

# **Welcome** to Penicuik: St Mungo's Parish Church online



**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May 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 the link which you'll find on our website: [www.stmungos.freeuk.com](http://www.stmungos.freeuk.com) . Full video <https://youtu.be/FocRiM4BRqY>

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.

**INTROIT: Come all you people (*Uyai mose*)**

Watch video <https://youtu.be/NiqELRuyR34>

Come all you people,  
come and praise your Maker;  
come all you people,  
come and praise your Maker;  
come all you people,  
come and praise your Maker;  
come now and worship the Lord.

*Alexander Gondo (20th cent. Zimbabwe) ©1986, World Council of Churches  
Choir of Lansdowne Parish Church, Glasgow, Gordon Munro (Conductor), Stuart Muir (Piano)*

**WELCOME** to St Mungo's in Ascensiontide.

Today, we're celebrating Jesus' ascension to the right hand of the Majesty on high.  
Let us worship God.

## **HYMN: Rejoice, the Lord is King!**

Watch video at <https://youtu.be/ipRM9AelP6w>

Rejoice, the Lord is King!  
Your Lord and King adore!  
Mortals, give thanks and sing  
and triumph evermore.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice,  
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

Jesus the Saviour reigns,  
the God of truth and love.  
When he had purged our stains  
he took his seat above.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice,  
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

His kingdom cannot fail,  
he rules o'er earth and heaven.  
The keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice,  
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

He sits at God's right hand,  
till all his foes submit,  
and bow to his command  
and fall beneath his feet.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice,  
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

Rejoice in glorious hope,  
Jesus the judge shall come  
and take his servants up  
to their eternal home.  
We soon shall hear the archangel's voice,  
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

*Rejoice the Lord Is King, Emu Music, Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
Arrangement © 2019 Philip Percival & Alanna Glover, CCLI Song No: 7125867*

## **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
we acclaim you as King of kings and Lord of lords:  
we proclaim your greatness,  
and we acknowledge your authority over us.

You are the shining brightness of God's glory.  
You are the exact likeness of God's being.  
You've provided the way  
for your people to be made pure from sin.

Help us now as your disciples.  
Forgive our sins which we confess to you now...

Help us to know  
that you are with us  
in all circumstances  
and in all that you ask us to do.

Help us to know your power  
at work in us and through us.  
Give us courage to speak your message to others.

Lead and direct us in your service.  
Speak to us in our worship  
and equip us for all you want us to do,  
personally and as a church.  
May we live to bring glory to your name.  
And in your name, we pray to the Father. **Amen.**

## **THE STORY SO FAR**

Samuel has secretly anointed the young David, who is looking after the sheep, as the future king of Israel. The anointing, or the pouring of olive oil on the head, pictures God's gift of the Spirit, setting people apart for their work and empowering them to do it. The Spirit of God rushes powerfully on David, whereas the Spirit is said to have turned away from Saul, who's still defiantly unrepentant and very disturbed.

The next chapter deals with David's encounter with the Philistine champion, Goliath. Sometimes, instead of two armies fighting each other at great cost in life and limb, each side would choose a champion to fight for them to decide the whole outcome of the battle. The trouble is, in this instance, the Philistine champion is a great hulking figure, who is said to be well over nine feet tall in the standard Hebrew text, and six and a half feet tall in the ancient Greek translation and in the Dead Sea Scrolls. He's also equipped with state-of-the-art weapons and armour. King Saul and the poorly equipped Israelite army have lost courage and are very afraid. A stalemate ensues, with the two armies encamped on either side of a ravine, and with Goliath's taunts, morning and evening, only lessening the Israelites' morale.

Into this tense situation, comes David, sent by his father to bring supplies to the army and to his brothers. And it turns out David has a different perspective on things....

## BIBLE READINGS

### 1 Samuel 17: 32-51 (NCV)

Reader: Bill Webster

David said to Saul, "Don't let anyone be discouraged. I, your servant, will go and fight this Philistine!"

Saul answered, "You can't go out against this Philistine and fight him. You're only a boy. Goliath has been a warrior since he was a young man."

But David said to Saul, "I, your servant, have been keeping my father's sheep. When a lion or bear came and took a sheep from the flock, I would chase it. I would attack it and save the sheep from its mouth. When it attacked me, I caught it by its fur and hit it and killed it. I, your servant, have killed both a lion and a bear! This uncircumcised Philistine will be like them, because he has spoken against the armies of the living God. The Lord who saved me from a lion and a bear will save me from this Philistine."

Saul said to David, "Go, and may the Lord be with you." Saul put his own clothes on David. He put a bronze helmet on his head and dressed him in armour. David put on Saul's sword and tried to walk around, but he was not used to all the armour Saul had put on him.

He said to Saul, "I can't go in this, because I'm not used to it." Then David took it all off. He took his stick in his hand and chose five smooth stones from a stream. He put them in his shepherd's bag and grabbed his sling. Then he went to meet the Philistine.

