

# St Andrew's, Chesterton

## All-Age Communion

30 March 2025  
Mothering Sunday

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**Please be aware this service is livestreamed.** If you or anyone accompanying you does not wish to be visible on camera, remain behind the front row. Those receiving Communion will not be filmed.

### Youth Choir Song: Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet.

Music: Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992)

### We are welcomed

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you  
**and also with you.**

*The service is introduced.*

### We sing

1. God of Eve and God of Mary  
God of love and mother-earth  
Thank you for the ones who with us  
Shared their life and gave us birth
2. As you came to earth in Jesus  
So you come to us today  
You are present in the caring  
That prepares us for life's way
3. Thank you that the Church our Mother  
Gives us bread and fills our cup  
And the comfort of the Spirit  
Warms our hearts and lifts us up
4. Thank you for belonging shelter  
Bonds of friendship ties of blood  
And for those who have no children  
Yet are parents under God
5. God of Eve and God of Mary  
Christ our brother human Son  
Spirit caring like a Mother  
Take our love and make us one

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### We praise and thank God

Praise God who loves us.  
**Praise God who cares.**

We light this candle to remind us that the love of God  
is like a light in our darkness.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

We praise you, our God, for all mothers who have  
loved and laughed and laboured as they cared for  
their children;

**Blessed be God for ever.**

We praise you, our God, for all mothers who have  
wept in sorrow and joy for their children:  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

We praise you, our God, for Jesus, born of a woman  
and nurtured in her love, and for Mary, a reminder  
of your patient, waiting love.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

### We say sorry

Brothers and sisters, as we prepare to celebrate,  
let us call to mind our sins.

**God our Father,  
long-suffering, full of grace and truth,  
you create us from nothing and give us life.  
You give your faithful people new life in the  
water of baptism.  
You do not turn your face from us,  
nor cast us aside.  
We confess that we have sinned  
against you and our neighbour.  
We have wounded your love and marred your  
image in us.  
Restore us for the sake of your Son,  
and bring us to heavenly joy,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

### We sing a Kyrie prayer from Ghana

Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.  
Have mercy, Lord, have mercy O Lord,  
Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy, Christ, have mercy.  
Have mercy, Christ, have mercy O Christ,  
Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.  
Have mercy, Lord, have mercy O Lord,  
Lord, have mercy.

Words: Ghanaian into English. Music © Geoff Weaver / Jubilate Hymns.

### We receive God's forgiveness

May the Father of all mercies  
cleanse us from our sins,  
and restore us in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## The Collect

**God of love,  
passionate and strong,  
tender and careful:  
watch over us and hold us  
all the days of our life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Psalm 32

<sup>1</sup> Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.

<sup>2</sup> **Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

<sup>3</sup> While I kept silence, my body wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup> **For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not hide my iniquity;  
I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord',  
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

<sup>6</sup> **Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup> You are a hiding-place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup> **I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.**

<sup>9</sup> Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

<sup>10</sup> **Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.**

<sup>11</sup> Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous,  
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading - Luke 15.11-32

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord**

Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons.

<sup>12</sup> The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup> When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am

dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" <sup>20</sup> So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> 'Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup> He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." <sup>28</sup> Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" <sup>31</sup> Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## We explore God's Word to us

### Minims Song: Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth

Words & Music by Jimmy & Carol Owens ©1974 Lexicon Music Inc

### We sing what we believe

1. We believe in God the Father,  
God almighty, by whose plan  
earth and heaven sprang to being,  
all created things began.  
We believe in Christ the Saviour,  
Son of God in human frame,  
virgin-born, the child of Mary  
upon whom the Spirit came.
2. Christ, who on the cross forsaken,  
like a lamb to slaughter led,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
he descended to the dead.  
We believe in Jesus risen,  
heaven's king to rule and reign,  
to the Father's side ascended  
till as judge he comes again.

3. We believe in God the Spirit;  
in one Church, below, above:  
saints of God in one communion,  
one in holiness and love.  
So by faith, our sins forgiven,  
Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend,  
we shall rise with him in glory  
to the life that knows no end.

