



St Andrew's

Open · Inclusive · Involved

Conversion of Paul

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

25th January 2026

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

President and Preacher: The Rev'd Hugh Priestner

10.30am Choral Eucharist

President & Preacher: The Rev'd Canon Edmund Newey

Deacon: Rosemary Privett

6.00pm Choral Evensong

Officiant: The Rev'd Canon Edmund Newey

Reflection: Gwyneth Hickman

Welcome to St Andrew's - may God's peace be with you

After the service, please feel free to stay for refreshments—a chance for us all to get to know each other better.

If you have felt something special in this service and want to talk about faith, have a chat with one of the clergy or ministers after the service.

The service sheet gives directions on when to stand or kneel, but please feel free to remain sitting if you prefer. Toilets are available through the arch beside the main entrance.

We have a plate at the back of church for offerings; you will find a link to online giving with the offertory hymn.

Prelude

The president welcomes the congregation with any notices

The Gathering

Introit

Sung by the choir

How lovely are the messengers Mendelssohn

Please stand

Opening Hymn

312: Ye watchers and ye holy ones

The Greeting

The president says

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit

All Amen

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

All And also with you.

Prayer of Preparation

**All Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

The Deacon says

We were once dead through the trespasses and sins in which we lived,
but now we are alive together with Christ.
Through him we have access in one Spirit to the Father,
to whom we humbly confess our sins.

cf Ephesians 2.1,5,18

A brief time of quiet is kept.

Lord Jesus,
in your love you invite us to be your friends:
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus,
in your joy you choose us to go out and bear fruit:
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus,
in your power you send us to be your faithful witnesses:
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and bring us to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

The Gloria

Glory to God in the high-est and peace to God's peo - ple on
earth, Lord God, heavenly King, al - migh - ty God and Fa-ther, we
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us; you are
sea-ted at the right hand of the Fa-ther, re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly one, you a - lone are the Lord.

You a - lone are the most high Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit, in the
Glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - - - - - men.

The Collect

The president says

Let us pray

Silence is kept.

Almighty God,
who caused the light of the gospel
to shine throughout the world
through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul:
grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion
may follow him in bearing witness to your truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

9:1-22

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see

nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.' All who heard him were amazed and said, 'Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?' Saul became increasingly more

powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

For the word of the Lord
All Thanks be to God

Please stand

Gradual Hymn

**We sing the glorious conquest
Before Damascus' gate,
When Saul, the Church's spoiler,
Came breathing threats and hate;
The rav'ning wolf rushed forward
Full early to the prey;
But lo! the Shepherd met him,
And bound him fast to-day.**

**Oh, glory most excelling
That smote across his path!
Oh, light that pierced and blinded
The zealot in his wrath!
Oh, voice that spake within him
The calm, reproving word!
Oh, love that sought and held him
The servant of his Lord!**

**O Wisdom ord'ring all things
In order strong and sweet,
What nobler spoil was ever
Cast at the Victor's feet?
What wiser master-builder
E'er wrought at your employ
Than he, till now so furious
Your building to destroy?**

**Lord, teach your Church the lesson,
Still in her darkest hour
Of weakness and of danger,
To trust your hidden power:
Your grace by ways mysterious
The wrath of Earth can bind,
And in Thy boldest rival
Your chosen saint can find.**

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

Many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

Matthew

(19:27-end)

We sing together:



Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?' Jesus said to the disciples, 'Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

We sing together



Please sit

Sermon

The Rev'd Canon Edmund Newey

Please stand

The Creed

**All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and
the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

Please sit

Intercessions

This response may be used

Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer

And at the end

Merciful Father,

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

Healing prayer: Irene W, George W, Luci & Sophie, Gillian M, Caroline, Lily, Denise, Mary S, Mary G, Cheryl W, David, S.M, Faith F, Jane B, William B, Rosemary & John K, Sue P, Carol S, Elizabeth I.
In Memoriam: Ida Joyce Indira Prasad, Alexandra Murgatroyd

The Peace

Let the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All and also with you.

The Deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We share the peace with those around us

Offertory Hymn

681: In heavenly love abiding

A collection plate is available at the back of church or this link will allow you to give to St Andrew's online:



