

Welcome to Penicuik: St Mungo's Parish Church online



Sunday 11th April 2021

This act of worship has been prepared to allow us to spend some time with God, knowing that others are sharing in it.

We thank all the team involved in creating and distributing this service, and praise God for his unchanging character and unfailing love.

This order of service is for you to use as you are able:

some of you may wish simply to read it, whether silently or aloud.

Others may wish to listen, and even join in with the singing: just click on the links.

If you want to join in the whole service, follow link https://youtu.be/toxkPO_DR4k

More details on our website: www.stmungos.freeuk.com .

And if you would like to listen to just the sermon and a prayer, dial **01968 700121.**

There will be about 20 seconds' silence, after which the recording should start.

EASTER CELEBRATION (instrumental)

Arranged by Kevin Larsson © Salvation Army South Music Publications

Played by members of the Belgium and France Salvation Army Band and used with permission.

WELCOME to St Mungo's on the Second Sunday of Easter.

The music we've just heard is a medley of Easter hymns played by members of the France and Belgium Salvation Army Band. It comes with the Easter greetings of Major Danièle Norton, who used to work in Penicuik and preached in St Mungo's. Let us worship God.

HYMN: Only a holy God

Watch video at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1d2wk-IQhSRWOR8tGSvi-fhz2EGhq0r6T>

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?

Who else could make every king bow down?

Who else can whisper and darkness trembles?

Only a Holy God!

What other beauty demands such praises?

What other splendour outshines the sun?

What other majesty rules with justice?

Only a Holy God!

Come and behold Him,

The One and the Only.

Cry out, sing holy,

Forever a Holy God.

Come and worship the Holy God.

What other glory consumes like fire?
What other power can raise the dead?
What other name remains undefeated?
Only a Holy God!

*Come and behold Him,
The One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy,
Forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God.*

Who else could rescue me from my failing?
Who else would offer His only Son?
Who else invites me to call Him Father?
Only a Holy God!
Only my Holy God!

*Come and behold Him,
The One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy,
Forever a Holy God,
Come and worship the Holy God.*

*Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Dustin Smith, Rich Thompson CCLI: 7073332
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PRAYER with sung reflection (Joan Cape)

O God! You are indeed a holy God,
and all your ways are holy!
You alone are great, beyond our understanding,
worthy of all our praise.
You're the God who makes things happen;
you have revealed yourself through what you can do.
Hidden in the hands of Moses and Aaron,
you led your people like a flock of sheep
through the desert places
to the land you had promised them.
And when they chose to go their own way, still you stood by them.

*Holy, holy, holy,
my heart, my heart adores you!
My heart is glad to say the words:
You are holy, Lord!*

*Santo, santo, santo,
mi corazón te adora!
Mi corazón te sabe decir:
santo eres Señor!*

O God, you are a holy God,
and there is none like you.
We fail to grasp just what that means,
and like those who have gone before us,
we find it so easy to go our own way.
And yet you have never abandoned us;
instead you gave to us your Son Christ Jesus,
through whom we can all have salvation.
Help us to walk close to you all our days,
to learn from the stories of the past,
and to come to a full understanding
that in our own strength we are as nothing,
but that through the saving grace of your Holy Spirit
we can be the people you have created us to be. **Amen**

*Holy, holy, holy,
my heart, my heart adores you!
My heart is glad to say the words:
You are holy, Lord!*

Words: Author unknown; music: Argentinian Traditional

A full version of the song can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqKUFWnRYrA>

THE STORY SO FAR

Saul has proved himself in the eyes of Israel by forming an army and defending the people from the hostile and cruel actions of Nahash, king of Ammon. Saul shows he is aware that God is able to rescue and save: he gives the Lord the credit for the victory and doesn't take it for himself.

Samuel then calls the people together at Gilgal, and, in a solemn ceremony before the Lord, makes Saul king. (Later, we begin to see a royal court form around Saul.) Samuel now makes what is often called his 'farewell speech': Samuel isn't taking his leave of the people – he's going to be around for quite a bit longer; however, he's recognising a *formal change* in the leadership of Israel. He's leaving aside the role of a judge *who rules the people* to concentrate now on being a priest and a prophet who seeks to guide them and pray for them. But, besides this, Samuel is levelling a serious, prophetic accusation from the Lord.

BIBLE READING

1 Samuel 12: 1-25 (Christian Standard Bible)

Readers: Bill and Margaret Webster

R1: Then Samuel said to all Israel, “I have carefully listened to everything you said to me and placed a king over you. Now you can see that the king is leading you. As for me, I’m old and grey, and my sons are here with you. I have led you from my youth until now. Here I am. Bring charges against me before the Lord and his anointed: Whose ox or donkey have I taken? Who have I wronged or mistreated? Who gave me a bribe to overlook something? I will return it to you.”

R2: “You haven’t wronged us, you haven’t mistreated us, and you haven’t taken anything from anyone,” they responded.

R1: He said to them, “The Lord is a witness against you, and his anointed is a witness today that you haven’t found anything in my hand.”

R2: “He is a witness,” they said.

R1: Then Samuel said to the people, “The Lord, who appointed Moses and Aaron and who brought your ancestors up from the land of Egypt, is a witness. Now present yourselves, so I may confront you before the Lord about all the righteous acts he has done for you and your ancestors.

