

Christian Aid Sunday 2025

The Local Church joint service

Sunday 11th May 2025

11am @ Augustine United with

Andrew Thomlinson from Christian Aid



Welcome & Gathering

Call to worship

One: Giver of living water, we thirst for your presence.

ALL: Let your steadfast love be upon us, as we hope in you.

One: Bread of life, we hunger for your word.

ALL: Let your steadfast love be upon us, as we hope in you.

One: Holy one, you set a path before us, we seek to walk in your ways.

ALL: Let your steadfast love be upon us, as we hope in you.

Hymn: Womb of life CH4 118

Womb of life and source of being,
Home of every restless heart,
In your arms the worlds awakened;
You have loved us from the start.
We, your children, gather round you
At the table you prepare.
Sharing stories, tears and laughter,
We are nurtured by your care.

Word in flesh, our brother Jesus,
Born to bring us second birth,
You have come to stand beside us,
Knowing weakness, knowing earth.
Priest who share our human struggles,
Life of life, and Death of death,
Risen Christ, come stand among us,
Send the Spirit by your breath.

Brooding Spirit, move among us;
Be our partner, be our friend.
When our memory fails, remind us
Whose we are, what we intend.
Labour with us, aid the birthing
Of the new world yet to be,
Free from status and division,
Free for love and unity.

Opening Prayer

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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: Aurelia's Story

Prayer for Christian Aid Week 2025

ALL: Lord, you are faithful to your promises.

Through the Spirit you bless us with abounding hope.

When power seeks to silence justice,
give us the courage to raise our voice.

When an end to poverty seems far off,
renew our faith in your kingdom come on earth.

When our neighbour reaches out,
inspire us to respond with overflowing love.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Hymn: Sent by the Lord am I CH4 250

Sent by the Lord am I;
my hands are ready now
to make the earth the place
in which the kingdom comes.

Sent by the Lord am I;
my hands are ready now
to make the earth the place
in which the kingdom comes.

The angels cannot change
a world of hurt and pain
into a world of love,
of justice and of peace.
The task is mine to do,

to set it really free.
Oh, help me to obey;
help me to do your will.

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Readings:

Joel 1:17-20 read by a member of St Columba's-by-the-Castle SEC

17 The seed shrivels under the clods,
the storehouses are desolate;
the granaries are ruined
because the grain has failed.

18 How the animals groan!
The herds of cattle wander about
because there is no pasture for them;
even the flocks of sheep are dazed.

19 To you, O Lord, I cry.
For fire has devoured
the pastures of the wilderness,
and flames have burned
all the trees of the field.
20 Even the wild animals cry to you
because the watercourses are dried up,
and fire has devoured
the pastures of the wilderness.

Mark 6:30-44 read by a member of Greyfriars Kirk CofS

30 The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. 31 He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. 32 And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. 33 Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. 34 As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. 35 When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; 36 send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat.' 37 But he answered them, 'You give them something to eat.' They said to him, 'Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread, and give it to them to eat?' 38 And he said to them, 'How many loaves have you? Go and see.' When they had found out, they

said, 'Five, and two fish.' 39 Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. 40 So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. 41 Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and he divided the two fish among them all. 42 And all ate and were filled; 43 and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. 44 Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

Reflection by Andrew Thomlinson

Music for reflection by Karl Macrae

Offering & Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessing flow
Praise God all creature here below
Praise God above, You heavenly host
Praise Maker Christ and Holy Ghost

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

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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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

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: For your generous providing CH4 655

For your generous providing
which sustains us all our days,
for your Spirit here residing,
we proclaim our heartfelt praise.
Through the depths of joy and sorrow,
though the road be smooth or rough,
fearless, we can face tomorrow
for your grace will be enough.

Hush our world's seductive noises
tempting us to stand alone;
save us from the siren voices
calling us to trust our own.
For those snared by earthly treasure,
lured by false security,
Jesus, true and only measure,
spring the trap to set folk free.

Round your table, through your giving,
show us how to live and pray
till your kingdom's way of living
is the bread we share each day:
bread for us and for our neighbour,
bread for body, mind, and soul,
bread of heaven and human labour —
broken bread that makes us whole.

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Blessing & Sung Amen

What's on @ AUC this week?

Event	Date	Time	Location	Notes
Sunday Worship with ecumenical partners	Sun 11 th May	11am	AUC & Online	TLC Service with members of Greyfriars and St Columba's by the Castle joining us at AUC. Fiona is leading and we are marking Christian Aid week with a visit from Andrew Tomlinson
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 11 th May	12 noon	Online	
AUC Church Meeting & AGM	Tues 13 th May	7.30-9pm	Online	Everyone is welcome to attend Church Meeting. If you are not a church member or associate member, but would like to receive papers for the meetings in advance, please email the Church Secretary Linda (secretary@augustine.org.uk).
Contextual Bible Study	Weds 14 th May	7.30pm	Online	<i>Psalm 23</i> . Email minister@augustine.org.uk for the Zoom link
Contextual Bible Study	Thurs 15 th May	12 noon	Online	<i>Psalm 23</i> . Email minister@augustine.org.uk for the Zoom link
Sunday Worship	Sun 18 th May	11am	AUC & Online	Andrew is leading and Fiona is preaching
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 18 th May	12 noon	Online	
Researching Queer Christianity - a workshop hosted by Our Tribe	Sun 18 th 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 maxwell.reay@augustine.org.uk

Zoom ID for worship: 84317815003

Zoom ID for all social events: 3140057633

Password: 1861AUC

Zoom Telephone number: 0131 4601196

What's on @ St Columba's by the Castle this week?

The next Sunday forum at St Columba's

Where are you from? After church on Sunday 18th May David Montagnes will explore biodiversity across the British Isles, highlighting contemporary issues, challenging our beliefs and offering thought-provoking alternations to some of our more dogmatic opinions on ecological change and conservation. David is an ecologist and artist who has recently published a book by this title, linking his illustrations with the scientific literature to evaluate our approaches to introducing species and the ensuing ecological and cultural changes.

Christian Aid Week runs from 11–17 May. Why not visit a Christian Aid book sale to stock up on your reading for a great cause?

From **10–12 May**, the [Holy Corner Book Sales](#) run at Morningside United Church

From **10–16 May**, the [Edinburgh New Town Church Book Sales](#) run at Edinburgh New Town Church, 13 George Street

Sale opening times:

Sat 10th May 10am - 4pm

Mon 12th to Friday 16th 10am - 3.30pm

(late opening Thurs till 7pm)