

Order of Service
10th August 2025

Welcome and notices

Lighting of peace candle

Call to worship

Hymn: CH4 - 198 Let us build a house

1. 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.
2. 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:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
3. Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space,
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

4. 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:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
5. 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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Prayers of Approach & Confession and the Lord's Prayer

Reading – Luke 3:7-22

Reading – Acts 8:26-40

Hymn: CH4 – 157 Sing of the Lord's goodness

1. Sing of the Lord's goodness, Father of all wisdom,
come to him and bless his name.
Mercy he has shown us, his love is for ever,
faithful to the end of days.

*Come, then, all you nations, sing of your Lord's goodness,
melodies of praise and thanks to God.
Ring out the Lord's glory, praise him with your music,
worship him and bless his name.*

2. Power he has wielded, honour is his garment,
risen from the snares of death.
His word he has spoken, one bread he has broken,
new life he now gives to all.
3. Courage in our darkness, comfort in our sorrow,
Spirit of our God most high;
solace for the weary, pardon for the sinner,
splendour of the living God.
4. Praise him with your singing, praise him with the trumpet,
praise God with the lute and harp;
praise him with the cymbals, praise him with your dancing,
praise God till the end of days.

“Sing of the Lord's goodness” by Ernest Sands
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Sermon

Hymn: – Come as you are

1. Come as you are, that's how I want you.
Come as you are, feel quite at home.
Close to my heart, loved and forgiven;
come as you are, why stand alone?

2. No need to fear, love sets no limits.
No need to fear, love never ends.
Don't run away, shamed and disheartened.
Rest in my love, trust me again.
3. I came to call sinners, not just the virtuous.
I came to bring peace, not to condemn.
Each time you fail to live by my promise,
why do you think I'd love you the less?
4. Come as you are, that's how I love you.
Come as you are, trust me again.
Nothing can change the love that I bear you.
All will be well, just come as you are.

“Come as you are” by Sr Deidre Browne

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The Baptism

Introduction

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Jesus Christ came that we might have life
and have it in all its fullness.

The Proclamation of Faith

Let us proclaim the faith of the Church through the ages:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

The Affirmations

Blessing of the water

The Baptism

The Promises

Promise by the congregation

As a community of faith, representing the whole Church,
do you welcome Rae and promise to share with them
what you yourselves have received,
the gift of God's love revealed in Christ?
We do with God's help.

The Confirmation

Certificate of Baptism and Confirmation is presented.

**In the name of Christ we welcome you.
May we grow together in unity,
and be built up into the body of Christ in love,
to the glory of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Hymn: CH4 – 634 Word of the Father

1. Word of the Father, the life of creation,
emptied of glory, among us you came;
born as a servant, assuming our weakness,
drank from the cup of our joy and our shame.
2. Each human child bears your image and likeness,
yet all are heirs to the sins of our earth;
once from death's flood you arose to redeem us,
water and Spirit now seal our rebirth.
3. Searching, you found us before we could name you,
loving, you suffered our pain and our loss;
strengthen each child through the faith of your people,
born in the glory which streams from the Cross.

“Word of the Father, the life of creation” by Colin Thompson
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Prayers of intercession

Response:

Lord, help us to see beyond the earthly things
To where you are at work in our world.

Hymn: CH4 – 644 O Jesus I have promised

1. O Jesus, I have promised
to serve you to the end;
be now and always near me,
my master and my friend:
I shall not fear the battle
if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if you will be my guide.

2. Oh, let me feel you near me:
the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me, and within;
but, Jesus, draw still nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.
3. Oh, let me hear you speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
Oh, speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
true guardian of my soul.
4. O Jesus, you have promised
to all who follow you,
that where you are in glory
your servant shall be too;
and, Jesus, I have promised
to serve you to the end:
now give me grace to follow,
my master and my friend.

Blessing/sending with sung amen



St Andrew's with Castle Gate
United Reformed Church, Nottingham

Living God's love through faith and action

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 for our youngest friends are available for collection from the vestibule. Please use these in the pews.

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.

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