

St Andrew's with Castle Gate URC
Order for Worship for Sunday 2nd March 2025 at 11.00am

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship – Psalm 100

Hymn – R&S 390. Open now thy gates of beauty

Opening Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

Reading – Luke 9:28-36

Family Talk

Anthem

Hymn – StF 59. Lord, the light of your love is shining

Lord, the light of your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.

CHORUS:

*Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy,
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.*

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness,
search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.

CHORUS

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory;
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

CHORUS

"Lord the light of your love is shining" words and music by Graham Kendrick
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Blessing for the Offertory and for the Junior Church
(Junior Church leave)

Reading – 2 Peter 1:16-21

Talk – The Transfiguration

Hymn – R&S 529. Light of the minds that know him

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Invitation to the Table

Jesus said that anyone who wanted to follow him could remember him by eating bread and drinking wine. We gather together now to celebrate Holy Communion in order to remember Jesus, to give thanks for all that he means for our day to day living and to commit ourselves to trying to walk his way more faithfully.

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

The Story

To anyone who wants to follow him, Jesus gave an example and a command, based on 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 said a prayer of thanks with his friends, so now we give our thanks and praise to God.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, we thank and praise you that it is possible for us to know and love you, to trust you and to serve you. You have made our beautiful world and you have made us to enjoy it and to enjoy being with each other.

Eternal God, we thank you for the example of Jesus. We thank you for the love he shared with all people; we thank you that he showed us the importance of loving you and putting you first in our lives; we thank you that he taught us that we can always say sorry and find a new way of living; we thank you for the care he gave to people in need and for the way he encouraged people who had lost confidence in themselves. We thank you too that he was prepared to suffer and to die in order that his message of love should be shared with the world.

So now we come to this table to remember Jesus and to ask that we might be strengthened to live as he lived. Help us to be faithful followers of his way, sharing his love with all that we meet. **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, we give you our deep thanks for this time together, for these symbols that have reminded us of Jesus and for these people we know and love. We now offer you our day to day living. Help us to go out to live as changed people, to walk in the way of Jesus and to share love and kindness with all. Amen.

Hymn – R&S 558. Will you come and follow me

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 and forever. Amen.**

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.

Play-bags are available for our youngest friends in the vestibule. These may be used, under parental supervision, until our younger friends leave for Junior Church.

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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