

Sunday 1st. January, 2023 11.00 am

The First Sunday after Christmas

Minister: Rev. Ian Taylor, A.C.I.B.S., B.D., Th.M., Dip. P.S.R.P.

Assistant Minister: Rev. Edson Duque de Castro, B.A., B.D., M.Sc.R.

Assistant Minister (Probationer): Mrs. Julie Hearty, B.D.

Musical Director: Mr. Alan A. Craig. B.Mus., P.G.C.E.

Welcome & Intimations

Introit

Call to Worship

Hymn 193 God is love; his the care,

- 1 God is love: his the care,
tending each, everywhere.
God is love - all is there!
Jesus came to show him,
that we all might know him:
Sing aloud, loud, loud!
Sing aloud, loud, loud!
God is good!
God is truth!
God is beauty! Praise him!
- 2 None can see God above;
all must here learn to love,
thus may we Godward move,
finding him in others,
sisters all, and brothers:
Chorus
- 3 Jesus shared joy and pain,
lived and died, rose again,
rules our hearts, now as then;
for he came to save us
by the truth he gave us:
Chorus

- 4 To our Lord praise we sing -
light and life, friend and king,
coming down love to bring,
pattern for our duty,
showing God in beauty:
Chorus

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Call to Prayer

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Hymn 724 Christ's is the world in which we move;

- 1 Christ's is the world in which we move,
Christ's are the folk we're summoned to love,
Christ's is the voice which calls us to care,
and Christ is the one who meets us here.
To the lost Christ shows his face;
to the unloved he gives his embrace;
to those who cry in pain or disgrace;
Christ makes, with his friends, a touching place.
- 2 Feel for the people we most avoid -
strange or bereaved or never employed;
feel for the women and feel for the men
who fear that their living is all in vain.
Chorus
- 3 Feel for the parents who've lost their child,
feel for the women whom men have defiled,
feel for the baby for whom there's no breast,
and feel for the weary who find no rest.
Chorus

- 4 Feel for the lives by life confused,
riddled with doubt, in loving abused;
feel for the lonely heart, conscious of sin,
which longs to be pure but fears to begin.

Chorus

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Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

Hymn 165 Praise to the Lord for the joys of the earth:

- 1 Praise to the Lord for the joys of the earth:
Cycles of season and reason and birth,
Contrasts in outlook and landscape and need,
Challenge of famine, pollution and greed.
- 2 Praise to the Lord for the progress of life:
Cradle and grave, bond of husband and wife,
Pain of youth growing and wrinkling of age,
Questions in step with experience and stage.
- 3 Praise to the Lord for his care of our kind:
Faith for the faithless and sight for the blind,
Healing, acceptance, disturbance and change,
All the emotions through which our lives range.
- 4 Praise to the Lord for the people we meet,
Safe in our homes or at risk in the street:
Kiss of a lover and friendship's embrace,
Smile of a stranger and words full of grace.
- 5 Praise to the Lord for the carpenter's son,
Dovetailing worship and work into one:
Tradesman and teacher and vagrant and friend,
Source of all life in this world without end.

St. Matthew 25:31-46

Anthem

Sermon

The Offering (& Sung Doxology: Hymn 807)

Prayer of Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for
ever. Amen.**

Hymn 237 Look forward in faith,

1. Look forward in faith,
All time is in God's hand.
Walk humbly with him
and trust his future plan.
God has wisely led
his people by his power.
Look forward in hope,
he gives us each new hour.

2. Look forward in faith,
the world is in God's care.
His purpose of love
he calls on us to share.
In our neighbour's need
the Lord is present still.
He blesses the meek!
The earth will know God's will.

3. Look forward in faith,
God gives us life each day.
Go onward with Christ,
his Spirit guides our way.
Now God lets us live
within the sphere of grace.
Trust ever in him,
he rules o'er earth and space!

Andrew J. Scobie (1935-2010)

Benediction

Choral Amen (3-fold)