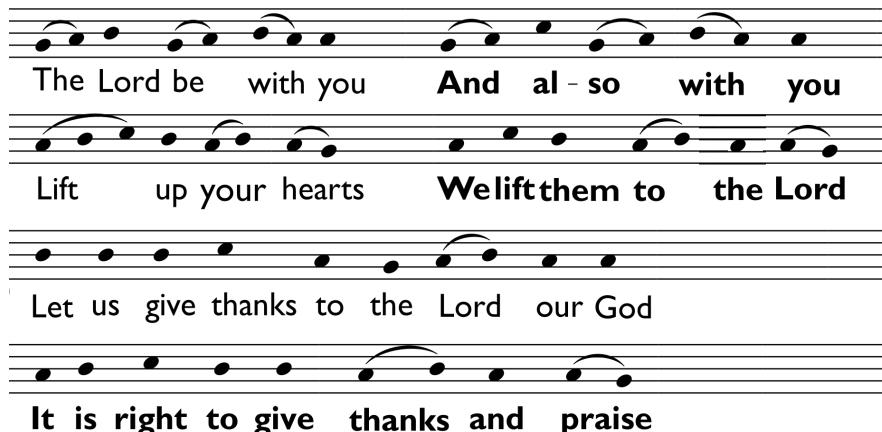
The Preparation of the Table

Please remain standing, the president says

Almighty Father,
as we celebrate this holy sacrament of our redemption
may your Spirit fill us with the light of faith;
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer



The Lord be with you And al - so with you
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

It is indeed right and good,
our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For on this day he called to his service
the blasphemer and persecutor of your Church.

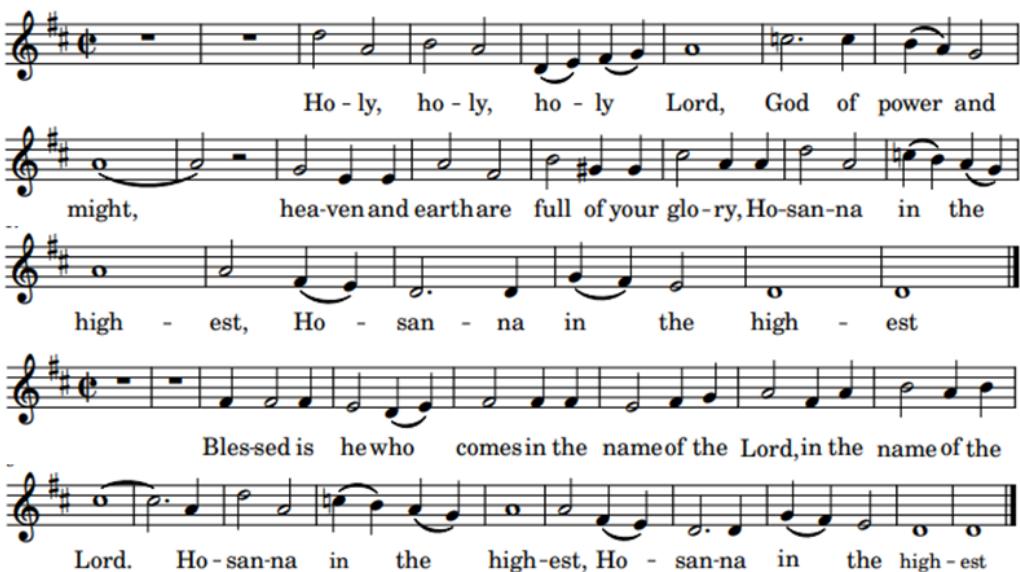
Saul, who had resisted your grace,
became Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles.

Because he was faithful and true in his ministry,
you made him an example of patient service,
to instruct in the way of eternal life
all those who heard his preaching and believed your word.

Now, therefore, he who became your chosen instrument
for the salvation of the nations
has made us also eager to proclaim your mercy,
and sing in union with all the powers of heaven
the joyful hymn of your praise:

Sanctus and Benedictus

We sing together



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, hea-ven and earth are full of your glo-ry, Ho-san-na in the
high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san-na in the high-est, Ho - san-na in the high - est

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

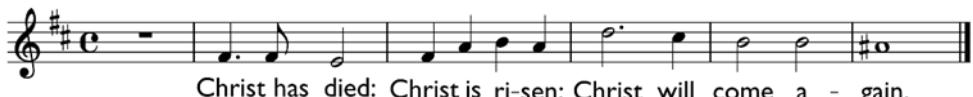
The sanctuary bell is rung

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

The sanctuary bell is rung, The Deacon then says:

Great is the mystery of faith

We sing together



And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole
world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,

we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.
Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Sanctuary bell is rung, please sit or kneel

Believing the promises of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All 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

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

**All God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

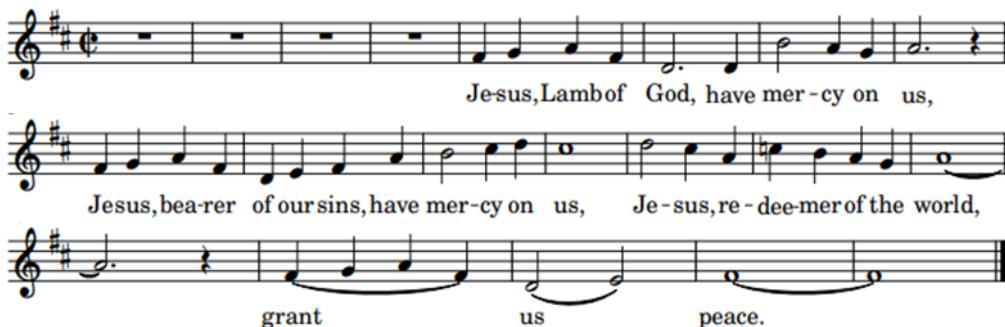
Invitation to Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

**All Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Agnus Dei

We sing together



Jesus, Lamb of God, have mer-cy on us,
Jesus, bea-rer of our sins, have mer-cy on us, Je-sus, re-dee-mer of the world,
grant us peace.

