

# St Andrew's, Chesterton Family Service

3 May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Thank you to all who give to the life of our church in so many ways.

A collection will **not** be taken during this service.

There is a still a Collection Plate available at the back, and it is also possible to make electronic donations via the machine at the back or via this QR code if you so choose.



**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 coming up to the front during the talk will not be filmed.

## Music before we begin: the band sing O breath of God (the risen Christ)

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Phil Madeira © 2003 Thankyou Music

### We are welcomed

God is good  
**all the time.**  
All the time  
**God is good.**

### We read Psalm 118:19-24 together

- <sup>19</sup> Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the Lord.  
<sup>20</sup> **This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.**  
<sup>21</sup> I thank you that you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.  
<sup>22</sup> **The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.**  
<sup>23</sup> This is the Lord's doing;  
it is marvellous in our eyes.  
<sup>24</sup> **This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

### We Sing

1. Here we are  
people of faith  
Some with smiles  
others with fears that they face  
Here we come  
ready to bring who we are.

*God is good!*

*God is good to us.*

*All through time*

*Every hour every minute*

*God is good.*

*God is good.*

2. Here we are  
children of God  
Family  
joining together as one  
Here we come  
ready to sing who you are.

*God is good...*

Oh praise Him for He is good. x4

He is good.

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### We say sorry and hear God's forgiveness

Jesus Christ, risen master and triumphant Lord,  
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,  
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,  
and not by the power of your resurrection.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,  
as faithless and not believing.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone,  
and doubted our home in heaven.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

May the God of love and power  
forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### We pray the Collect Prayer together

**Risen Christ,  
your wounds declare your love for the world  
and the wonder of your risen life:  
give us compassion and courage  
to risk ourselves for those we serve,  
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### We hear our Bible Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—<sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup> Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup> like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For it stands in scripture:

'See, I am laying in Zion a stone,

a cornerstone chosen and precious;

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.'

<sup>7</sup> To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

'The stone that the builders rejected

has become the very head of the corner',

<sup>8</sup> and

'A stone that makes them stumble,

and a rock that makes them fall.'

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

<sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people,  
but now you are God's people;  
once you had not received mercy,  
but now you have received mercy.

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

## **We reflect on God's word to us**

### **We sing again**

- 1 Word that formed creation, earth and sea and sky;  
Word that brings salvation, Word that will not die;  
speak now in us that we might hear your call;  
Living Word of Jesus, sound within us all.
- 2 Love that formed and named us, filled this clay with  
breath;  
Love that seeks and claims us, Love beyond all death;  
come now and fire the life that flows from you;  
Love that raised up Jesus, raise us up anew.
- 3 Song of joy and wonder, sound so wild and free;  
voice of wind and thunder, boundless as the sea;  
Music of God, the love that casts out fear;  
Song that sang in Jesus, sing within us here.
- 4 God of all creation, form our hearts anew;  
God of our salvation, lead us home to you;  
Spirit, inspire our hearts to hear your call;  
living God of Jesus, come renew us all!

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Lord, I lift your name on high,  
Lord, I love to sing your praises;  
I'm so glad you're in my life,  
I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth  
to show the way,  
From the earth to the cross  
my debt to pay,  
From the cross to the grave,  
From the grave to the sky:  
Lord, I lift Your name on high.

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## **We say what we believe**

Let us declare our faith in God.  
**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family**

**in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **We pray together**

*Our prayers end with*

**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.**

## **We share news**

### **We sing**

Shine from the inside out  
That the world will see You live in me  
Shine from the inside out  
That the world will see You live in me

You know me and You love me  
You fill me so send me (to)

Know me love me fill me send me  
Know me love me fill me send me  
Know me love me fill me send me  
(Shine)

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## **We share the Peace**

*We are invited to form a circle and sing*

Go now in peace, go now in peace  
May the love of God surround you  
Everywhere, everywhere  
You may go.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*There will be a short celebration of Communion after  
refreshments, beginning c. 11.15am. All welcome to stay.*

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