

ORDER OF SERVICE: ST ANDREWS

1 October 2023



Welcome & Introductions

Lighting of the Candle and pouring of the water

Call to worship

God of life, in your hand we find our lives.

Be present with us in this time together.

Let your Spirit mould us, shape us and remake us this morning and every day

until we conform to the shape that you call us to take;

the shape of love known and shown in Jesus the Christ. **Amen**

TiS 156 Morning has broken.

1

Morning has broken
like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken
like the first bird.
Praise for the singing,
praise for the morning,
praise for them, springing
fresh from the word.

2

Sweet the rain's new fall
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall
on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
sprung from completeness
where his feet pass.

3

Mine is the sunlight;
mine is the morning
born of the one light
Eden saw play.
Praise with elation,
praise every morning,
God's recreation
of the new day.

PRAYER

Introduction to the Reading

READING: Matthew 21:23-32

TiS 665 Jesus Christ is waiting.

1

Jesus Christ is waiting,
 waiting in the streets;
 no-one is his neighbour,
 all alone he eats.
 Listen, Lord Jesus,
 I am lonely too.
 Make me, friend or stranger,
 fit to wait on you.

2

Jesus Christ is raging,
 raging in the streets,
 where injustice spirals
 and real hope retreats.
 Listen, Lord Jesus,
 I am angry too.
 In the Kingdom's causes
 let me rage with you.

3

Jesus Christ is healing,
 healing in the streets;
 curing those who suffer,
 touching those he greets.
 Listen, Lord Jesus,
 I have pity too.
 Let my care be active,
 healing just like you.

4

Jesus Christ is dancing,
 dancing in the streets,
 where each sign of hatred
 he, with love, defeats.
 Listen, Lord Jesus,
 I should triumph too.
 Where good conquers evil
 let me dance with you.

5

Jesus Christ is calling,
 calling in the streets,
 'Who will join my journey?
 I will guide their feet.'
 Listen, Lord Jesus,
 let my fears be few.
 Walk one step before me;
 I will follow you.

REFLECTION

TiS 242 I danced in the morning.

1

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
 and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun;
 and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,
 at Bethlehem I had my birth:

*Dance then, wherever you may be;
 I am the Lord of the dance, said he;
 and I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
 and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

2

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
 but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
 I danced for the fishermen, for James and John,
 they came with me and the dance went on:

Dance then,

3

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:
 the holy people said it was a shame.
 They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
 and they left me there on a cross to die:

Dance then,

4

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
 it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
 They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
 but I am the dance and I still go on:

Dance then,

5

They cut me down and I leap up high,
 I am the life that'll never, never die;
 I'll live in you as you live in me:
 I am the Lord of the dance, said he:

Dance then,

Offering Prayer

Prayers for others

Because nothing is impossible for You, O God,
hear our prayer, and in Your love, answer.

Lord's Prayer

***Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread
 and forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those who sin against us.
 and deliver us from evil.
 For yours is the kingdom,
 the power and the glory
 For ever and ever.
 Amen.***

TIS 231 At the name of Jesus

1

At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of Glory now:
this the Father's pleasure
that we call him Lord,
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.

2

Humbled for a season
to receive a name
from the lips of sinners
unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it
spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious
when from death he passed.

3

In your hearts enthrone him,
there let him make new
all that is not holy,
all that is not true.
He is God the Saviour,
he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped,
trusted and adored.

4

When this same Lord Jesus
shall appear again
in his Father's glory,
there with him to reign,
then may we adore him,
all before him bow,
as our hearts confess him
King of Glory now.

The Blessing

May the love of God embrace us

May the grace of Jesus challenge us

The power of the Holy Spirit renew us. Amen

Opening prayer

Gracious God, we gather this morning in this house of worship which, thanks to your love, is our home away from home.

We come to add our human voices to the chorus of praise raised by your creation!

We come as we are – distracted and weary, hopeful and open – knowing that you accept us and are ever mindful of our cares and joys. Still in us now the many voices that clamour for attention, that we might centre ourselves upon you.

Speak to us in word and melody and quiet, that we may be renewed in our faith and strengthened for your service. Amen.

Prayers for Others

God,

You are a God of compassion and love.

Time after time we have experienced your care and provision.

Time after time You've answered our prayers and met our needs—often in ways we could never have dreamed possible.

We praise You for Your faithful love toward us.

Because we have known Your love,
we come to You with confidence,
offering our prayers for the world that You love.

We see so much pain and suffering;
so much anger and frustration and despair.
It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the needs around us.
But we continue to bring our prayers to You in faith,
because we know that nothing is impossible for You.
You are the God who rained down bread from heaven,
and made water flow from a rock in the desert;
the God who resurrected Jesus Christ from the dead,
and who brings new life and hope to all who believe.
For You, all things are possible.
Hear our prayers.

(Time of silent prayer)

Because nothing is impossible for You, O God,
hear our prayer, and in Your love, answer.

[You are invited to light a candle as you leave the sanctuary.]

PREACHER FOR NEXT WEEK: Rev Graham Sturdy