

## **28.04.2024 Order of Service – St Nicholas**

Welcome

Call to worship

Hymn – CH4 510 Jesus calls us here to meet him

Bible: 1 John 4: 7-21 NIV

### God's Love and Ours

7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

13 This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. 17 This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

All Age talk – God's love letter

Hymn – CH4 506 Knowing you

Video – Bible Project

Reflection

Hymn – CH4 528 Make me a channel of your peace

Offering –

Prayers of Intercession

What a great world it would be, God our Friend, if we all kept our lives grafted in Christ Jesus, the True Vine, and like good branches produced the bountiful fruits of his Spirit.

God we pray for your earthly family,  
That they may know the fullness of your love.

What a great world it would be if we cared for the sick and the handicapped, the diseased and the mentally ill, like Jesus did.

God we pray for your earthly family,  
That they may know the fullness of your love.

What a great world it would be if we sought the lost and bewildered people and restored their dignity and hope, as Jesus did.

God we pray for your earthly family,  
That they may know the fullness of your love.

What a great world it would be if we opened our hearts to misfits and outcastes, and our arms to the untouchables, as Jesus did.

God we pray for your earthly family,  
That they may know the fullness of your love.

What a great world it would be if we practised forgiving our enemies, and doing good to those who spitefully abuse us, like Jesus did.

God we pray for your earthly family,  
That they may know the fullness of your love.

What a great world it would be if we let others borrow what we have, and gave gifts without looking for reward, as Jesus did.

God we pray for your earthly family,

That they may know the fullness of your love.

What a great world it would be if we created a new community out of disparate types of people, as Jesus did with his disciples.

God we pray for your earthly family,

That they may know the fullness of your love.

What a great world it would be if we were prepared to carry our own crosses with the courage and faithfulness of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God we pray for your earthly family,

That they may know the fullness of your love.

Loving God, bind us close to your lovely Christ, let his Spirit flow within us, healing our defects and enabling us to produce the fruits of love both in and out of season. To the glory of your name. Amen!

Hymn – MP17 All to Jesus I surrender

Benediction

Grace

Close