

St Andrew's and St George's West

Order of Service, 29 May 2022

The Many Face(t)s of Peace



Gathering music

Welcome

Call to worship

Come and see, Jesus is here,
his peace flows in
and through each one of us.
Come and hear, the way to live,
come and find peace,
the peace that passes all understanding.

Come and worship, Jesus is here.
The Prince of Peace invites us all
To come and see peace in action.

Hymn Singing, we gladly worship the Lord together.

Refrain [sung twice]:

*Singing, we gladly worship the Lord together.
Singing, we gladly worship the Lord.
Those who are travelling the road of life
sow seeds of peace and love.*

- 1 Come, bringing hope into a world of fear,
a world which is burdened down with dread,
a world which is yearning for a greater love
but needs to be shown the true way.
- 2 Come, bringing joyfully in both your hands
some kindling to light the path of peace,
some hope that there is a more human world
where justice and truth will be born.
- 3 Whenever hatefulness and violence
are banished for ever from our hearts,
then will the world believe the day is near
when sadness and pain shall find their end.

Opening Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Wonderful Creator, Friend of the earth,
all creation praises you.
You show your healing love to the people of every land,
and you show us new ways of peace and new songs of joy
in every age, and at any age.

By the gift of faith,
may the Spirit of the risen Jesus live within us
and serve the world through us.
Join our songs to all those who have gone before us
and may they may inspire those who come after us.

Remind us, loving God,
that no one is unimportant to you
or unworthy of your love
and that even when our love falters,
your love remains constant.
May we trust that your forgiveness is boundless

and that our weaknesses are like hollows
where your Spirit of growth can take root and grow.

Gracious and loving God,
as we reflect on the wonder and glory of your being,
we are conscious of our failure to learn from you
and from the sacrificial love of Jesus.

So often our understanding of glory
is linked with prestige, and power, and position.
Jesus' understanding of glory was linked to a love
that was prepared to go to any lengths
to raise up the suffering, the excluded and the marginalised.

Fill our hearts and minds with Jesus' selfless love so that, like him, we glorify you in all we do and say. We pray this in Jesus' name, who taught his disciples to pray together saying:

**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

John 14: 23-31

The Message

“Because a loveless world,” said Jesus, “is a sightless world. If anyone loves me, he will carefully keep my word and my Father will love him—we’ll move right into the neighbourhood! Not loving me means not keeping my words. The message you are hearing isn’t mine. It’s the message of the Father who sent me.

“I’m telling you these things while I’m still living with you. The Friend, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send at my request, will make everything plain to you. He will remind you of all the things I have told you. I’m leaving you well and whole. That’s my parting gift to you. Peace. I don’t leave you the way you’re used to being left—feeling abandoned, bereft. So don’t be upset. Don’t be distraught.

“You’ve heard me tell you, ‘I’m going away, and I’m coming back.’ If you loved me, you would be glad that I’m on my way to the Father because the Father is the goal and purpose of my life.

“I’ve told you this ahead of time, before it happens, so that when it does happen, the confirmation will deepen your belief in me. I’ll not be talking with you much more like this because the chief of this godless world is about to attack. But don’t worry—he has nothing on me, no claim on me. But so the world might know how thoroughly I love the Father, I am carrying out my Father’s instructions right down to the last detail.

“Get up. Let’s go. It’s time to leave here.”

Picturing Peace

Hymn Put peace into each other’s hands

1. Put peace into each other's hands

and like a treasure hold it;
protect it like a candle flame,
with tenderness enfold it.

2. Put peace into each other's hands
with loving expectation;
be gentle in your words and ways,
in touch with God's creation.

5. Put Christ into each other's hands,
he is love's deepest measure;
in love make peace, give peace a chance
and share it like a treasure.

'What Is Peace Like?'

Sharing the Peace (Shalom) of Christ

Dedication of offerings

**O Lord, giver of life and source of freedom,
We know that all we have received is from your hand.
Help us to always use your gifts wisely and
share them generously.
May everything we offer
reflect the love of Jesus Christ in our lives.
Love that seeks peace,
with justice and with joy. Amen.**

Hymn O Christ, we trust your promise

1. O Christ, we trust your promise that we are not alone,
for God still dwells among us to make in us a home.
God gives the Holy Spirit to teach us how to be
a loving, faithful people, a new community.

2. We find a real assurance within the peace you give;
the Advocate God sends us now shows us how to live.
When we're afraid or anxious, when sin is all we see,
the Spirit builds among us a new community.

3. Your love is your commandment — both old and also new.
In this world's pain, it's urgent that we live love for you.
We're called to love and welcome the poor, the refugee —
to serve with them, creating a new community.

4. So when we seek direction, remind us what is true:
the Advocate is with us to help us follow you.
Christ, guided by the Spirit, may we your people be
A loving, faithful witness in this community.

Prayers of the People

Help us to love and follow you
in the peace of your spirit

'Those who love me'

Hymn Give me joy in my heart

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
Give me joy in my heart, I pray;
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
Keep me praising 'til the break of day:

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King of kings.
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King.*

Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,
Give me peace in my heart, I pray;
Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,
Keep me loving 'til the break of day:

Give me light in my heart, keep me shining,
Give me light in my heart, I pray;
Give me light in my heart, keep me shining,
Keep me shining 'til the break of day:

Sending and blessing

Go in peace:
peace that is noisy;
peace that is filled with play;
peace that is filled with community;
peace that is filled with games and singing and laughter;
peace that includes everyone;
peace that is safe and shared;
peace that is home to love.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Love of God
and the companionship of the Holy Spirit
abide with you this day and always.

Threefold Amen

Sending music

Worship Leaders: Bridget Harris, Helen Hammond, Rev. Rosie Magee

Organist/pianist: Jamie Turnbull

Technical team: Alison Bruce, Susan McLarty, Mary Margaret Scott, Ruth Forrester,
Phillipa Burgess, Amy Marcham

Sources:

Image: www.pixabay.com

Scripture reading(s) taken from the New Revised Standard Version unless otherwise stated.

Call to worship and Sending: Spill the Beans, Spill the Beans Resource Team, 2022
'What is peace like' and 'Those who Love me' adapted from Spill the Beans, Spill the Beans Resource Team, 2022

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