“When Jacob went to Egypt, your ancestors cried out to the Lord, and he sent them Moses and Aaron, who led your ancestors out of Egypt and settled them in this place. But they forgot the Lord their God, so he handed them over to Sisera commander of the army of Hazor, to the Philistines, and to the king of Moab. These enemies fought against them. Then they cried out to the Lord and said, ‘We have sinned, for we abandoned the Lord and worshiped the Baals and the Ashtoreths. Now rescue us from the power of our enemies, and we will serve you.’ So the Lord sent Jerubbaal, Barak, Jephthah, and Samuel. He rescued you from the power of the enemies around you, and you lived securely. But when you saw that Nahash king of the Ammonites was coming against you, you said to me, ‘No, we must have a king reign over us’—even though the Lord your God is your king.

“Now here is the king you’ve chosen, the one you requested. Look, this is the king the Lord has placed over you. If you fear the Lord, worship and obey him, and if you don’t rebel against the Lord’s command, then both you and the king who reigns over you will follow the Lord your God. However, if you disobey the Lord and rebel against his command, the Lord’s hand will be against you as it was against your ancestors.

“Now, therefore, present yourselves and see this great thing that the Lord will do before your eyes. Isn’t the wheat harvest today? I will call on the Lord, and he will send thunder and rain so that you will recognize what an immense evil you committed in the Lord’s sight by requesting a king for yourselves.” Samuel called on the Lord, and on that day the Lord sent thunder and rain. As a result, all the people greatly feared the Lord and Samuel.

R2: They pleaded with Samuel, “Pray to the Lord your God for your servants so we won’t die! For we have added to all our sins the evil of requesting a king for ourselves.”

R1: Samuel replied, “Don’t be afraid. Even though you have committed all this evil, don’t turn away from following the Lord. Instead, worship the Lord with all your heart. Don’t turn away to follow worthless things that can’t profit or rescue you; they are worthless. The Lord will not abandon his people, because of his great name and because he has determined to make you his own people.

“As for me, I vow that I will not sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you. I will teach you the good and right way. Above all, fear the Lord and worship him faithfully with all your heart; consider the great things he has done for you. However, if you continue to do what is evil, both you and your king will be swept away.”

The Christian Standard Bible. © 2017 by Holman Bible Publishers. Used by permission.

SHORT ADDRESS

HYMN: Restore, O Lord

Watch video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qBYITC5ROs&list=PLu8mfQRMKrc7E_y1uYWM-6X4U-4Akb27w&index=41

Restore, O Lord,
The honour of Your name,
In works of sovereign power
Come shake the earth again;
That all may see
And come with reverent fear
To the living God,
Whose kingdom shall outlast the years.

Restore, O Lord,
In all the earth Your fame,
And in our time revive
The church that bears Your name.
And in Your anger,
Lord, remember mercy,
O living God,
Whose mercy shall outlast the years.

Bend us, O Lord,
Where we are hard and cold,
In Your refiner's fire
Come purify the gold.
Though suffering comes
And evil crouches near,
Still our living God
Is reigning, He is reigning here.

Restore, O Lord,
The honour of Your name,
In works of sovereign power
Come shake the earth again;
That all may see
And come with reverent fear
To the living God,
Whose kingdom shall outlast the years.

Graham Kendrick & Chris Rolinson, Copyright © 1981 Thankyou Music

PRAYERS FOR OTHER PEOPLE AND OURSELVES (Neil Cape)

Heavenly Father, we bring you now our prayers for other people.
We see and hear of the world about us, of troubles at home and abroad.
We pray for justice above all; for people to have compassion for each other.
We pray especially for the frustrations in our society that lead to violence.
We ask for your protection for those who have to maintain order,
and for just and peaceful resolutions to be found quickly.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are ill, whether with Covid, or other ailments,
that you will bring healing to them, and comfort in their distress.
We pray for their families, and ask for your loving presence to be with them also.
And we pray for medical staff,
that you will give them the strength and resilience that they need.

At this time we also remember Her Majesty the Queen and members of the royal family as they grieve over the death of Prince Philip, and ask that you would be very close to her. Thank you for his life, and for the support he gave to the Queen over so many years.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for our political leaders, that they may seek your guidance in the decisions that have to be made. Keep them safe, and give them a heart for the poorest in our society. We pray for all those who volunteer to bring physical, mental and spiritual help to those in need, and ask for your sustenance for them in doing this.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

And, Father, we think of the parts of the world that don't have our resources – those we have heard about (as in Brazil) and those which have not made the news headlines. Show us how we can express your love for them in the way we behave, as individuals and as a nation.

We bring you these prayers through Jesus, our Saviour,
and ask for your peace as we put our trust in you. **Amen.**

HYMN: Be thou my vision

Watch video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiukM6WHQEQ>

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great father, and I thy true son,
thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for the fight.
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower.
Raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always.
Thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Translator: Mary E. Byrne; Versifier: Eleanor H. Hull; Tune: SLANE
Produced/Arranged by Celtic Worship*

THE BLESSING

May the blessing of God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you. **Amen**

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Next week:
Saul disobeys