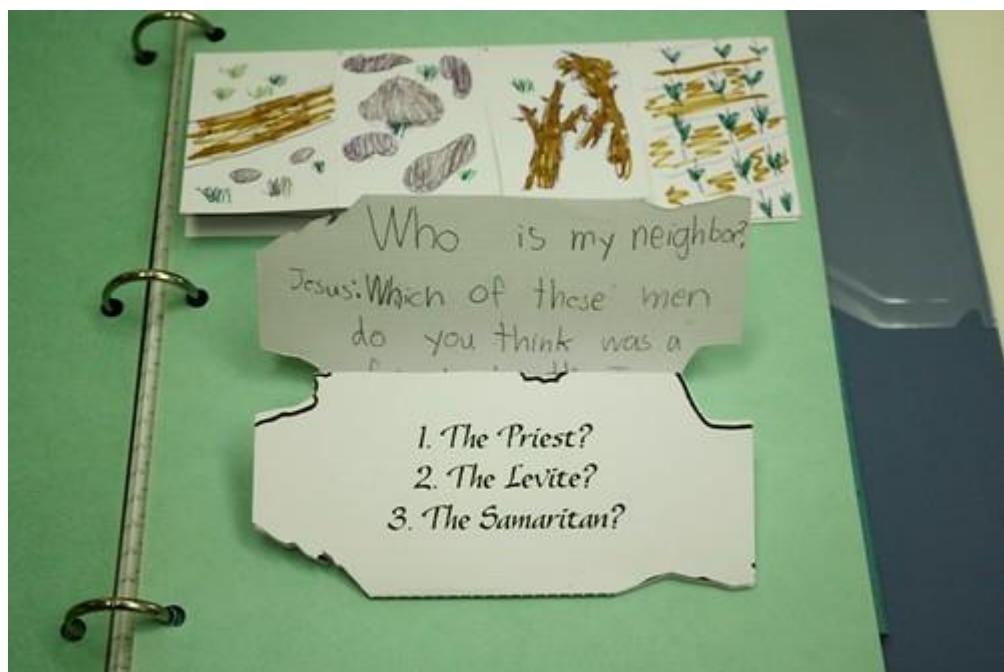


## St Andrew's and St George's West

Order of Service, 10 July 2022

### God's Neighbourhood



#### Gathering music

#### Welcome

#### Call to worship

People of God,  
look around and see the faces of those we know and love –  
neighbours, friends, sisters and brothers.

Look around and see the faces of those we hardly know -  
strangers, visitors, forgotten friends.

People of God,  
Look around and see all the images of God assembled here.  
God calls each of us by name.  
God's Spirit shines for all to see.

People of God, come. Let us worship together.

#### Hymn 519 Love divine, all loves excelling

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art ;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.

- 2 Come, almighty to deliver ;  
let us all thy life receive ;  
suddenly return, and never,  
never more thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.
- 3 Finish then thy new creation :  
pure and spotless let us be ;  
let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee,  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

### **Opening Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**

Loving God.

When the world lives by the roadside in its weeping, struggling life:  
**you stop and live in its pain.**

If we sit on the edge of the road in rejection and fear:  
**you join us as though we are your dearest neighbours.**

We thank you that there is no place separated from your love  
**There is no time when you pass us by.**

So, if we have walked by a neighbour, O God,  
afraid to stop in case they asked too much of us.

Forgive us.

(silence)

If we have passed by a neighbour, O God,  
afraid to stop in case people think we are like them.

Forgive us.

(silence)

If we have sat on the other side of the room from our neighbour, O God,  
not believing they had any good in them, or love for us

Forgive us.

(silence)

Gracious God,  
**forgive us and help us see that we all part of your neighbourhood.**

## **Assurance of pardon**

In Jesus Christ, our God never walks past those who fail.  
Even the wounds of our wrongdoings are bathed and offered God's healing love.  
**From the Spirit we have all received grace upon grace.**  
**Thanks be to God.**

In gratitude and trust, we join together in the prayer that Jesus taught 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.**

## **Sharing of Christ's Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you  
**and also with you**

### **Scripture reading: Luke 10: 25-37**

### **The Message**

Just then a religion scholar stood up with a question to test Jesus. "Teacher, what do I need to do to get eternal life?"

He answered, "What's written in God's Law? How do you interpret it?"

He said, "That you love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and muscle and intelligence—and that you love your neighbour as well as you do yourself."

"Good answer!" said Jesus. "Do it and you'll live."

Looking for a loophole, he asked, "And just how would you define 'neighbour'?"

Jesus answered by telling a story. "There was once a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way he was attacked by robbers. They took his clothes, beat him up, and went off leaving him half-dead. Luckily, a priest was on his way down the same road, but when he saw him, he angled across to the other side. Then a Levite religious man showed up; he also avoided the injured man.

