

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



**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July 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 unailing 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/uwOFOeJUyoY> 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.**

## **INTROIT: What love could remember no wrongs we have done?**

Watch video <https://youtu.be/3fNkShqrhKw>

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?

Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum;  
thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,  
our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?

What Father so tender is calling us home?  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor--  
our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

What riches of kindness He lavished on us!  
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost.  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford--  
our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

*Praise the Lord! His mercy is more:  
stronger than darkness, new every morn.  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.*

Matt Boswell & Matt Papa © 2016 Love Your Enemies Publishing, Dayspring Publishing, LLC  
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Sung by Steph Macleod and the Praise Gathering Choir

**WELCOME** to St Mungo's. Let us worship God.

**HYMN: Dear Lord and Father of mankind**

Watch video <https://youtu.be/YAxiN0egN-I>

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,  
forgive our foolish ways;  
re clothe us in our rightful mind,  
in purer lives thy service find,  
in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard  
beside the Syrian sea  
the gracious calling of the Lord,  
let us, like them, without a word  
rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee,  
O calm of hills above,  
where Jesus knelt to share with thee  
the silence of eternity,  
interpreted by love!

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.

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!

*John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892). Set by C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)*

*London Regency Choir – 100 Essential Carols & Hymns for Christmas*

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*Drone Footage by Stefan Zimmermann. Beautiful Scotland (Highlands / Isle of Skye)*

*<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sb6Wl...> [https://www.fotocommunity.de/user\\_pho...](https://www.fotocommunity.de/user_pho...)*

## PRAYER

Almighty God,

You are our Rock, our Fortress and our Protector.

We thank you that our lives are in your loving, powerful hands.

Sometimes we forget that and become anxious.

Sometimes we think that we must get everything right for things to go well.

Many times, we're tempted to pull our lives out of your hands

and work things out by ourselves,

but it only leads to more anxiety.

Lord, build in us a solid and unshakable trust

in your goodness, your power and your love.

Help us to step off the treadmill of trying to sort everything out.

We can't. we never could.

We come to you afresh

and give our lives into your hands.

We give you our health, our family,

our loved ones, our finances,

our past, our future

and the rest of what makes up our lives--

we place it all in your hands.

We choose to put our faith in you

because you are worthy of our trust,

and because you've reached down

and taken hold of us in Jesus our Saviour.

Help us to praise you for all that you are.

Speak to us what we need to hear.

Send your Holy Spirit to us.

Grant us repentance and faith

through Jesus who died for us

and always lives to pray for us. **Amen.** *Adapted from a prayer by Our Daily Bread Ministries.*

## THE STORY SO FAR

David has spared King Saul's life after encountering him in the cave where David and his men are hiding. His conscience won't let him take the life of God's anointed king.

Today, we meet another situation where David's conscience is not so sensitive: the case of Nabal and his household. Nabal is a very rich man who owns a lot of livestock.

He's a very unpleasant character, ungenerous in his ways and surly in his attitudes. He views David as 'one more slave on the run from his master'. He's not going to share any of his provisions with him, despite David's apparent generosity to his shepherds. David is incensed and prepares his men to take bloody revenge. Step up an anonymous servant who speaks to Abigail, Nabal's wife, an intelligent and resourceful woman.

## BIBLE READINGS

### 1 Samuel 25:14-38 (CEV)

Reader: Margaret Black

...one of Nabal's servants told Abigail:

*David's men were often nearby while we were taking care of the sheep in the fields. They were very good to us, they never hurt us, and nothing was ever stolen from us while they were nearby. With them around day or night, we were as safe as we would have been inside a walled city.*

*David sent some messengers from the desert to wish our master well, but he shouted insults at them. He's a bully who won't listen to anyone.*

*Isn't there something you can do? Please think of something! Or else our master and his family and everyone who works for him are all doomed.*

Abigail quickly got together two hundred loaves of bread, two large clay jars of wine, the meat from five sheep, a large sack of roasted grain, a hundred handfuls of raisins, and two hundred handfuls of dried figs. She loaded all the food on donkeys and told her servants, "Take this on ahead, and I'll catch up with you." She didn't tell her husband Nabal what she was doing.

Abigail was riding her donkey on the path that led around the hillside, when suddenly she met David and his men heading straight at her.

David had just been saying, "I surely wasted my time guarding Nabal's things in the desert and keeping them from being stolen! I was good to him, and now he pays me back with insults. I swear that by morning, there won't be a man or boy left from his family or his servants' families. I pray that God will punish me if I don't do it!"

Abigail quickly got off her donkey and bowed down in front of David. Then she said:

*Sir, please let me explain! Don't pay any attention to that good-for-nothing Nabal. His name means "fool," and it really fits him!*

*I didn't see the men you sent, but please take this gift of food that I've brought and share it with your followers. The Lord has kept you from taking revenge and from killing innocent people. But I hope your enemies and anyone else who wants to harm you will end up like Nabal. I swear this by the living Lord and by your life.*

*Please forgive me if I say a little more. The Lord will always protect you and your family, because you fight for him. I pray that you won't ever do anything evil as long as you live. The Lord your God will keep you safe when your enemies try to kill you. But he will snatch away their lives quicker than you can throw a rock from a sling. The Lord has promised to do many good things for you, even to make you the ruler of Israel. The Lord will keep his promises to you, and now your conscience will be clear, because you won't be guilty of taking revenge and killing innocent people. When the Lord does all those good things for you, please remember me.*

David told her:

*I praise the Lord God of Israel! He must have sent you to meet me today. And you should also be praised. Your good sense kept me from taking revenge and killing innocent people. If you hadn't come to meet me so quickly, every man and boy in Nabal's family and in his servants' families would have been killed by morning. I swear by the living Lord God of Israel who protected you that this is the truth.*

David accepted the food Abigail had brought. "Don't worry," he said. "You can go home now. I'll do what you asked."

