

Welcome to Penicuik: St Mungo's Parish Church online



Sunday 18th 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 the link which you'll find on our website: www.stmungos.freeuk.com , or Video <https://youtu.be/aSZ-DTfBQtA>
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: Now the green blade rises

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

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in the dark earth many years has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

In the grave they laid Him, Love who men had slain,
thinking that He'd never would awake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for the three days in the grave had lain;
back from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,
then Your touch can call us back to life again;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

John Macleod Campbell Crum (1872-1958); sung by St Martin's Voices

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

Let us worship God.

HYMN: Hear the call of the kingdom

Watch video: <https://youtu.be/5OdlpJZVs0A>

Hear the call of the kingdom, lift your eyes to the King,
let His song rise within you as a fragrant offering,
of how God, rich in mercy, came in Christ to redeem
all who trust in His unfailing grace.

Hear the call of the Kingdom to be children of light,
with the mercy of heaven, the humility of Christ.
Walking justly before Him, loving all that is right,
that the life of Christ may shine through us.

*King of Heaven, we will answer the call.
We will follow, bringing hope to the world,
filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim
salvation in Jesus' name.*

Hear the call of the Kingdom to reach out to the lost,
with the Father's compassion in the wonder of the cross,
bringing peace and forgiveness, and a hope yet to come;
let the nations put their trust in Him.

*King of Heaven, we will answer the call.
We will follow, bringing hope to the world,
filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim
salvation in Jesus' name.*

*King of Heaven, we will answer the call.
We will follow, bringing hope to the world,
filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim
salvation in Jesus' name...
salvation in Jesus' name...
salvation in Jesus' name!*

*Stuart Townend, Keith Getty & Kristyn Getty © 2006 Thankyou Music (Adm. by Integrity Music)
Led by the All Souls Music team, arr. Michael Andrews © 2021 Langham Arts Trust*

PRAYER

Loving God,
we praise you for all you've done in Christ,
for your victory through him over sin and evil,
darkness and death.

We praise you for your love that can't be kept down,
whatever it may face.

May knowing that love
inspire us to keep on following you,
through good and bad.

When life seems hard,
when good seems frustrated,
when we find ourselves
in danger of being overwhelmed
by trials and temptations,
assure us again of your love
that won't be defeated.

When our work doesn't seem to bear any fruit,
when our efforts go unrewarded,
when our hopes appear unfulfilled,
teach us to trust in your purpose
that presses on towards fulfilment.

When the innocent suffer,
when evil prospers,
when hatred seems to hold sway,
help us to keep on believing
that your good purpose will finally win through.

Grant us a deep unshakeable confidence
that whatever life brings,
whatever we face,
however things seem,
your will shall be done and your kingdom come,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Based on a prayer by Nick Fawcett

THE LEPROSY MISSION SCOTLAND: Video

Watch video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwRu5_y-7RE

You are invited to give a donation to The Leprosy Mission Scotland at:

<https://leprosymission.scot/donate>

THE STORY SO FAR

After the solemn ceremony to make Saul king, Samuel has accused the people of trying to ignore the Lord in seeking a king for themselves. He asks God to send thunder and rain that very day, during the wheat harvest. This is a demonstration of divine power, in what is normally the dry season, that will underline his legal case against the people. The people experience great fear and ask Samuel to pray for them, which Samuel says he will do, and that he will also teach them 'the good and right way'. His parting shot is an encouragement but also a warning: '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.'

King Saul is now responsible for the civil and military aspects of the kingdom, but Samuel still has a role to play as God's prophet, explaining what God wants both king and people to do. Will Saul respect that God-given role or will he assert his authority as king over the authority of Samuel and of God?

BIBLE READINGS

1 Samuel 13: 1-15, 19-22 (NIVUK)

Reader: Mary Paterson

Saul was *thirty* years old when he became king, and he reigned over Israel for *forty-two* years. *

Saul chose three thousand men from Israel; two thousand were with him at Michmash and in the hill country of Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan at Gibeah in Benjamin. The rest of the men he sent back to their homes.

Jonathan attacked the Philistine outpost at Geba, and the Philistines heard about it. Then Saul had the trumpet blown throughout the land and said, 'Let the Hebrews hear!' So all Israel heard the news: 'Saul has attacked the Philistine outpost, and now Israel has become obnoxious to the Philistines.' And the people were summoned to join Saul at Gilgal.

The Philistines assembled to fight Israel, with three thousand chariots, six thousand charioteers, and soldiers as numerous as the sand on the seashore. They went up and camped at Michmash, east of Beth Aven. When the Israelites saw that their situation was critical and that their army was hard pressed, they hid in caves and thickets, among the rocks, and in pits and cisterns. Some Hebrews even crossed the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead.

Saul remained at Gilgal, and all the troops with him were quaking with fear. He waited for seven days, the time set by Samuel; but Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and Saul's men began to scatter. So he said, 'Bring me the burnt offering and the fellowship offerings.' And Saul offered up the burnt offering. Just as he finished making the offering, Samuel arrived, and Saul went out to greet him.

'What have you done?' asked Samuel.

Saul replied, 'When I saw that the men were scattering, and that you did not come at the set time, and that the Philistines were assembling at Michmash, I thought, "Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the Lord's favour." So I felt compelled to offer the burnt offering.'