"A Samaritan traveling the road came on him. When he saw the man's condition, his heart went out to him. He gave him first aid, disinfecting and bandaging his wounds. Then he lifted him onto his donkey, led him to an inn, and made him comfortable. In the morning he

took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take good care of him. If it costs any more, put it on my bill—I’ll pay you on my way back.’

“What do you think? Which of the three became a neighbour to the man attacked by robbers?”

“The one who treated him kindly,” the religion scholar responded.

Jesus said, “Go and do the same.”

**Hymn** Who Is My Neighbour? Tune: Lobe Den Herren

1. "Who is my neighbour?" A lawyer asked Jesus, to test him.  
So Jesus told him a story to answer his question:  
Lonely the way ...  
Lonely the traveller one day ...  
Robbers attacked him and left him.
2. First down the road came a priest who just chose to ignore him.  
Next came a Levite who wouldn't do anything for him.  
Then one despised,  
Hated in everyone's eyes,  
Knelt down to heal and restore him.
3. Tending the wounds of the man, the Samaritan laboured.  
He was the one with compassion, the one in God's favour.  
Not by a creed  
But by responding to need,  
He proved to be the good neighbour.

### A contemporary re-telling

#### God's neighbourhood

##### **Hymn 522**

- 1 The Church is wherever God's people are praising,  
knowing they're wanted and loved by their Lord.  
The Church is wherever Christ's followers are trying  
to live and to share out the good news of God.
- 2 The Church is wherever God's people are loving,  
where all are forgiven and start once again,  
where all are accepted, whatever their background,  
whatever their past and whatever their pain.
- 3 The Church is wherever God's people are seeking  
to reach out and touch folk wherever they are —  
conveying the Gospel, its joy and its comfort,  
to challenge, refresh, and excite and inspire.
- 4 The Church is wherever God's people are praising,  
knowing we're wanted and loved by our Lord.  
The Church is where we as Christ's followers are trying  
to live and to share out the good news of God.

## Prayers of the People

incorporating hymn 544 When I needed a neighbour

Let us pray

**Cantor:** When I needed a neighbour were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a neighbour were you there?

**All:** **And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,  
were you there ?**

Lord of life,  
We pray for neighbours who are hungry and thirsty.  
Many of us, in this world of plenty, face famine and drought.  
Many of us are hungry for justice, thirsty for companionship.  
We pray for neighbourhoods where the hungry are fed and the thirsty are satisfied.

**Cantor:** I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there ?  
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there ?

**All:** **And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,  
were you there ?**

Lord of life,  
We pray for neighbours who are cold or naked.  
Many of us, in this world of plenty, lack warmth and protection.  
Many of us suffer from extremes of temperature.  
We pray for neighbourhoods where everyone can live without suffering, can live in comfort.

**Cantor:** I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there ?  
I was cold, I was naked, were you there ?

**All:** **And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,  
were you there ?**

Lord of life,  
We pray for neighbours who need shelter.  
Many of us, in this world of plenty, are homeless or stateless.  
Many of us feel frightened or alone or at risk of harm.  
We pray for neighbourhoods where everyone can find refuge, everyone has a place to call home.

**Cantor:** When I needed a shelter, were you there, were you there ?  
When I needed a shelter, were you there ?

**All:** **And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,  
were you there ?**

Lord of life,  
We pray for neighbours who need healing.  
Many of us, in this world of plenty, lack access to healthcare  
Many of us suffer from mental and physical illness.

We pray for neighbourhoods where everyone has access to the medicine they need, where everyone has vaccination to keep them well, where everyone is supported by someone who cares.

**Cantor:** When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there ?  
When I needed a healer, were you there ?

**All:** **And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,  
were you there ?**

**Wherever you travel I'll be there, I'll be there,  
wherever you travel I'll be there.  
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,  
I'll be there.**

Amen.

### **Sacrament of Baptism - Magnus Murray Keith**

#### **Congregational welcome:**

**Magnus, we welcome you into the family of God,**

**We are members together of the body of Christ.**

**We affirm our faith in God our creator, in Jesus our Saviour, in the Holy Spirit  
as our Guide.**

**Hymn 796**                    The Lord bless you and keep you

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious unto you:  
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you  
And give you peace

#### **Sending and blessing**

So may we go out from this place  
and recognise God the Creator  
in surprising acts of kindness;  
May we experience the human God  
in tiny acts of extraordinary love;

Trusting that the world is God's neighbourhood,  
may we demonstrate the courage of God's Spirit  
in all we say and do,  
wherever we go.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,

and the companionship of the Holy Spirit  
remain with you, this day and every day

### **Threefold Amen**

### **Sending music**

Worship Leader: Lorna Cammock, Ruth Forrester, Rev Rosie Magee

Organist and cantor: James McNeill

Pianist: Katie McNeill

Technical team: Alison Bruce, Susan McLarty, Mary Margaret Scott,

Phillipa Burgess, Amy Marcham

Sources:

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

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