

19th March 2023
(Lent 4)



Opening Hymn

She sits like a bird, brooding on the waters,
hov'ring on the chaos of the world's first day;
she sighs and she sings, mothering creation,
waiting to give birth to all the Word will say.

She wings over earth, resting where she wishes,
lighting close at hand or soaring through the skies;
she nests in the womb, welcoming each wonder,
nourishing potential hidden to our eyes.

She dances in fire, startling her spectators,
waking tongues of ecstasy where dumbness reigned;
she weans and inspires all whose hearts are open,
nor can she be captured, silenced or restrained.

For she is the Spirit, one with God in essence,
gifted by the Saviour in eternal love;
she is the key opening the scriptures,
enemy of apathy and heavenly dove.

John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (1958-2019)

Collect of the Day

Merciful Lord,
absolve your people from their offences,
that through your bountiful goodness
we may all be delivered from the chains of those sins
which by our frailty we have committed;
grant this, heavenly Father,
for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Psalm 23



1. The **LORD** is **my** shepherd :
I **shall** not **want**.
2. He makes me to lie **down** in **green** pastures :
he leads me be-**side** still **waters** ;
3. He **re**-stores **my** soul :
He leads me in right paths for **his** name's **sake**.
4. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, **I** fear **no** evil :
for you are with me * your rod and your **staff**, they **comfort me**.
5. You prepare a table before me in the **presence** of **my** enemies :
you anoint my head with oil * my **cup** over-**flows**.
6. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the **days** of **my** life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my **whole** life **long**.

Glory be to the Father, **and to the** Son :
and to the **Ho**-ly **Spirit** :

As it was in the beginning, is now, and **ev**-er **shall** be :
world without **end**, **A-men**.

Offertory Hymn

Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down,
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love
the breadth, length, depth and height to prove,
here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)

Final Hymn

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me.

I once was lost, but now I'm found;
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come.
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

When we've been there a thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first begun.

vs. 1-4 John Newton (1725-1807), v. 5 John Rees (1828-1900)

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Notices

Traidcraft

There will be a Traidcraft sale **after this morning's service**. Do come and buy some lovely fair-trade goodies while they last!

The Net

The new edition of our newsletter, 'The Net', is now available. You will find it on the congregation's website and there are also some hard copies in the church. Please do take the time to read it and so keep in touch with what's going on in the life of our congregation.

Maundy Thursday Meal

In conjunction with the usual Maundy Thursday eucharist this year on **6th April** we are going to have a bring-and-share meal in the church hall **from 5pm** onwards – an appropriate way to remember the last meal Jesus shared with his friends. The eucharist and vigil will follow at 7pm. In keeping with the idea of keeping a Green Lent and our desire to cut our carbon footprints, the meal will be vegetarian. Please do plan to come and share in this, and stay on for the service if you are able to.

Green Lent Cookbook

If you would like to come to the meal on Maundy Thursday but are not sure about what vegetarian food to make, why not try a recipe from the *Green Lent Cookbook*, <http://www.stasstas.com/green-lent-cookbook.html> . If you don't think you can make a vegetarian dish, please come anyway. **We are still looking for new vegetarian recipes so please send yours to Jenny Evetts, mtpleasant@hotmail.co.uk**

Green Tickets

You have all received a green ticket (there are more available at the entrance to the church). Why not fill one in to indicate your carbon savings in attending the Maundy Thursday meal? You need only write: 'I would have had beef' or 'I would have had chicken' or whatever and put the ticket in the offering plate. We shall calculate the carbon savings.

This week...

Zoom links & liturgy booklets can be found at www.stasstas.com

Monday

10am ~ Butterflies

Wednesday

9pm ~ Compline (Zoom)

Thursday

12noon ~ Midday Prayer (Zoom)

Friday

11am ~ Holy Communion

Sunday's Services

10am ~ Eucharist

5pm ~ Evensong

Sharing the Common Cup

Since Covid-related restrictions were eased we have reintroduced the common cup as part of our sharing in Holy Communion. Please be assured that we are making considerations of hygiene paramount, and each chalice is wiped with a purificator soaked in 97% grain alcohol after each communicant. If you are more comfortable receiving only the bread, then please feel entirely free to do so. **Please note that intinction (dipping the wafer into the cup of wine) is NOT permitted.**



Today's readings

At 10am: 1 Samuel 16.1-13
Ephesians 5.8-14
John 9.1-41

At 5pm: Micah 7
James 5



Next Sunday's readings

At 10am: Ezekiel 37.1-14
Romans 8.6-11
John 11.1-45

At 5pm: Lamentations 3.19-33
Matthew 20.17-34



Giving

The life and ministry of this congregation is funded entirely by the regular giving of its people. If you would like to support us with a financial gift, you can do so now by picking up and using a yellow Gift Aid envelope or donating online by visiting www.stasstas.com or scanning this QR code to be directed straight to our **JustGiving™** site.





Saint Andrew's Scottish Episcopal Church



Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane

Welcome to church today! If you are here for the first time or visiting, we're especially pleased to have you with us and trust that you will feel at home and able to take a full part in our worship. But please feel absolutely free to participate in as much or as little of what goes on as you are comfortable with.

Worship is a time when we enter consciously into God's presence together, bringing with us all that we are and all that we have – our joys and sorrows, our hopes and anxieties, our achievements and our failures. We believe that God delights to meet with us, and to pour out his healing and transforming power among us as we offer up our praise and petitions, laying both our fullness and our emptiness before him; because he made us and loves us, despite everything.

Saint Andrew's St Andrews is a mixed congregation from many different walks of life, discovering together what it means to love God and to love those God has given us as our fellow-Christians, neighbours, co-workers, and strangers – even those we frankly find it difficult to get along with! So, we're on a steep learning curve, and all at different stages on the way.

We are a church with an open door where everyone is welcome. We make absolutely no apologies for our commitment to Jesus, but nor do we expect you necessarily to share that commitment or to bear its costs. You are welcome among us as a believer, a sceptic, someone unsure of what exactly they believe, or someone simply seeking sanctuary and solace from the unpredictable ups and downs of life, its hurts and disillusionments. Wherever you're coming from, you'll rapidly discover that there's no 'normal' here.

If you are visiting Saint Andrew's St Andrews from another church, please take our greetings with you to your own congregation when you return there.