'You have done a foolish thing,' Samuel said. 'You have not kept the command the Lord your God gave you; if you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time. But now your kingdom will not endure; the Lord has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him ruler of his people, because you have not kept the Lord's command.'

Then Samuel left Gilgal and went up to Gibeah in Benjamin, and Saul counted the men who were with him. They numbered about six hundred.

[19] Not a blacksmith could be found in the whole land of Israel, because the Philistines had said, 'Otherwise the Hebrews will make swords or spears!' So all Israel went down to the Philistines to have their ploughshares, mattocks, axes and sickles sharpened. The price was two-thirds of a shekel for sharpening ploughshares and mattocks, and a third of a shekel for sharpening forks and axes and for repointing goads.

So on the day of the battle not a soldier with Saul and Jonathan had a sword or spear in his hand; only Saul and his son Jonathan had them.

** 30 and 40 are additions to the text. Verse 1 is uncertain in all manuscript traditions. In some late Greek manuscripts, Saul is 30 years old when he becomes king. Acts 13:21 says that Saul ruled for 40 years.*

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Acts 13: 16-23 (NIVUK)

Reader: Heather Nicholas

Standing up, Paul motioned with his hand and said: 'Fellow Israelites and you Gentiles who worship God, listen to me! The God of the people of Israel chose our ancestors; he made the people prosper during their stay in Egypt; with mighty power he led them out of that country; for about forty years he endured their conduct in the wilderness; and he overthrew seven nations in Canaan, giving their land to his people as their inheritance. All this took about 450 years.

'After this, God gave them judges until the time of Samuel the prophet. Then the people asked for a king, and he gave them Saul son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, who ruled for forty years. After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: "I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do."

'From this man's descendants God has brought to Israel the Saviour Jesus, as he promised.'

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SHORT ADDRESS

HYMN: Your word

Watch video at: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SXNjNwzLDsAt58qfDP91T87V0SLCC9hb/view>

Your word is good, it's ever faithful,
worth more than gold, the heart's delight.
Your word gives life to all who hear and obey.
Your word endures forever.

Your word is true, it never changes.
It formed the earth; sustains it still.
Your word defends, providing refuge and strength.
Your word endures forever.

*Your word is a lamp unto my feet.
Your word is a light unto my path.
For your word is my hope; it's my joy and my song.
Your word endures forever.*

Your word transforms, it lifts the humble,
rebukes the proud, protects the poor.
Your word discerns the mind and spirit of all.
Your word endures forever.

*Your word is a lamp unto my feet.
Your word is a light unto my path.
For your word is my hope; it's my joy and my song.
Your word endures forever.*

Your word is more than just letters on pages;
it's life and it's love and it's freedom for us.
Your word is more than just wisdom of ages:
its treasures are endless, it's always enough.

Your word is more than just stories of old:
it's the truth and the way and the story of love.
Your word is more than just breath into dust:
it's your son, as a man, come to dwell here with us.

*Your word is a lamp unto my feet.
Your word is a light unto my path.
Your word is a lamp unto my feet.
Your word is a light unto my path.
For your word is my hope; it's my joy and my song.
Your word endures forever.... your word endures forever....
your word endures forever!*

*Your word CCLI Song # 7091582 Alanna Glover, Liv Chapman, Philip Percival © 2017 Philip Percival
(Adm. Philip Gordon Percival); Alanna Glover, Liv Chapman; emumusic.com*

PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

*As the period of national mourning draws to a close this morning,
we pray again for HM the Queen, her family and the nation:*

Almighty and everlasting God,
'the life of mortals is like grass,
they flourish like a flower of the field;
the wind blows over it and it is gone,
and its place remembers it no more.'

But you are forever,
from everlasting to everlasting,
and we put our trust in you
for you've promised never to leave us,
never to forsake us.

Father, in this last year,
through the worst of a global pandemic,
we've been face to face
with our fragility and vulnerability,
perhaps for some of us as never before.

Against that backdrop of hurt and loss,
we thank you for the life and service
of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.
We thank you for his support
of Her Majesty the Queen
throughout her reign.

We pray for the Queen and her family.
Comfort them in their loss,
bind up their wounds
and grant them the consolation
of a store of treasured memories.
Give to Her Majesty the peace
that comes from knowing you,
which is beyond all understanding.

These and all our prayers
we ask in the name of Jesus,
who through his life, death and resurrection,
offers us hope instead of despair,
life instead of death. **Amen.**

Based on a prayer by the Moderator of the General Assembly, The Rt Rev Dr Martin Fair

HYMN: In heavenly love abiding

Watch video at: <https://youtu.be/7SFxG0h57kk?t=101>

In heavenly love abiding,
no change my heart shall fear;
and safe is such confiding,
for nothing changes here:
the storm may roar without me,
my heart may low be laid;
but God is round about me,
and can I be dismayed?

Wherever he may guide me,
no want shall turn me back;
my Shepherd is beside me,
and nothing can I lack:
his wisdom ever waketh,
his sight is never dim,
he knows the way he taketh,
and I will walk with him.

Green pastures are before me,
which yet I have not seen;
bright skies will soon be o'er me,
where the dark clouds have been;
my hope I cannot measure,
my path to life is free;
my Saviour has my treasure,
and he will walk with me.

Anna Letitia Waring (1823-1910); sung in St German's Church, Cardiff

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 again