At the same time, the Philistine was coming closer to David. The man who held his shield walked in front of him. When Goliath looked at David and saw that he was only a boy, tanned and handsome, he looked down on David with disgust. He said, "Do you think I am a dog, that you come at me with a stick?" He used his gods' names to curse David. He said to David, "Come here. I'll feed your body to the birds of the air and the wild animals!"

But David said to him, "You come to me using a sword and two spears. But I come to you in the name of the Lord All-Powerful, the God of the armies of Israel! You have spoken against him. Today the Lord will hand you over to me, and I'll kill you and cut off your head. Today I'll feed the bodies of the Philistine soldiers to the birds of the air and the wild animals. Then all the world will know there is a God in Israel! Everyone gathered here will know the Lord does not need swords or spears to save people. The battle belongs to him, and he will hand you over to us."

As Goliath came near to attack him, David ran quickly to meet him. He took a stone from his bag, put it into his sling, and slung it. The stone hit the Philistine and went deep into his forehead, and Goliath fell face-down on the ground.

So David defeated the Philistine with only a sling and a stone. He hit him and killed him. He did not even have a sword in his hand. Then David ran and stood beside him. He took Goliath's sword out of its holder and killed him by cutting off his head.

When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they turned and ran.

**Acts 4: 23-31 (NET Bible)****Reader: Margaret Webster**

When they were released, Peter and John went to their fellow believers and reported everything the high priests and the elders had said to them. When they heard this, they raised their voices to God with one mind and said, “Master of all, you who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and everything that is in them, who said by the Holy Spirit through your servant David our forefather,

‘Why do the nations rage,  
and the peoples plot foolish things?  
The kings of the earth stood together,  
and the rulers assembled together,  
against the Lord and against his Christ.’

“For indeed both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, assembled together in this city against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, to do as much as your power and your plan had decided beforehand would happen. And now, Lord, pay attention to their threats, and grant to your servants to speak your message with great courage, while you extend your hand to heal, and to bring about miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” When they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God courageously.

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**SHORT ADDRESS****HYMN: Who would true valour see**

Watch video <https://youtu.be/JiSAjwtpFUc>

Who would true valour see,  
let him come hither;  
one here will constant be,  
come wind, come weather;  
there's no discouragement  
shall make him once relent  
his first avowed intent  
to be a pilgrim.

Whoso beset him round  
with dismal stories,  
do but themselves confound,  
his strength the more is.  
No lion can him fright:  
he'll with a giant fight,  
but he will have the right  
to be a pilgrim.

Hobgoblin nor foul fiend  
can daunt his spirit;  
he knows he at the end  
shall life inherit.  
Then, fancies, fly away;  
he'll not fear what men say;  
he'll labour night and day  
to be a pilgrim.

*John Bunyan (1628-1688) Public Domain; sung at Manchester Cathedral*

### **PRAYERS FOR OTHER PEOPLE AND OURSELVES**

Father God, as Jesus prayed for his disciples  
so we pray today for your church in all its variety.

We give thanks for all your holy people now gathered to you.  
We praise you for their witness to the gospel of Jesus.

We pray for the worldwide church,  
and ask for a fresh outpouring of your Spirit.  
Nourish all the signs of growth  
and prune where you desire more growth.

We pray especially for churches and Christians  
who live under the daily threat of persecution.  
Give them your protection, courage and strength.

We pray for Dr Miku Foning of the Diocese of Eastern Himalaya  
admitted to intensive care with COVID.  
Come to him in healing power.

We pray for the church across Scotland—  
traditional denominations, independent streams, fledgling fresh expressions—  
that you'd equip us all for the challenges ahead.

We pray for the Church of Scotland:  
grant us a sure sense of where you're leading,  
as the General Assembly meets this month.

We pray for our own congregations in Penicuik,  
asking for your direction and guidance for us.  
Lord, we trust you in this. You won't fail us.

Lastly, we pray for ourselves as part of your church:  
may we be inspired by your word,  
and shaped by your Spirit.

Send us out into the world to be salt and light.  
In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

*Based on a prayer by the Rt Rev Dr Martin Fair*

## **HYMN: High in the heavens**

Watch video at: <https://youtu.be/cP35jLndM5g>

High in the heavens, exalted,  
name above all other names,  
Lord over all of creation,  
worthy of power and praise.  
Blessing and honour and glory  
are his eternal reward;  
let every knee bow before him  
and every tongue say he is Lord.

*Jesus, you are exalted and glorified.*

*Jesus, name above all names, we'll lift you high.*

Clothed in the splendour of heaven,  
Jesus, eternally God,  
emptied yourself, came as nothing,  
choosing the road to the cross.  
Lord, you were found in our likeness,  
shedding your glory to serve;  
humble, not claiming advantage,  
you laid down your life for the world.

Let us be found in your likeness,  
learning to serve as you served,  
filled with your Spirit, your fullness,  
the fragrance of grace on the earth.  
You love the heart that is humble,  
you desire worship that's true;  
voices that sing for your glory  
and lives that bring honour to you.

*Saviour, all of creation will bow in awe.*

*Jesus, from every nation we'll call you Lord,  
to the glory of God. (repeat)*

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## **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: Climate Change, the Church and the Christian**