here, at this table, Jesus is host. Those who wish to serve him must first be served by him; those who want to follow him must first be fed by him; those who would wash his feet must first let him make them clean. For this is the table where God intends us to be nourished; this is the time when Christ can make us new.

Hymn – R&S 217. When I survey the wondrous cross

The Story

To his followers in every age, Jesus gave an example and a command, rooted in the experience he shared with his disciples in an upstairs room in Jerusalem.

On the night on which he was betrayed and as they were sitting at a meal, Jesus took a piece of bread and broke it. He gave it to his disciples saying, "This is my body. It is broken for you. Do this to remember me."

Later, after they had eaten, Jesus took a cup of wine and said, "This cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Drink this all of you, to remember me."

So, now we do as Jesus did. And as he gave thanks, so now we give our thanks and praise to God.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, we thank and praise you that you have so made us that we can know and love you, trust and serve you. Before us, you made the world we inhabit and before the world, you made the eternal home in which we have a place. All that is spectacular, all that is plain have their origin in you; all that is lovely, all who are loving point to you as their fulfilment.

We praise you for the example of Jesus. For his life which informs our living; for his compassion which changes our hearts; for his clear speaking which contradicts our harmless generalities; for his disturbing presence; for his innocent suffering and his fearless dying; for his rising to life breathing forgiveness, we thank and praise you.

Therefore we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Setting our wisdom, our will and our words aside, emptying our hearts and bringing nothing in our hands, we yearn for the healing, the holding, the accepting and the forgiving that you alone can offer. May your Spirit rest upon us, converting us from the patterns of this passing world, until we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share. Amen.

The Sharing of the Bread and the Wine

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people, because we have shared in the Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us; expect much from us; enable much by us and encourage many through us. So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and as citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

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

Benediction: 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, tonight and forever. Amen.**

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