

St Nicholas Church, Sighthill
ORDER OF Sunday Service
18th June 2023
Fathers' Day and the 75th
Anniversary of the arrival of
Windrush

who build character and inspire us to greatness.

All: Thank God for fathers who teach morality and model decency.

Leader: Thank God for fathers who lovingly convince boys to become men.

This week we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the Windrush. Windrush Day is marked to honour the many people who were brought from the Caribbean islands to the UK. This history is not often taught in our educational curriculum but this is a great opportunity to remember the contribution of so many Caribbeans to our society. This week, we acknowledge, honour and celebrate them and their descendants. The Bible calls us to honour all people; firstly as image bearers of God – all people carry intrinsic value in their being, and secondly to give honour where honour is due – to call out the good in one another. As we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Windrush generation, we honour who they are and the good that they have done.



All: Thank God for brave fathers who have the courage to resist being absent. Lord, on this Father's Day, may we encourage more men in our community to pick up the mantle of fatherhood!

**HYMN: CH3 360 – PRAISE MY SOUL,
 THE KING OF HEAVEN,
 TO THY FEET THY
 TRIBUTE BRING (vs 1-3)**

1. Praise my soul the King of heaven. To His feet thy tribute bring. Ransomed healed restored forgiven Who like thee His praise should sing. Praise Him Praise Him. Praise Him Praise Him. Praise to the everlasting King

2. Praise Him for His grace and favour. To our fathers in distress. Praise Him still the same forever. Slow to chide and swift to bless. Praise Him Praise Him. Praise Him Praise Him. Glorious in His faithfulness

3. Father-like He tends and spares us Well our feeble frame He knows In His hands He gently bears us Rescues us from all our foes Praise Him Praise Him Praise Him Praise Him Widely as His mercy flows

CCLI Song # 800443, Henry Francis Lyte | John Goss© Words: Public Domain

**CONGRATULATIONS:
 PATRICK AND FAMILY**

**GATHERING SONG: HOW DEEP
 THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US
 (VS 1)**

How deep the Father's love for us. How vast beyond all measure. That He should give His only Son. To make a wretch His treasure. How great the pain of searing loss. The Father turns His face away. As wounds which mar the Chosen One. Bring many sons to glory

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**CALL TO WORSHIP –
 FATHERS' DAY**

Leader: In a day when so many men are absent, we cherish the love of our fathers.

All: Thank God for fathers who comfort and encourage.

Leader: Thank God for fathers



PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Loving God, we come on this Father's Day, reminded that you are the Father of us all. You have been with us from our birth, guiding, nurturing and

sustaining us. **Father God. We praise you.**

You have taught us and brought us to maturity, always concerned about our welfare, constantly seeking the best for us. **Father God. We praise you.**

Whenever we have needed you, you have been there, willing to listen and advise, yet giving us the freedom to make our own choices and find our own way. **Father God. We praise you.**

You have called us to be your family, a people united through your son, Jesus Christ, and through him you have revealed your love, a love that reaches out to us day by day despite our failure to love you in return. **Father God. We praise you.**

Teach us to live as your children - to hear your voice, obey your instruction, to respond to your goodness, to bear your name with pride, to share with others, through word and deed, the joy you have given us.

And finally, receive our thanks, for the fathers you have given us, all they have meant to us, all they have given, and all they have done in so many ways. Father God. We praise you, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TALK AND PRAYER FOR FATHERS

SONG: JP 575 - SHINE JESUS SHINE

1. Lord the light of Your love is shining. In the midst of the darkness shining. Jesus Light of the World shine upon us. Set us free by the truth You now bring us, Shine on me shine on me

Chorus

**Shine Jesus shine
Fill this land with the Father's
glory. Blaze Spirit blaze, Set our
hearts on fire. Flow river flow
Flood the nations with grace and
mercy. Send forth Your word
Lord and let there be light**

2. Lord I come to Your awesome presence. From the shadows into Your radiance. By the blood I may enter Your brightness. Search me try me consume all my darkness Shine on me, shine on me

3. As we gaze on Your kingly brightness. So, our faces display Your likeness. Ever changing from glory to glory. Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story Shine on me shine on me

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**BIBLE READINGS: HOSEA 11:1- 11,
LUKE 11:11-13.**

