

ORDER OF SERVICE: ST ANDREWS

5 May 2024—Easter 6

Love One another. How does that work?



Song

What a friend

Joseph Scriven

1 What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

2 Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!

3 Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

Call to Worship

Welcome and Notices

Centring

Song

A New Commandment

Roy Crabtree

1 A new commandment I give unto you
That you love one another as I have loved you
That you love one another as I have loved you

2 By this shall people that you are my disciples
If you have love one for another
By this shall people that you are my disciples
If you have love one for another

Scripture

John 15:9-17

Hearing the Word

Geoff Hurst

Song

Face to Face

Robin Mann

The candles are lit and the table is laid; everything's set to begin:
Parents and children and husbands and wives, brothers and sisters and friends.

The words that are spoken are simple but true, "This is my body and blood;"
Here is forgiveness for all of your sins. Here is the promise of God.

*Here we meet you once again, God of mercy, God of grace;
Taste your love in bread and wine, we meet you face to face*

The candles are lit and the table is laid: God's invitation says "Come!"
Come, all is ready, our host is at hand, Father, and Spirit, and Son.
No need to be anxious or troubled with fear, Jesus turns no-one away;
If you need healing or comfort or strength, Come to this table today.

[Chorus]

We're free from our sin and we're free from our death, Free from our chains
of the past; Free to be lovers and givers and friends, Free to be people at
last! *[Chorus]*

Holy Communion

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer Alex Jensen – Unitarian Universalist Association

***Spirit of Life and Love, Holy God, Source Eternal, in our midst yet still
ever so elusive:***

***To breathe your sacred name is a blessing. Your world become, Your
will be done here, on Earth, inspired by our aspirations to do and be
better people. May we have all that we need to survive, live, and
thrive. Remind us to be gentle; may we love mercy and kindness,
recalling the times when we've fallen short ourselves. Call us to be
firm; may we not be tempted to follow selfish motivations or reside in
our narrow privileges, unexamined and uninterrogated; move us to
counter and overcome evil and injustice in ourselves, our lives, and
institutions. Yours is the Beloved Community, the fire of commitment in
our hearts, and the spirit of generosity and abundance, now and
always. Amen.***

Song May our lives and our prayers Paul Sommerville

*May our lives and our prayers be one
As our hopes shape the roads we walk on
And when our work and our dreaming's done
may our lives and our prayers be one*

1 Within the rhythm of our days; we
take the time to muse and pray
The fears we face the tears we taste;
we view in light of holy grace

2 We name our deepest hopes and
dreams; for those we love and all in
need
We picture how the world could be.
We live the change we want to see.

Gathering our Gifts

Sending Out

Song

Love Divine

Charles Wesley Jr.

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.

Scripture John 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

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