

St Andrew's and St George's West

Order of Service, 20 June 2021

Sanctuary Sunday/World Refugee Day

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Music Mélancolie (1940)

Francis Poulenc

Welcome

Call to Worship

God of big and God of small,
God of short and God of tall,
God who calls and uses all,
in worship make us one.
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.

Hymn Let us build a house (vv1,2,5)

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.*

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 :

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 :

Prayer of Adoration

God, we thank you
that as we gather in worship today,
you make space for each of us.
You call us and you equip us.
You love us and you welcome us.
You invite us to worship you,
knowing who and what we are,
assuring us that there is room for us
in your house, among your people,
and a place for us in your kingdom.

Prayer of thanksgiving and confession - by Veronique, a member of St. Rollox Church, Glasgow, a refugee from the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Heavenly Father,
I bow my heart to You and pray.
I give You thanks for all You've done.
Thank You for being my refuge and my strength.
Thank You for Your goodness in my life.
When I wake each morning,
I praise Your name.
I give thanks to You that no matter what the circumstances,
I can count on You to shelter me
and to give me strength.
Almighty God,
merciful Father,
I, a poor miserable sinner,
I confess to You all my sins and iniquities,
those known and unknown.

I'm not perfect
and I fall short every day of my life.
Thank You for Your mercy
In Jesus name. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven.
Hallowed be your name
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Scripture Reading Mark 4:35-41

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

Anthem Hear my prayer

O Lord, please hear my prayer,
in the morning when I rise.
It's your servant bound for glory.
O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.

O Lord, please hear my prayer,
keep me safe within your arms.

When my work on earth is done,
And you come to take me home.
Just to know I'm bound for glory.
And to hear you say well done.
Done with sin and sorrow.
Have mercy. Amen.

Music: Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

Learn

Hymn Inspired by love and anger

Inspired by love and anger,
disturbed by need and pain,
informed of God's own bias,
we ponder once again :
'How long must some folk suffer ?
How long can few folk mind ?
How long dare vain self-interest
turn prayer and pity blind ?'

From those for ever victims
of heartless human greed,
their cruel plight composes
a litany of need :
'Where are the fruits of justice ?
Where are the signs of peace ?
When is the day when prisoners
and dreams find their release ?'

Embed

From those for ever shackled
to what their wealth can buy,
the fear of lost advantage
provokes the bitter cry,
'Don't query our position !
Don't criticise our wealth !
Don't mention those exploited
by politics and stealth !'

To God, who through the prophets
proclaimed a different age,
we offer earth's indifference,
its agony and rage :
'When will the wrongs be righted ?
When will the kingdom come ?
When will the world be generous
to all instead of some ?'

Share

God asks, 'Who will go for me ?
Who will extend my reach ?
And who, when few will listen,
will prophesy and preach ?
And who, when few bid welcome,
will offer all they know ?
And who, when few dare follow,
will walk the road I show ?'

Amused in someone's kitchen,
asleep in someone's boat,
attuned to what the ancients
exposed, proclaimed, and wrote,
a saviour without safety,
a tradesman without tools
has come to tip the balance
with fishermen and fools.

Prayers of Intercession based on the prayer requests of a Syrian refugee resettled in Stirling

Loving God,
We thank You for the safe arrival on these shores
of all who have had to flee from war, conflict and unrest.
We pray for those who now call Scotland home,
having arrived here from distant and war-torn lands.
Bless all who have arrived here as refugees
and may they be welcomed here by all whom they meet.

(Sung response)

**Do not be afraid
for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by your name
you are mine.**

We ask Your blessing also on those whom they have left behind –
family, friends, loved ones, whom they may never see again.
For every refugee who safely reaches this country,
there are countless others who cannot leave and who must remain in harm's way.
Protect them, Lord,
enable them to remain in contact with those who have been able to leave.

**Do not be afraid
for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by your name
you are mine.**

God of family,
we bring before You the parents who are weeping and lamenting,
who are waiting for their children,
whose trace is lost in the sea, in the desert, on railway tracks,
in shipping containers and uncertainty:
men, women and children who had escaped from the war zones,
the famine and poverty of this world ,
with the hope for a better, safer life.

**Do not be afraid
for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by your name
you are mine.**

God of justice,
we bring before You political leaders, advisers and decision-makers
who hold the fate of others in their hands.
Make them aware of the causes of migration and flight.
Keep their consciences alive so that refugees are offered protection and dignity.
Let them agree rules of residence that are based on human rights
and guided by solidarity and compassion.

**Do not be afraid
for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by your name
you are mine.**

God of peace,
give us the strength to be witnesses of the suffering of the world
and fill us with the fire of Your spirit to renew our efforts to serve those in need
and give us the grace to welcome, learn about and share our lives
with people who come to live in our communities. Amen.

Hymn Look forward in faith

Look forward in faith,
all time is in God's hand.
Walk humbly with him
and trust his future plan.
God has wisely led
his people by his power.
Look forward in hope,
he gives us each new hour.

Look forward in faith,
the world is in God's care.
His purpose of love
he calls on us to share.
In our neighbour's need
the Lord is present still.
He blesses the meek!
The earth will know God's will.

Look forward in faith,
God gives us life each day.
Go onward with Christ,
his Spirit guides our way.
Now God lets us live
within the sphere of grace.
Trust ever in him,
he rules o'er earth and space!

Blessing

May God bless us,
our God, who called the world into being,
who breathed us into life,
who provides us with new strength.
May God bless us,
our God, whose love does not know borders nor walls,
whose justice will come.
Our God, who casts down the mighty from their thrones
and lifts up the lowly.
May God bless us,
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Amen

Organ Music Dialogue sur les Grands Jeux

L.-N. Clérambault

Worship Leaders: Rosie Magee, Pam and George Russell

Scripture Reader: Kamella Pollard

Director of Music: Brigitte Harris

Choir of St Andrew's and St George's West

'Let us build a House' lead by Katie and James McNeill

Pianist: Eleanor Cozens

Technical team: Alison Bruce, Philippa Burgess, Andrew Carvel, Susan McLarty, Mary Margaret Scott

Digital Coordinator: Andrew Carvel

Sources:

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Call to worship – adapted from CH4 174

Worship resources taken from 'God with us' produced by Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees

Scripture reading taken from the New Revised Standard Version

All hymns from Church Hymnary 4th Edition

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