

St Andrew's with Castle Gate URC
Order for Worship for Sunday 4th August 2024 at 11.00am

Please note: There are supervised activities for our youngest friends in the vestibule throughout the service.

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship – Psalm 51:10, 15

Hymn – CH4 257. Singing, we gladly worship the Lord together

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Those who are travelling the road of life, sow seeds of peace and love.

1. Come, bringing hope into a world of fear,
a world which is burdened down with dread,
a world which is yearning for a greater love
but needs to be shown a true way.
2. Come, bringing joyfully in both your hands
some kindling to light the path of peace,
some hope that there is a more human world
where justice and truth will be born.

3. Wherever hatefulness and violence
are banished for ever from our hearts,
then will the world believe the day is near
when sadness and pain shall find their end.

© Christine Carson (b. 1965) and John Bell (b. 1949): Wild Goose Resource Group, The Iona Community, address as below

Opening Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

Reading – Ephesians 4:1-6, 11-16

Reception into Church Membership for Colum and Deanna

Hymn – R&S 195. I danced in the morning

Blessing for the Offertory

Reading – John 6:24-35

Music for Reflection

Talk – The Bread of Life

Hymn – R&S 199. Jesus the Lord says, I am the bread

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Invitation to the Table

Jesus so often met people gathered around the table, where he could see people face to face, listen to their stories and share in their laughter. We are gathered around this table because this is where Jesus has promised to be for those who want to meet him. We accept his invitation and we feel welcomed at this table. Jesus invites us to be his guests.

Hymn – R&S 453. Let us talents and tongues employ

The Narrative

What we do here, we do because Jesus wanted us to do this, in order to remember him. He was once, in an upstairs room, sitting at a meal with his disciples.

During the meal, Jesus took bread. When he had blessed it, he broke it, and said to his disciples, “This is my body. It is given for you. Do this to remember me.

Later in the meal, he took a cup of wine. After he had given thanks, he said, “In this cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Drink it, all of you, to remember me.”

So, now, we will do as Jesus did. We take this bread and this wine, the produce of the earth and the work of human hands, through which we are renewed, spiritually nourished and strengthened for service. As Jesus said a prayer before sharing, so we follow his example.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Eternal God, it is right to praise you, for you are the One from whom we came and the One to whom we will return. You conceived the universe, wove the world together and hold all life in your hands.

We praise you that you watch over us, waking or sleeping, that you keep every tear we shed, that you hear every prayer we make and that you know both our best and our worst and yet you will not let us go.

So, with rain, with wind and with sunshine, with all that moves in time with you, our Maker, we sing your praises.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come.

Blessed is he who was born among us incognito; who grew up without privilege or status; who walked the way to heaven through the backstreets of this world; who told the deepest truths in ordinary language; who touched and healed, blessed and disturbed without fear or favour; who showed inclusive love in all its unconditional glory. Blessed is he who, for all this, was crucified, died and was buried; who, for all this and all of us, rose again; who is always with us through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

God beyond holiness, as we do what once Jesus did, may your Spirit move among us, stirring our souls, so that you may be in us and we may be in you, now and forever. Amen.

The Sharing of Communion

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

Prayer after Communion

Most Gracious God, we praise you for all that you have given us and for all that you have promised us here. You have made us one with all your people, those in heaven and those on earth. You have nourished us with new life and you have renewed us for your service. So, now, we give ourselves to you, and we ask that our daily living may be part of the life of your Kingdom, and that our love may be your love, reaching out into the life of this world. Through, Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Redeemer. Amen.

Hymn – R&S 572. Colours of day dawn into the mind

**Benediction – we greet each other with the words of ‘The Grace’,
(Amen Spoken)**

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CCL 114191

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.

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
www.instagram.com/StAndrewsWithCastleGate*

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