Welcome to Penicuik: St Mungo's Parish Church online



Sunday 21st February 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. Full video https://youtu.be/RckV6GRTpc4
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.

WELCOME to St Mungo's. We are here to worship God on the first Sunday of Lent. Our call to worship is based on words from Psalm 51:

Leader: Create a clean heart in me, O God,

All: and renew a faithful spirit within me.

Leader: Do not force me away from your presence,

All: and do not take your Holy Spirit from me.

Leader: Restore the joy of your salvation to me,

All: and provide me with a spirit of willing obedience.

God's Word Translation © 1995, 2003, 2013, 2014, 2019, 2020 by God's Word to the Nations Mission Soc.

HYMN: Awake my soul

Watch video at https://youtu.be/roJjVAZKaUE

Awake my soul - come worship.

Come bring your worship, lift up your praise; look to the Father, call on his name. Honour the Saviour, Jesus the King; filled with the Spirit, stand and sing.

Every life laid bare, nothing hidden here, every heart's desire known.

Jesus purify, cleanse our hearts and minds, let your Holy Spirit come.

Come bring your worship, come seek his face, trust in his mercy, rest in his grace.
Come to remember all he has done, gather in awe before his throne.

With all our heart we worship, with all our soul we worship, with all our mind we worship, with all our strength we worship.

Words & Music © Marcus Pagnam / RESOUNDworship.org; Adm. Jubilate Hymns Ltd.

PRAYER

(taken from Psalm 32)

Our God, you bless everyone whose sins you forgive and wipe away.

You bless them by saying, "You told me your sins, without trying to hide them, and now I forgive you."

Before I confessed my sins, my bones felt limp, and I groaned all day long. Night and day your hand weighed heavily on me, and my strength was gone

as in the summer heat.

So I confessed my sins and told them all to you. I said, "I'll tell the Lord each one of my sins." Then you forgave me and took away my guilt.

We worship you, Lord,
and we should always pray
whenever we find out
that we have sinned.
Then we won't be swept away
by a raging flood.
You are my hiding place!
You protect me from trouble,

and you put songs in my heart because you have saved me.

You said to me,
"I will point out the road
that you should follow.
I will be your teacher
and watch over you.
Don't be stupid
like horses and mules
that must be led with ropes

to make them obey."

Father God,
we thank you that if we live in the light
in the same way as you are in the light,
we can have a relationship with you,
and the blood of your Son Jesus
cleanses us from every sin.
If we say, "We aren't sinful"
we're deceiving ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.
But you are faithful and reliable.

If we confess our sins, you forgive them

(after 1 John 1)

from everything we've done wrong. **Amen**Psalm 32 from the Contemporary English Version © 1995 by American Bible Society

HYMN: O Breath of life

and cleanse us

Watch video at https://youtu.be/0lpCy3Qq3VI

O Breath of life, come sweeping through us, revive Your church with life and power.
O Breath of life, come, cleanse, renew us

and fit Your church to meet this hour.

O Breath of love, come breathe within, renewing thought and will and heart.
Come, Love of Christ, afresh to win,

revive Your church in every part.

O Wind of God, come bend us, break us, till humbly we confess our need:

then in Your tenderness remake us—

revive, restore, for this we plead!

Revive us, Lord! Is zeal abating while harvest fields are vast and ripe?

Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting, equip Your church to spread the light.

Video © Emu Music, O Breath of life, Words: Elizabeth Ann Porter Head (public domain), Music: © Trevor Hodge, 2009; CCLI Song Number: 5439290

THE STORY SO FAR

The ark of the covenant has now been returned to Israel and left in the care of a hillside town between Judah and Benjamin, where it will remain for about sixty years, till David moves it into his new capital. Twenty years into this time, the people are yearning for God, who, they think, has abandoned them.

Samuel tells the people, if they really want to turn back to the Lord, to get rid of their idols (they had adopted the pagan practices of other nations) and then turn to the Lord with all their heart, determined to worship the Lord only.

The people do what Samuel says and everyone gathers at Mizpah for Samuel to pray for them and for the people to take part in a symbolic act: water from a well is poured out in offering to the Lord. They fast to show their sorrow, confessing that they have been unfaithful to the Lord.

The Philistine rulers, hearing of a large gathering of Israelites, and, likely assuming they are mustering for war, mobilize their own forces. The Israelites are fearful; they aren't prepared for battle and so they ask Samuel to cry to the Lord to save them. Samuel sacrifices a lamb and pleads with the Lord and his prayer is answered. Thunder from heaven causes the Philistines to panic and in the ensuing rout Israel gains a decisive victory. Samuel is established as Israel's judge or governor and Israel's faith in the Lord is restored. But how long will their faith in the Lord last?

BIBLE READINGS

1 Samuel 8: 1-22 NCV Gordon MacDonald

When Samuel was old, he made his sons judges for Israel. His first son was named Joel, and his second son was named Abijah. Joel and Abijah were judges in Beersheba. But Samuel's sons did not live as he did. They tried to get money dishonestly, and they accepted money secretly to make wrong judgments.

So all the elders came together and met Samuel at Ramah. They said to him, "You're old, and your sons don't live as you do. Give us a king to rule over us like all the other nations."

When the elders said that, Samuel was not pleased. He prayed to the Lord, and the Lord told Samuel, "Listen to whatever the people say to you. They have not rejected you. They have rejected me from being their king. They are doing as they have always done. When I took them out of Egypt, they left me and served other gods. They are doing the same to you. Now listen to the people, but warn them what the king who rules over them will do."