Holy Communion will be administered at the High Altar and at the west end of church. Please come forward to receive communion as directed by the stewards. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, or a gluten free host please indicate this to the ministers.

Communion Hymn

787:Take my life, and let it be

Communion Anthem

O for a closer walk with God Stanford

Post Communion Prayers

Lord God,
the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

All Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen

The Dismissal

Please stand

Recessional Hymn

823:Who would true valour see

During this hymn the ministers process to the back of church.

The Blessing

The president blesses the people, saying

May Christ who called Paul to his service,
and to preach the good news to the world,
strengthen you to witness to his grace and love.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

The Deacon says

The Lord said, 'Paul is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel.'

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

The ministers depart.

Organ Voluntary

News and Notices

Any item to be included should be with the office by Wednesday, 12noon.

The Second Annual Rex Pogson Lecture will take place in church at 4pm on Saturday 28th February. Entitled '**Angels don't speak... they sing... — Reflecting on Angels in the Arts**', we are delighted that it will be delivered by the countertenor, Patrick Craig, Director of Aurora Nova Choir, Booking will open shortly, but please save the date.

Praying for the Persecuted Church. Each year an organisation called Open Doors evaluates the fifty countries where Christians face the most severe persecution for their faith. This year these are the top ten: North Korea, Somalia, Yemen, Sudan, Eritrea, Syria, Nigeria, Pakistan, Libya and Iran. Please do keep in your prayers our fellow members in the Body of Christ, as they face persecution, violence and discrimination.

Electoral Roll If you a regular at any of our services we would love to have you on the Electoral Roll, our contact list of worshippers at St Andrew's. This enables you to vote at the annual meeting and you may also like to think about being on our church council. Please speak to Pat, Joyce or Hash to check if you are already a member or if you would like a form to complete.

Rugby Revive is Rugby's ecumenical partnership of churches across the town. A Commissioning Service for new volunteers across a wide range of ministries, from Street Pastors to CAP Debt Counselling, will take place at Rugby Baptist Church on Sunday 25th January at 6.30pm. Please keep them in your prayers, especially during this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and if you'd like to find out more about the work the Rugby churches do together, visit reviverugby.net or talk to one of the clergy.

Bereavement Point 2pm - 3.30pm on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month (plus the 5th if there is one!). Opportunity for group conversation and relationship building where everyone is welcome and comfort is offered <https://compassionaterugby.co.uk/>

Church Mice Stay and Play Group Great news! Church Mice



has restarted at St Andrew's. 10-11.30am Fridays (term time) for ages 0-4 years and it's free. Please spread the news where you can. Volunteers are warmly welcome, have a chat with Lydia, Joyce or Heather for more information. Thank you.

The Big Table Gospel group meets every week around the talking table in the cafe, alternating on Thursday and Friday mornings. Contact John on shoparound1938@gmail.com

Diary for the week 26th January - 1st February

Café open Monday - Friday 10am-2pm, Saturday 10am-12noon

Monday 9.00am Morning Prayer 10.00am Knitting & crochet group 10.30am Art with Aish 6.30pm St A's Community Singers 7.30pm Bell Ringing practice	Tuesday 9.00am Morning Prayer 9.30am Reflective Eucharist 1.00pm Lunchtime concert
Wednesday 9.00am Morning Prayer 12.00pm Eucharist 5.00pm Young Choristers 7.30pm Bell Ringers AGM	Thursday 9.00am Morning Prayer 10.00am Big Table Gospel Group 6.00pm Holy Communion 7.15pm Choir Practice
Friday 9.00am Morning Prayer 10.00am Church Mice	Saturday
Sunday 1st February (Candlemas) Presentation of Christ in the Temple	8.00am BCP Holy Communion 10.30am Worship All Together with Baptism of Mirabel 6.00pm Zoom Evening Prayer

St Andrew's Staff Team

Rector: The Rev'd Canon Edmund Newey rector@rugbychurch.org.uk

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Associate Minister (Mission Hub):
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Associate Minister (Compassionate Communities):
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Bookkeeper: Gaynor Farthing
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Technical Coordinator: Ben Foster
ben.foster@rugbychurch.org.uk

Website: standrewrugby.org.uk

Livestream: twitch.tv/standrewrugby

Facebook: St. Andrew Church Rugby

A collection plate is available at the back of church
or this link will allow you to give to St Andrew's online



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