

# Season of Easter

## 18th May 2025

### Led by Andrew Owens & Fiona Bennett



Where God grows  
By  
Jan Richardson

#### Welcome & Gathering

##### Call to worship

One: As Winter sleeps and Spring awakens,

ALL: God weaves new life from death.

One: As a seed dies and a shoot is born,

ALL: God weaves new life from death.

One: As Jesus dies and Christ becomes,

ALL: God weaves new life from death.

One: Holy Source who weaves new life,

ALL: We give you thanks and praise!

##### Hymn: Lord your hands have formed this world CH4 140

Lord, your hands have formed this world,

Ev'ry part is shaped by you -

Water tumbling over rocks,

Air and sunlight: each day's signs

That You make all things new.

Yours the soil that holds the seed,

You give warmth and moisture too -

Sprouting blossoms, crops and buds,

Trees and plants: the season's signs

That You make all things new.

Like a mat you roll out land -

Space to build, for us and you,

Earthly homes and, better still,

Homes for Christ: the truest sign

That You make all things new.

CH4 140 Ramon Oliano and Sario Oliano  
English version James Minchin & Delebert Rice  
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## **Opening Prayer with movement**

ALL: The Source of Life, holds us (*hands clasped*)  
The Guide of living, leads (*hands making a cross*)  
The Spirit of re-birth, transforms us (*hands in butterfly*)  
Holy Three-in-One, we worship you.

*We unite our prayers together in the Jesus' Prayer or Lord's Prayer using the form or words which are most worshipful for us...*

Source of Life,  
Father and Mother of us all:  
Creation honours you!  
May your Realm of Justice & Joy  
Sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another,  
forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen

## **Time for all ages**

### **Hymn: Behold, Behold I make all things new**

Behold, behold I make all things new,  
Beginning with you and starting from today.  
Behold, behold I make all things new,  
My promise is true, for I am Christ the Way.

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## **Readings read by Jim Kerr**

### **Acts 11:1-18**

11Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. 2So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, 3saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" 4Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 5"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. 6As

I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. 7I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' 8But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' 9But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' 10This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. 11At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. 12The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. 13He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; 14he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' 15And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. 16And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" 18When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

### **Revelation 21:1-6**

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; 4he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." 5 And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6 Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

### **Reflection by Fiona Bennett**

### **Meditation by Laurence Wareing**

### **Offering & Dedication**

Praise God from whom all blessing flow  
Praise God all creature here below  
Praise God above, You heavenly host

*Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.  
Words: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711*

Praise Maker Christ and Holy Ghost

## **Communion**

### **Hymn: Come to the table of grace**

Come to the table of grace  
Come to the table of grace  
This God's table it's not yours or mine  
Come to table of grace.

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### *Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession & Sharing*

Celebrant: We unite in prayer with followers of Jesus since the earliest times as we say:

God be with you

ALL: And with your spirit

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts

ALL: We lift them to God

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise

Celebrant: Holy Loving God,

For the universe you have crafted in all its variety and mystery

ALL: We praise and thank you

Celebrant: For the gift of Christ Jesus; vulnerable healer & guide

ALL: We praise and thank you

Celebrant: For your Salvation; love crucified and resurrected.

ALL: We praise and thank you

Celebrant: With people everywhere, past present and yet to come

ALL: We praise and thank you

### **Hymn: God bless to us our bread CH4 763**

God bless to us our bread,  
And give bread to all those who are hungry  
and hunger for justice to all who are fed.  
God bless to us our bread.

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### **Song: This is the body of Christ CH4 799**

Broken that we might be whole.  
This cup as promised by God,  
True to God's Word,  
Cradles our Lord  
Food the good of us all.

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Peace

*Closing Response*

Celebrant: Together we are nourished by Jesus' life.

ALL: We go to share his life and love.

## **Notices**

### **Hymn: As a fire is meant for burning CH4 252**

As a fire is meant for burning  
With a bright and warming flame,  
So the Church is meant for mission,  
Giving glory to God's name.  
Preaching Christ, and not our customs,  
Let us build a bridge of care,  
Joining hands across the nations,  
Finding neighbours everywhere.

We are learners, we are teachers,  
We are pilgrims on the way,  
We are seekers, we are givers,  
We are vessels made of clay.  
By our gentle loving actions,  
We will show that Christ is light.  
In a humble, listening Spirit,  
We will live to God's delight.

As a green bud in the springtime  
Is a sign of life renewed,  
So may we be signs of oneness  
'mid earth's people many-hued.  
As a rainbow light the heavens  
When a storm is past and gone,  
So may we reflect the radiance  
Of God's new and glorious dawn.

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**Blessing & Sung Amen**

## What's on @ AUC this week?

Event	Date	Time	Location	Notes
Sunday Worship	Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> May	11am	AUC & Online	Andrew is leading and Fiona is preaching
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> May	12 noon	Online	
Researching Queer Christianity - a workshop hosted by Our Tribe	Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> May	1.30-4.30pm	AUC	This is an arts based, creative workshop which will use contextual bible study as a starting point and will give participants the opportunity to reflect on their own experiences as a trans person or as an ally. More info in the main notices. To book a place, email <a href="mailto:maxwell.reay@augustine.org.uk">maxwell.reay@augustine.org.uk</a>
Contextual Bible Study	Weds 21 <sup>st</sup> May	7.30pm	Online	Revelation 21:22-22:5. Email <a href="mailto:minister@augustine.org.uk">minister@augustine.org.uk</a> for the Zoom link
Contextual Bible Study	Thurs 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	12 noon	Online	Revelation 21:22-22:5. Email <a href="mailto:minister@augustine.org.uk">minister@augustine.org.uk</a> for the Zoom link
Sunday Worship	Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> May	11am	AUC & Online	Fiona is leading and Mike is preaching <b>but the Edinburgh Marathon is on so travel to church will be tricky! More info about the service on this date in the Friday notices.</b>
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> May	12 noon	Online	
Our Tribe Coffee Social	Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> May	1.30pm	Coffee Saints, 2A Little King Street, EH1 3AR	All welcome!

**Zoom ID for worship: 84317815003**

**Zoom ID for all social events: 3140057633**

**Password: 1861AUC**

**Zoom Telephone number: 0131 4601196**