

# **ORDER OF SERVICE: ST ANDREWS**

**7 January 2024**



**God with us - in the waters of life**

## **Call to worship**

Come to the water, all you who thirst—  
**come drink deeply from the river of life.**

Come to the water, all you who are weary—  
**come rest in the quiet pools of God's love.**

Come to the water, all you who long for a justice—  
**come be renewed in God's ever-flowing stream.**

For God is here among us,  
**washing away the dust and grime of our lives,**  
**and pouring out the Spirit on all who thirst.**  
Let's worship God together.

**SONG: TIS 693 Come as you are**

1 'Come as you are:  
that's how I want you.  
Come as you are;  
feel quite at home,  
close to my heart,  
loved and forgiven.  
Come as you are:  
why stand alone?

2 'No need to fear,  
love sets no limits;  
no need to fear,  
love never ends;  
don't run away  
shamed and disheartened,  
rest in my love,  
trust me again.

3 'I came to call sinners,  
not just the righteous;  
I came to bring peace,  
not to condemn.  
Each time you fail  
to live by my promise,  
why do you think  
I'd love you the less?

4 'Come as you are:  
that's how I love you;  
come as you are,  
trust me again.  
Nothing can change  
the love that I bear you;  
all will be well,  
just come as you are.'

**PRAYER****INTRODUCTION TO THE READINGS**

**Reading:** Genesis 1:1-5

**Reading:** Mark 1:4-11

**SONG Crashing waters of creation (Tune TIS 272)**

1 Crashing waters at creation,  
ordered by the spirit's breath,  
first to witness day's beginning  
from the brightness of night's  
death.

2 Parting water stood and trem-  
bled  
as the captives passed on through,  
washing off the chains of bondage  
– channel to a life made new.

3 Cleansing water once at Jordan  
closed around the one foretold,  
opened to reveal the glory  
ever new and ever old.

4 Living water, never ending,  
quench the thirst and flood the  
soul.  
Well-spring, Source of life eternal,  
drench our dryness, make us  
whole

## REFLECTION

## SONG

God be the love to search and keep me  
*(refer attached song sheet)*

## PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

*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*

## SONG

Spirit of the living God,  
 Fall afresh on me!  
 Spirit of the living God,  
 Fall afresh on me!  
 Break me, melt me, mould me, fill me!  
 Spirit of the living God,  
 Fall afresh on me!

## THANKSGIVING PRAYER

**SONG: TIS 683 God! When human bonds are broken (Tune TIS 413)**

1 God! When human bonds are broken  
and we lack the love or skill  
to restore the hope of healing,  
give us grace and make us still.

2 Through that stillness, with  
your Spirit  
come into our world of stress,  
for the sake of Christ forgiving;  
all the failures we confess.

3 You in us are bruised and broken:  
hear us as we seek release  
from the pain of earlier living;  
set us free and grant us peace.

4 Send us, God of new beginnings,  
humbly hopeful into life.  
Use us as a means of blessing:  
make us stronger, give us faith.

5 Give us faith to be more faithful,  
give us hope to be more true,  
give us love to go on learning:  
God! Encourage and renew!

## SENDING OUT PRAYER

Father, as you have loved us, **so may we love.**  
Jesus, as you have called us, **help us to follow.**  
Spirit, as you have sent us, **fill us with your power.**  
**Amen.**

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

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**PREACHER FOR NEXT WEEK: Rev Graham Sturdy**