Abigail went back home and found Nabal throwing a party fit for a king. He was very drunk and feeling good, so she didn't tell him anything that night. But when he sobered up the next morning, Abigail told him everything that had happened. Nabal had a heart attack, and he lay in bed as still as a stone. Ten days later, the Lord took his life.

*Contemporary English Version (CEV) Copyright © 1995 by American Bible Society*

### **Romans 12: 17-21 (CEB)**

Don't pay back anyone for their evil actions with evil actions, but show respect for what everyone else believes is good.

If possible, to the best of your ability, live at peace with all people. Don't try to get revenge for yourselves, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath. It is written, *Revenge belongs to me; I will pay it back*, says the Lord. Instead, *If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink. By doing this, you will pile burning coals of fire upon his head.* Don't be defeated by evil, but defeat evil with good.

*Common English Bible (CEB) Copyright © 2011 by Common English Bible*

### **SHORT ADDRESS**

#### **HYMN: Undivided**

Watch video <https://youtu.be/9S7ptp9cM5w>

Give me an undivided heart  
that I might fear Your name.  
Teach me to walk in righteous paths  
and follow in Your ways,  
for You are gracious and forgiving.  
Hear O Lord and answer me  
Give me an undivided mind  
that I might love Your word.  
Help me to hunger for Your voice  
and know Your Spirit's sword.  
For You are good, Your truth unchanging.  
Life is found in serving You.

*Undivided,  
I want to live for You.  
Single minded,  
all that I say, all that I do.  
Sanctify me,  
Take me and make me new,  
that I might live for Christ my Lord.*

Give me an undivided love  
for all that You desire.  
Make me a living sacrifice:  
ignite in me Your fire.  
For You, O Lord, are God eternal:  
all my ways are known to You.

*Undivided--  
counting my gains as loss;  
Single minded--  
whatever the pain, whatever the cost.  
Sanctify me,  
help me take up my cross  
and live for Him who died for me.*

*CCLI Song # 5881312 | Rob Smith | © 2010 Smith, Rob | emumusic.com*

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

Father, we thank you that Jesus Christ not only lived for us,  
but died and rose again for us.  
We give thanks that he lives as the cornerstone of the universe,  
that we're built with him into a holy temple,  
unseen yet strong and lasting.  
He is our peace: he is peace within our own lives.  
He is peace between us all, and his peace is a gift for every situation.

### **So, let us ask God for rest for the weary...**

We pray for those who are sick and weighed down in body or spirit,  
for those who are overworked,  
for those who need a break,  
for those who near the end of life.  
May they know your peace.

### **Let us ask God to guide those who are lost or perplexed...**

We pray for all who need shepherding,  
and for those who teach and guide others,

in their work, in their home, in their voluntary service.

May they give and receive your peace.

**Let us ask God to provide for the hungry...**

We pray for all who hunger and thirst,  
for relief organisations, for the governments of the world,  
for those who rule in our island state.

May they find peace, create peace, work for peace.

**Let us ask God to open places for good news...**

We pray for people who don't know how much you love them,  
and for all who share the gospel.

May your Spirit break down barriers, open hearts, bring peace.

**Let us ask God to hear the prayers of our own minds and hearts... [Short silence]**

These and all our prayers we ask in the name of Jesus,  
and pray in his words:

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation;**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**the power and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

*Adapted from prayers by Jock Stein*

**HYMN: Come and See (We Worship at Your Feet)**

Watch video [https://youtu.be/ejCIBRsvkUM?list=PLu8mfQRMKrc7E\\_y1uYWM-6X4U-4Ak27w](https://youtu.be/ejCIBRsvkUM?list=PLu8mfQRMKrc7E_y1uYWM-6X4U-4Ak27w)

Come and see, come and see,  
come and see the King of love;  
see the purple robe and crown of thorns he wears.  
Soldiers mock, rulers sneer  
as he lifts the cruel cross;  
lone and friendless now, he climbs towards the hill.

*We worship at your feet,  
where wrath and mercy meet,  
and a guilty world is washed  
by love's pure stream.*

*For us he was made sin--  
oh, help me take it in.*

*Deep wounds of love cry out 'Father, forgive'.*

*I worship, I worship the Lamb who was slain.*

Come and weep, come and mourn  
for your sin that pierced him there;  
so much deeper than the wounds of thorn and nail.  
All our pride, all our greed,  
all our fallenness and shame,  
and the Lord has laid the punishment on him.

Man of heaven, born to earth  
to restore us to your heaven,  
here we bow in awe beneath your searching eyes.  
From your tears comes our joy,  
from your death our life shall spring;  
by your resurrection power we shall rise.

*Graham Kendrick © 1989 Make Way Music, [www.grahamkendrick.co.uk](http://www.grahamkendrick.co.uk)*

### **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: Holy Communion**

**Back to Philistia again**