*May be sung to any 87.87. or 87.87D. Tune, such as Lewis Folk Melody arr. John Bell, © WGRG Iona Community (Jesus calls us here to meet him). New Patterns for Worship Creed E8*

## **We pray for others and ourselves**

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

*And at the end*

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

## **Banns – and anniversary**

### **We share a sign of peace**

Praise God who loves us.  
**Praise God who cares.**

Through the prophet Isaiah, God says,  
'As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you.'  
The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.



A collection for the ministry and mission of St Andrew's will be taken at this point of the service. Thank you to all who give to the life of our church in so many ways.

It is also possible to make electronic donations via the machines at the back or this QR code here.

## **We sing during our Offertory**

1. In the bulb there is a flower  
In the seed an apple tree  
In cocoons a hidden promise  
Butterflies will soon be free  
In the cold and snow of winter  
There's a spring that waits to be  
Unrevealed until its season  
Something God alone can see
2. There's a song in every silence  
Seeking word and melody  
There's a dawn in every darkness  
Bringing hope to you and me  
From the past will come the future  
What it holds a mystery  
Unrevealed until its season  
Something God alone can see

3. In our end is our beginning  
In our time infinity  
In our doubt there is believing  
In our life eternity  
In our death a resurrection  
At the last a victory  
Unrevealed until its season  
Something God alone can see

Natalie Sleeth (1986) CCLI Song #7178734 © 1986 Hope Publishing Company

## **Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Lord God,  
our light and our salvation;  
to you be glory and praise for ever.  
From the beginning you have created all things  
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.  
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,  
the crown of all creation.  
You give us breath and speech, that with angels and  
archangels and all the powers of heaven  
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy,  
my heart, my heart adores you!  
My heart is glad to say the words:  
You are holy Lord.  
Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord,  
Hosanna in the highest, in the highest.**

*The prayer continues with the words of Institution.*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:  
**Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer ends with*  
**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

*We kneel and keep a moment's silence*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As God's children, and heirs with Christ  
we cry in the Spirit, 'Abba', Father.

**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.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body, because  
we all share in one bread.**

### **An Agnus Dei from the Philippines**

O Lamb of God you take away  
the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Have mercy, have mercy,  
have mercy, Lord.

O Lamb of God you take away  
the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Have mercy, have mercy,  
And grant, O grant us peace.

Words: Filipino into English. Music © 1993 David Peacock / Jubilate Hymns.

### **Giving of Communion**

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people.  
**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*The president and people receive communion. Visitors who  
are communicant members of their home churches are  
welcome to receive communion at St Andrew's. If you would  
prefer to receive a blessing instead, please signify this by  
bringing your order of service with you.*

*There will be two communion stations – one at the Nave  
altar (which is the only place that offers the option to receive  
the bread dipped in the wine by the priest), and one at the  
South Aisle altar to kneel – if that is your preference.*

### **The Choir sing during Communion: For the Beauty of the Earth**

Music: John Rutter, (b.1945)

### **We pray after Communion**

**Loving God,  
as a mother feeds her children at the breast  
you feed us in this sacrament with the food and  
drink of eternal life:  
help us who have tasted your goodness  
to grow in grace within the household of faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **We share news – and flowers**

### **We sing**

1. He's got the whole world in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands.
2. He's got the little tiny baby in His hands  
He's got the little tiny baby in His hands  
He's got the little tiny baby in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands.
3. He's got you and me sister in His hands  
He's got you and me brother in His hands  
He's got you and me sister in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands.
4. He's got the wind and the rain in His hands  
He's got the wind and the rain in His hands  
He's got the wind and the rain in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands.
5. He's got the sun and the moon in His hands  
He's got the sun and the moon in His hands  
He's got the sun and the moon in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands.
6. He's got ev'rybody here in His hands  
He's got ev'rybody here in His hands  
He's got ev'rybody here in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands.

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### **Blessing**

Praise God who loves us.  
**Praise God who cares.**

May God, who gave birth to all creation, bless you:  
may God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother,  
bless you:  
may God, who broods as a mother over her children,  
bless you.  
May almighty God bless you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen**

*We very much hope you have enjoyed joining us for worship  
at St Andrew's Chesterton this morning. A particular thank  
you to our Youth for leading our service – and to our Youth  
Worker, Jess Finlay, for organising! If you are new or visiting,  
please do introduce yourself and stay for refreshments in the  
St Andrew's Hall, behind the church.*