

CARNIVAL

THE ARC OF THE MORAL UNIVERSE IS LONG BUT IT BENDS TOWARD JUSTICE.

COMMUNION SERVICE

GREENBELT

2018

SUBURBAN

PM

22 JUNE 1948

AT

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When the **"Windrush generation"** arrived in the UK in 1948 they found themselves excluded from much of the social and economic life of Britain. Many experienced horrific racial violence and injustice. They exposed depths of prejudice in British culture including – and perhaps especially – in British churches. Part of their response was to regroup around aspects of Caribbean culture including music, worship and community organising. One aspect of that culture was carnival. **Carnival is colour and music**, but it is also **subversion** – an enacted rebellion – **shouting in the face of authority**, saying loud and clear that there is a place where the sun shines and **laughter and justice reign**. Without denying the reality of pain, injustice and oppression, **carnival paints a picture of another possibility**.

Today's service is led by sisters and brothers of faith and colour. Like the first disciples of Jesus, huddled in an upper room, looking out at a hostile and hardening culture, we will feel the Wind-rush of God's multi-coloured Spirit as we imagine and enact another world. **We will celebrate carnival**.

The service is led by Chine McDonald and Evie Vernon with the Soul Sanctuary Gospel Choir. The Musical Director is Clarence Hunte and the soloist is Tracey Jane Campbell. Averill Wauchope is played by Thea Smartt Henry and John Newton is played by Paul Clark. The homilist is Rev. Winnie Varghese, who is the priest for Justice and Reconciliation at Trinity Church Wall Street in New York City.

We meet as friends, not strangers, so have some fun getting to know each other. You are encouraged to form groups of 15-20, not only for communion, but right from the beginning of worship. Please ask those around you if they would like to join in. If you have come with a bigger group you can either choose to stay together or break into smaller groups who can invite other people to join them.

cont.

All the bread is gluten free this year, from our local friends the Incredible Bakery. If someone in your group would prefer non-alcoholic juice instead of wine, please ask at the Communion Bag collection point at the rear of the tent. Large print copies of this service sheet are also available at the Communion Bag Point.

If it's in **BOLD**, please join in loudly.

1 ARRIVING

When Jesus say yes, nobody can say no.

2 GATHERING

After each phrase we call out **The Spirit is with us**

3 CONFESSING

Fix me Jesus, fix me

4 PEACEMAKING

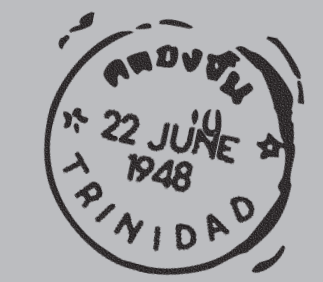
CANTOR	A lie cannot live
ALL	God desires peace

CANTOR	Let's stick with love
ALL	Hate is too great a burden

CANTOR	The peace of Christ be with you.
ALL	And also with you.
	[We greet each other with a sign of peace]

5 SINGING

**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now i see.**



**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my Shield and Portion be,
As long as life endures.**

**Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil,
A life of joy and peace.**

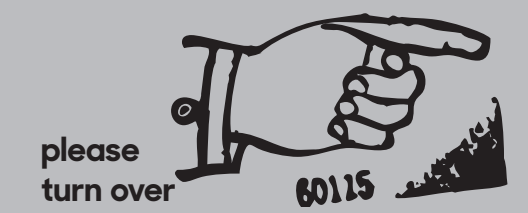
**Praise God! Praise God!
Praise God! Praise God!**

6 BIBLE READING

Based on Acts chapter 2

7 CHALLENGING

Winnie Varghese



With one exception, all the music we use in the service is of black origin. The song **When Jesus say yes** is written by Michelle Williams (of Destiny's Child fame), Carmen Reece, Al Sherrod Lambert and Harmony Samuels. The song is based on a traditional Nigerian praise song. **Fix me, Jesus** is a traditional spiritual. **Bless the Lord with me** is by Bishop TD Jakes, who is pastor of The Potter's House in Dallas, Texas. **This Little Light of Mine** is a gospel song written for children in the 1920s by Harry Dixon Loes. It was adopted by the African-American Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s.

The song **Wa wa wa ememino** is in Yoruba, the language of Nigeria. The words translate roughly as Come O Holy Spirit, Come.

The hymn **Amazing Grace** was written by John Newton. Newton served in the Royal Navy, and then as the captain of slave ships. He became a Christian in 1748 but continued to work and invest in the transatlantic slave trade for 40 years. It was only in his mid-60s, after a long career as an Anglican minister that he became an abolitionist. The hymn **Amazing Grace** was written in 1779 whilst Newton was still a supporter of slavery. Nevertheless it became a standard in black churches in the 19th Century, and was adopted by Mahalia Jackson as an anthem for the civil rights movement.

