

St Andrew's with Castle Gate URC
Order for Worship for Sunday 7th September 2025 at 11.00am

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship – Proverbs 3:3, 5 & 6

Hymn – R&S 96. Great is thy faithfulness

Opening Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

Reading – Psalm 95:1-7

Family Talk – Go with God and Go with our Love

Anthem

Hymn – R&S 549. One more step along the world I go

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

Reading – Luke 14:15-24

Talk – The Parable of the Great Banquet

Hymn – R&S 652. GOD! When human bonds are broken

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 448. Here, Lord, we take the broken bread

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 485. Almighty Father of all things that be

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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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 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.

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St Andrew's with Castle Gate United Reformed Church is registered with the Charity Commission as: St Andrew's with Castle Gate Nottingham United Reformed Church, registered number 1129944.