

# **ORDER OF SERVICE: ST ANDREWS**

**19 November 2023**

**PENTECOST 25**

## ***A GOD OF GRACE NOT JUDGEMENT***

### **Welcome**

Lighting of Candle and pouring water into bowl

### **Call to Worship:**

We lift up our eyes to you, O God,

**Longing for a glimpse of your grace.**

We watch for you...and wait,

**trying to keep awake and aware,**

Trying not to fall asleep,

**trying not to miss your presence,**

trying not to miss our very lives.

**Today, we come to you awake-**

Clothed in faith, decked out in love,

**Wearing hope for all to see.**

Come and meet us here, O God,

**In your mercy and your grace.**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

**SONG:** TIS 474 Here in this place

1 Here in this place new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness vanished away,  
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,  
brought here to you in the light of this day  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of your name.

2 We are the young, our lives are a  
mystery;  
we are the old, who yearn for your  
face;  
we have been sung throughout all of  
history,  
called to be light to the whole human  
race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;  
gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,  
give us the courage to enter the song.

4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven light years away,  
but here in this space, the new light is shining,  
now is the kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in, and hold us for ever;  
gather us in, and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

3 Here we will take of the wine and  
the water,  
here we will take the bread of new  
birth,  
here you shall call your sons and  
your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt of the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of com-  
passion,  
give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to  
fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that  
are true.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**The God of grace hears our prayers  
and holds them close.**

**When we wander away into places of death and despair, God is always  
ready to  
bring us back.**

**For no matter where we go and what we do, we belong to God and God  
is there for us.**

**We belong to the one who clothes us in  
faith and hope and love.**

**We are held so close in God's hand that nothing can tear us away.**

## PASSING THE PEACE

### SONG TIS 547 Be Thou My Vision

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

3 Be thou my armour, my sword for the fight,  
be thou my dignity, thou my delight;  
thou my soul's shelter and thou my high tower:  
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

2 Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my great Father, thy child let me be;  
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

4 Riches I scorn and the world's empty praise,  
thou my inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only the first in my heart;  
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

5 High King of heaven, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

### OT READING Judges 4:1-7

### GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25:14-30

### REFLECTION OF THE WORD

SONG TIS 421 Where the Spirit is ... (refer separate page)

### OFFERING PRAYER

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

...lighting of reflective candles

**LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**SONG:** TIS 717 Give thanks with a grateful heart (refer separate page)

**Blessing:**

**People of God-**

**Put on hope, put on faith, and put on love,  
 Go forth with hope to encourage one another.  
 Go forth in faith to build each other up.  
 Live in mercy...and abide in peace.**

**Amen**

**SONG** TIS 779 May the feet of God walk with you. (refer separate page)

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**PREACHER FOR NEXT WEEK: Ms Jenny Esots**