The words we use at **the peace and the blessing** are taken from the sermons and prayers of Dr Martin Luther King Junior. The affirmation Goodness is stronger than evil was written by Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Communion is about saying thank you. For grace. For forgiveness. For abundance of life. For creation. For each other. When Jesus told his disciples to remember him, he gave them the simplest of symbols: food & drink. In this way he ensured that no particular level of "head knowledge" was required to take part. Even a baby can understand being fed. All that Jesus asked – and it was a huge ask – was that those who gathered round the table with him should be prepared to walk the path he was going to tread.

At Greenbelt people come from all sorts of churches or no church at all, so here we have no "right" way to do communion. The preparation, consecration and communion are all led by Greenbelters. We will consecrate the bread and wine/juice together. Please share a clean cup for the wine. If you don't have one, ask at the bag collection point. It is good when sharing a cup to wipe the rim with a napkin where you have drunk from it. We encourage you to include everybody in the sharing of bread and wine. Even a baby could have a drop of juice on a parent's finger. In some churches

children are un-used to receiving communion. We respect the views of parents and guardians on this. If you would rather not receive communion, simply bow your head.

Some Christians are concerned that consecrated bread and wine should

not be thrown away, so it's good to ensure it's all consumed, even if that's not your own tradition.

Please make sure that you re-use or recycle the bottle, can and paperware after the service.

8 BELIEVING

CANTOR We believe that God Creator spoke and brought the world to birth.
ALL **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

CANTOR We believe that Jesus Saviour, lived and died with us on earth.

ALL **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

CANTOR We believe the Holy Spirit, Soaks the world with love and grace.

ALL **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

CANTOR This we share with every Christian, throughout time in every place.

ALL **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

9 PRAYING

Sing, sing hallelujah,
Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah to the Lord.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory
For ever and ever, Amen.

10 SHARING

CANTOR The world is broken and we are broken too.
What shall we do?

ALL **Let's party!**

CANTOR What can we bring?
ALL **Everything we have.**

CANTOR God has given us bread.
ALL **This will be God's body.**
[Reach hands toward the bread]

CANTOR God has given us wine
ALL **This will be God's blood.**
[Reach hands toward the wine/juice]

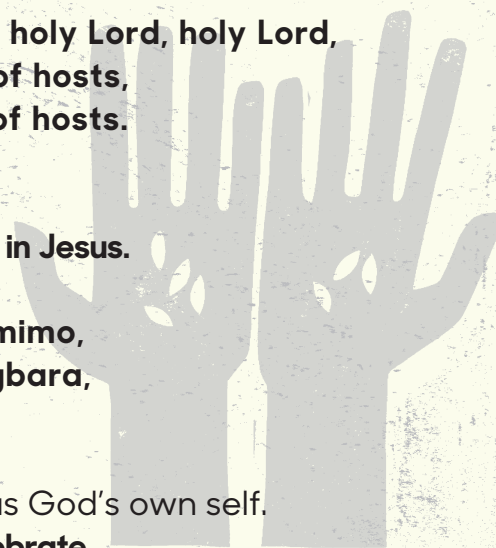
CANTOR God has given us a song
ALL **This will be our song.**

SONG **Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord, holy Lord,
Holy Lord God of hosts,
Holy Lord God of hosts.**

CANTOR Jesus is alive
ALL **And we are alive in Jesus.**

SONG **Wa wa wa Emimimo,
Wa wa wa Alagbara,
Wao wao wao.**

CANTOR God has given us God's own self.
ALL **Now we can celebrate.**
[Bread and wine/juice is shared in groups]



11 OFFERING

Bless the Lord with me

12 DEPARTING

**Goodness is stronger than evil
Love is stronger than hate
Life is stronger than death
Victory is ours through God who loves us.**

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

A-men!



Thank you to
all who have led or
contributed to today's service,
especially **Nicola Hambridge, Paul
Northup, Andrew Graystone,
Miko Giedroyc, Evie Vernon,
Michael Jagessar, Sam Pratt,
Captive North and
George Luke.**

This year we are giving 50% of our offering away to five amazing organisations. They reflect our four campaigning concerns – climate change, migration, UK poverty and Israel/Palestine – plus the theme of this year's service, racial justice. Full details are in the Festival Programme (P33). You can donate during the service by cash or cheque (to Greenbelt Festivals). Please also complete a Gift Aid form (these are in your bags). Alternatively you can make your donation online by visiting the Angels Lounge any time over the weekend, or through our website bit.ly/gb18-communion-giving THANK YOU!

cont.