SONG: SGP 3- ABBA FATHER LET ME BE

**Abba Father,
Let me be Yours and Yours alone
May my will forever be
Ever more Your own
Never let my heart grow cold
Never let me go
Abba Father, Let me be
Yours and Yours alone**

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**MESSAGE: 'FATHERS WANTED, NO EXPERIENCE
NECESSARY!'**

OFFERING/ HYMN: SGP 37 - GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

1. Great is Thy faithfulness
O God my Father
There is no shadow
Of turning with Thee
Thou changest not
Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been
Thou forever wilt be

Chorus

**Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed**

**Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me**

2. Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence
To cheer and to guide
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine
With ten thousand beside

Chorus

**Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me**

CCLI Song # 18723,

PRAYER FOR OFFERINGS

Abba Father,
with the action of this offering we
tell your story: how you have dealt
generously with us, how you have met
our needs, how you have heard our
prayers, how your goodness is from
everlasting to everlasting.

Bless these offerings which are
given with cheerful hearts, and in
the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

On this day, the Father's day,
we give thanks for all fathers.
We thank you lord for welcoming all
types of fathers into your family.
You yourself are a father to Jesus
Christ, and you are also a father to
every one of us in your kingdom.
We give thanks for your love which
encompasses us all, on this day, and
every day.

Lord God, you know very well that
our relationships with our fathers
are different or even complicated.
For some, our father's love is like
your love -- too deep, too long,

too wide, too strong to measure.
Some of our dads are here; some are
not here, some were never here - I
mean in our lives.

For some, God's love fills in the
empty spaces our fathers left
behind. All of us are shaped by the
relationship or lack of relationship
with our fathers. So, on this day
when we remember what it means to
have a father or be a father, we
recognize the importance of fathers
in our communities. We pledge as a
congregation to love and nurture the
fathers among us so that they will
manifest the love of God in all that
they do.

We pray today for many fathers -
fathers of their own children; men
who take on the fathering role of
other children; fathers who have
lost their children; men who want to
be fathers; men who will soon be
fathers; men who have chosen not to
be fathers; fathers who have lost
contact with their children; fathers
who cannot be with their children
today.

We pray for those father figures who
nourish the next generation as if
they were their own. We remember
those fathers who have been hurt by
the neglect and hostility of their
children.

We pray for fathers all around the
world, and for fathers closer to
home. We pray for fathers in places
of conflict and unrest; fathers in
our armed forces, fathers seeking
justice and democracy all over the
world, policing and firefighting
fathers, who, like their female
colleagues, run towards dangerous
places and situations when everyone
is running away from it - seeking to
help those in danger. Protect these
fathers, provide healing, peace and
wholeness to those traumatised as a
result of their rescue mission and
look after their families.

Again, closer to home, we pray for
all the fathers in this church - for
the fathers who are here today, for

the fathers whom we wish were here today. We pray for the future fathers of this church.

Lord, we ask for your healing for all fathers who are unwell. And Lord, we ask that you protect and love the family and friends of these fathers who are suffering. Lord, we ask again for your compassion on this day for those who mourn their fathers - sometimes such special days can be very hard for the families left behind. The spirit of these fathers remains with us and we trust that you are taking good care of them as they reside with you in heaven. In Jesus' name, Amen.

BENEDICTION

God, we ask your blessing on all those here,
and in our hearts, whom you have entrusted fatherhood.
May your Holy Spirit constantly inspire them with justice and mercy, wisdom and strength, patience and self-giving love.

May they receive your grace abundantly, and may they come to experience you through the care and love they give to us.

And may the grace... Amen

CLOSING HYMN: CH3 76 - DEAR LORD AND FATHER OF MANKIND (VERSES 1, 4, 5 AND 6)

1. Dear Lord and Father of mankind
Forgive our foolish ways
Reclothe us in our rightful mind
In purer lives Thy service find
In deeper reverence praise
In deeper reverence praise

2. With that deep hush subduing all
Our words and works that drown
The tender whisper of Thy call
As noiseless let Thy blessing fall
As fell Thy manna down
As fell Thy manna down

3. Drop Thy still dews of quietness
Till all our strivings cease
Take from our souls the strain and stress
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace
The beauty of Thy peace

4. Breathe through the heats of our desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm
Let sense be dumb let flesh retire
Speak through the earthquake wind and fire
O still small voice of calm
O still small voice of calm

