



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.

www.facebook.com/StAndrewsWithCastleGate

www.instagram.com/StAndrewsWithCastleGate

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.

St Andrew's with Castle Gate
Sunday 4th January 2026
Worship led by Revd Geoffrey Clarke

Welcome and notices

Call to worship

**Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
Nations shall come to your light
and rulers to the brightness of your rising**

(Isaiah 60: 1, 3)

Lighting of the Peace Candle and Prayer of Approach

Hymns R&S 187 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

Prayer of Confession

**God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the
light of the world,
to reveal your love for all people.
We confess that sin and pride hide the
brightness of your light.
We turn away from the poor;
we ignore cries for justice;
we do not strive for peace.
In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin,
and baptise us once again with your Spirit,
that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth
your glory
shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

(Reprinted by permission from *Book of Common Worship* (Presbyterian Church, USA),

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Assurance of Pardon and Prayer of the Day

Reading Epistle: Ephesians 3: 1-12

Anthem Benedictus, Robat Arwyn

Word with the Whole Church Family

Hymn R&S 184 As with gladness men of old

Offertory received and dedicated with Prayer for our Children and Young People.

Junior Church leave for their classes

Reading Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12

Sonnet for Epiphany (by Malcolm Guite)

Sermon Treasure Recognised and Offered

Hymn Wise men, they came to look for wisdom
(CH4 328 T - R&S 502)

Wise men, they came to look for wisdom,
finding one wiser than they knew;
rich men, they met with one yet richer
King of the kings, they knelt to you:
Jesus, our wisdom from above,
wealth and redemption, life and love.

Pilgrims they were, from unknown countries,
searching for one who knows the world;
lost are their names, and strange their journeys,
famed is their zeal to find the child:
Jesus, in you the lost are claimed,
strangers are found, and known, and named.

Magi, they stooped to see your splendour,
led by a star to light supreme;
promised Messiah, Lord eternal,
glory and peace are in your name.
Joy of each day, our song by night,
shine on our path your holy light.

Guests of their God, they opened treasures,
incense and gold and solemn myrrh;
welcoming one too young to question
how came these gifts, and what they were.
Gift beyond price of gold or gem,

make among us your Bethlehem.

Christopher Idle from Matthew 2
© Christopher Idle/Jubilate Hymns Ltd
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Prayers of Intercession

Invitation to Communion

Hymn R&S 190 Let earth and heaven combine

Eucharistic Prayer

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 thanks and praise.**

The prayer continues, leading into:

**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.**

The prayer continues, leading into:

Great is the mystery of faith.
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will
come again.**

The prayer continues, leading into:

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

R&S 15 Agnus Dei

The Communion

Post Communion Prayer

Hymn R&S 183
Brightest and best are the sons of the morning

Benediction with **sung Amen**