



St Andrew's with Castle Gate

United Reformed Church, Nottingham

Order of Worship for Christian Aid Week

Sunday 12 May 2024 at 11.00am

Seventh Sunday in Easter

Worship led by Nicola Royan

Welcome: 1 Corinthians 13: 13

Call to worship (based on 1 John 3.1)

We gather as children of God, bound to one another by love.

See what love the Father has given us.

We gather to live out our calling to love our neighbours and our enemies.

See what love the Father has given us.

We gather to experience in word and song, in prayer and worship, the overflowing compassion and tenderness of our God.

See what love the Father has given us.

Christian Aid film:

Hymn: CH 4 198 Let us build a house where love can dwell (omit v. 3)

Let us build a house where love can dwell
And all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive;
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.*
Let us build a house where prophets speak,

And words are strong and true,
Where all God's children dare to seek
To dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
And as symbol of God's grace;
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

Let us build a house where hands will reach
Beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
And live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
Bear the image of God's face;
Let us bring an end to fear and danger:

Let us build a house where all are named,
Their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed
As words within the Word,
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
Prayers of faith and songs of grace
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.*

"Let us build a house" by Marty Haugen
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Opening prayers

God our comforter, Source of our hope, Be present to us today.

Unite us as we worship. Give us ears to hear the Good News of your abundant, transformative love.

Stir up in us a prophetic voice, that we may proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Inspire in us the courage to serve you in word and deed,
as together we build a world free from poverty. **Amen.**

All-knowing God:

**We have treated people as less than human;
We have treated people as more than human.
We have belittled, exalted and envied others.
We have failed to stand up for ourselves and others in the
face of evil.
We have denied our humanity and refused redemption.**

Forgiving God, **We seek your love.**

Empowering God, **We are truly sorry and turn to you.**

God of grace and truth, by your grace I am what I am, I
receive your grace.

God is faithful and just and forgives us.

South African
Council of Churches

The Lord's Prayer

Anthem: Go in Peace and Love, Sally Albrecht

Offertory (P&Bs and Juniors leave).

Story 1:

Reading: Matthew 5: 43-47

Slides 1-5

Congregational Reflections

Hymn R&S: 329 There's a spirit in the air

Story 2:

Reading: Colossians 3: 12-17

Slides 6-9

Congregational reflections

Hymn CH4: 543 Longing for Light

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,

Light for the world to see.

*Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts, shine through the
darkness.*

Christ be our light! Shine in your Church, gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world in troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has power to save us.

Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry,

Longing for water, many still thirst.

Make us your bread, broken for others,

Shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us your building, sheltering others,

Walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,

Many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another,

Making your kingdom come.

*Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts, shine through the
darkness.*

Christ be our light! Shine in your Church, gathered today.

"Longing for light" by Bernadette Farrell

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Reflections 1: Reflections from the front

Hymn CH4: 360 Jesus Christ is waiting

Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets;
No one is his neighbour, all alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am lonely too;
Make me, friend or stranger, fit to wait on you.

Jesus Christ is raging, raging in the streets,
Where injustice spirals and real hope retreats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am angry too:
In the Kingdom's causes, let me rage with you.

Jesus Christ is healing, healing in the streets,
Curing those who suffer, touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I have pity too:
Let my care be active, healing, just like you.

Jesus Christ is dancing, dancing in the streets,
Where each sign of hatred, he, with love, defeats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I should triumph too:
Where good conquers evil, let me dance with you.

Jesus Christ is calling, calling in the streets,
'Who will join my journey? I will guide their feet.'
Listen, Lord Jesus, let my fears be few:
Walk one step before me, I will follow you.

"Jesus Christ is waiting" by John L Bell and Graham Maule
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CCLI #114191

Reflections 2:

Reading: Luke 18: 1-8

Prayer: Taking our model of persistence from the widow in the parable, please take a moment to write a prayer on a brick, so that we can start to build a house of love. In Aline's story, we saw how she's been building a home for her family, and building a stronger community through her hard work, dedication and love. Aline has put love into action.

In your prayers you might like to reflect on what love looks like in action; how we can put love into action locally; how we can put love into action for our global neighbours.

Coming together (after each section prayers from the bricks will be shared):

Father and Mother God, thank You for our wealth in money, in time, in dedication, in kindness and in love. Help us to share those gifts in Your service and to sing up to You and to those around of Your love and care.

Jesus, our friend and our companion, thank you for the privilege of knowing our neighbours in church and in our communities, and for learning to respect and enjoy our differences. Help us to listen to those who need us and speak up for those who can't.

Spirit, thank you for the ways of communication that allow us to imagine and understand the lives of those across the world. Help us to believe that things can change for the better, and help us to step up to the challenge, and not give up until our prayers for justice are answered.

Amen

Hymn: Speak up, speak up and use your voice

Speak up, speak up and use your voice (x 3)
Speak for equality.

Stand up, stand up, stand your ground (x 3)
Stand for dignity.

Rise up, rise up, use your power (x 3)
Rise for justice now.

Step up, step up, find a way, (x 3)
Love will find a way.

Sing up, sing up from your heart (x3)
Sing with us today.
Sing up, sing up to our God (x 3)

God will lead the way. X3

“Speak up, speak up” by Fischy Music

Sending out and grace:

**May we persevere in faith,
May we go out in hope,
May we act and speak with love,
By the grace of God, our creator, redeemer, and
comforter,
Amen.**

Sung Amen: CH4: 824 Amen Siakudumisa

Amen siakudumisa, amen siakudumisa
Amen bawo, amen bawo, amen siakudumisa.

*(Translation from Xhosa: Amen, we praise your name, O Lord,
Amen, Amen!)*

“Amen Siakudumisa”, South African traditional,
attributed to S.C. Molefe

*We give a very warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us today,
either in the sanctuary or on-line. If you are sitting next to a microphone, it
is in use.*

*Today's worship is derived from materials provided by Christian Aid as part
of Christian Aid Week. More information regarding Christian Aid and its
mission can be found here: [https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-
appeals/christian-aid-week](https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week)*

*This Service will be live-streamed and you may be seen on camera,
although we will not deliberately take any close-ups of the congregation. By*

*attending you agree to be seen in this way. If you have any concerns,
please speak with our Church Secretary.*

*If you are visiting for the first time, please do fill out a visitor's card, which
can be found in the vestibule. We would be very pleased to stay in touch
with you.*

*We extend a very warm invitation to you all to join us after the Service for
coffee and friendship in our Fellowship Room downstairs. Please leave the
sanctuary by the door on the right at the front and turn downstairs. There is
a lift, if you require one. When using the lift, please keep your finger on the
button until you have arrived at your destination.*

*If you would like to make a donation to support our Church's life and
witness, donations may be made by cash in the offertory bags hanging on
the end of the pews at the back of church or, at the end of the Service, on
the large offertory plate by the door leading to coffee. Donations may also
be made through the card reader on the shelf by the right-hand door at the
back of Church.*

More information on our Church's life and witness may be found at

*www.standrewswithcastlegate.org.uk.
www.facebook.com/StAndrewsWithCastleGate
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