So Samuel told those who had asked him for a king what the Lord had said. Samuel said, "If you have a king ruling over you, this is what he will do: He will take your sons and make them serve with his chariots and his horses, and they will run in front of the king's chariot. The king will make some of your sons commanders over thousands or over fifties. He will make some of your other sons plough his ground and reap his harvest. He will take others to make weapons of war and equipment for his chariots. He will take your daughters to make perfume and cook and bake for him. He will take your best fields, vineyards, and olive groves and give them to his servants. He will take one-tenth of your grain and grapes and give it to his officers and servants. He will take your male and female servants, your best cattle, and your donkeys and use them all for his own work. He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you yourselves will become his slaves. When that time comes, you will cry out because of the king you chose. But the Lord will not answer you then."

But the people would not listen to Samuel. They said, "No! We want a king to rule over us. Then we will be the same as all the other nations. Our king will judge for us and go with us and fight our battles."

After Samuel heard all that the people said, he repeated their words to the Lord. The Lord answered, "You must listen to them. Give them a king."

Then Samuel told the people of Israel, "Go back to your towns."

Luke 22: 24-30 NCV Margaret Black

The apostles also began to argue about which one of them was the most important. But Jesus said to them, "The kings of the non-Jewish people rule over them, and those who have authority over others like to be called 'friends of the people.' But you must not be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the leader should be like the servant. Who is more important: the one sitting at the table or the one serving? You think the one at the table is more important, but I am like a servant among you.

"You have stayed with me through my struggles. Just as my Father has given me a kingdom, I also give you a kingdom so you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom. And you will sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

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SHORT ADDRESS

HYMN: Your cross, O Lord

Watch video at https://youtu.be/ bybDe4tAj4

Your cross, O Lord, taught me to see that though I fail you every day Your steadfast love will not fail me but gladly bears my sin away. And there I see your holy fire consuming sin in mercy's blood: What righteousness and love require to ransom sinners to their God.

Your cross, O Lord, taught me to weep for there my sin led you away, and e'en the sun did bow in grief as darkness crowned our darkest day. And oh, to think that I once stood indifferent to your suffering! And oh, to see your sweat like blood: such depths of sorrow borne for me!

Your cross, O Lord, taught me to love, for there I've tasted love divine; it fills my heart with power enough to make your costly service mine. No sin too great to meet with grace, no enemy too foul to bless. Your love in wounds of sacrifice; teach me, O Lord, to love like this.

Your cross, O Lord, taught me to sing, for now my captive soul is free!
No guilt, no fear, no suffering can tear away your love from me!
No song can reach such heights of joy!
No tongue can tell such depths of peace!
No power, no time, can e'er destroy the eternal praise for Calvary!

Words: Sam & Tom Brewster; Piano: Tom Brewster; Lead vocals: Sarah Beattie, Joe Crossley Mixed by Matt Dennis at Resound Audio: https://resoundaudio.co.uk

Video: Max Broadbent: https://www.maxbroadbent.co.uk

Makaton signing: Becky George - Makaton Tutor - http://beckymakatontutor.co.uk

PRAYERS FOR OTHER PEOPLE AND OURSELVES

(based on Psalm 139)

You have looked deep into my heart, Lord, and you know all about me.

You know when I am resting or when I am working, and from heaven you discover my thoughts.

We think of the stress that many people are under just now:

the stress of working in the frontline,

the stress of having to provide home schooling,

the stress of finding it hard to make ends meet,

Help them to find rest and encouragement.

Help them to know that you care for them and can strengthen and help them.

Your thoughts are far beyond my understanding, much more than I could ever imagine.

...they outnumber the grains of sand on the beach.

We think of children who are unable to understand why they can't meet up with their friends, or are scared of what they hear on the news, or have bad dreams and disturbed sleep.

Give people who care for them understanding hearts

to be able to relieve their anxious fears.

Help them to know that you care for them

and can strengthen and help them.

Where could I go to escape from your Spirit?

If I were to climb up to the highest heavens, you'd be there.

If I were to dig down to the world of the dead, you'd also be there.

We think of those who are in a dark place just now who struggle to find life tolerable.

Bring hope to them,

bring friends to contact them

and special help if they need it.

Help them to know that you care for them

and can strengthen and help them.

Look deep into my heart, God,

and find out everything I am thinking.

Don't let me follow evil ways,

but lead me in the way that time has proven true.

In the name of Jesus, our Saviour and Lord,

we make all our prayers to you. Amen

Quotations from Psalm 139, Contemporary English Version (CEV) © 1995 by American Bible Society

HYMN Lord, be my vision

Watch video at https://youtu.be/vhBgk2rf7z4

Lord, be my vision, supreme in my heart, bid every rival give way and depart: you my best thought in the day or the night, waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

Lord, be my wisdom and be my true word, I ever with you and you with me, Lord: you my great father and I your true child, once far away, but by love reconciled.

Lord, be my breastplate, my sword for the fight: be my strong armour, for you are my might; you are my shelter, and you my high tower raise me to heaven, O Power of my power.

I need no riches, nor earth's empty praise: you my inheritance through all my days; all of your treasure to me you impart. high King of heaven, the first in my heart

High King of heaven, when battle is done, grant heaven's joy to me, bright heaven's sun; Christ of my own heart, whatever befall still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Ancient Irish (c 8th cent) tr. Mary E Byrne (1880-1931) & Eleanor H Hull (1860-1935) © this version Jubilate Hymns; Video produced by Mihael Majetic © 2020 Langham Arts Trust

THE BLESSING

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself; the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service; the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

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Next week: Holy Communion

Saul: a king who started well