

Welcome to Penicuik: St Mungo's Parish Church online



SUNDAY 25th 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 Full video https://youtu.be/VE43r_91CUE

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're glad you can join us.

Today we are celebrating Holy Communion.

If you are joining us from home

and would like to put aside some bread and wine

(or something which would represent them),

please retain them until the appropriate part of the service

and consume them reverently and thankfully.

If you would rather not participate,

you are equally welcome to listen

and enjoy spiritual communion with Christ

and 'feed on him in your heart

by faith with thanksgiving'.

HYMN: All people that on earth do dwell

Watch video at: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WrZjTWnXpp_puqPRZZCuJcUyWX7e0prZ/view

All people that on earth do dwell,

sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.

Serve him with joy, his praises tell,

come now before him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;

he formed us all without our aid;

we are the flock, he comes to feed,

the sheep who by his hand were made.

*Oh, let the earth rejoice!
Lift up your voice and magnify his holy name.
Oh, let the earth rejoice!
Lift up your voice and magnify his holy name.*

O enter then his gates with joy,
within his courts his praise proclaim.
Let thankful songs your tongues employ:
O bless and magnify his name!

Because the Lord our God is good,
his mercy is forever sure;
his faithfulness at all times stood,
and shall from age to age endure.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*CCLI Song # 7125862, Alanna Glover (based on Ps 100 words by William Kethe & Thomas Ken)
© 2018 Alanna Glover; (Music: Louis Bourgeois) By courtesy of Emu Music*

PRAYER

Gracious and righteous God,
we praise you that you're always active—
moving throughout history,
working in our individual lives,
always working out your purposes.
You're not remote or detached from our world:
you're intimately involved
in every aspect of our experience.
You're a God full of mercy,
always ready to forgive,
always eager to wipe the slate clean and start again.
Forgive us that because of all that
we can sometimes become over-familiar with you—
losing sight of your holiness,
forgetting your commandments,
or becoming careless in our discipleship.
You're all-good and all-righteous:
stretching out your hand in judgment,
punishing wrongdoing,
destroying evil.

You're all-loving and all-powerful:
reaching out your hand to bless,
to reward faithfulness,
to vindicate truth.

Save us from becoming complacent
about your judgment and your grace,
from imagining our thoughts or actions
don't matter to you,
from losing heart
when evil appears to triumph over good.

Help us to recognise
the destructive consequences of our sinfulness,
to see our faults
and to confess them *honestly* to you,
to discover the joy
that comes from being at one with you,

Help us to look forward to that day
when your will shall be done on earth
and your kingdom come,
Gracious and righteous God,
we rejoice in the certainty of your final triumph,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Based on a prayer by Nick Fawcett.

THE STORY SO FAR

Saul and Samuel have had their first major clash. Saul had been instructed to wait for Samuel to arrive. Nearing the deadline and feeling under pressure from the Philistine army and from his own frightened troops, Saul offers the sacrifice without waiting for Samuel, who arrives just as Saul finishes making the offering.

Because Saul has disobeyed, Samuel says that he won't be able to found a dynasty. His kingship will end with him: '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.'

In chapter 14, there's an account of the ensuing battle, in which prince Jonathan is shown to be a leader in the making, whereas his father makes poor decisions. Saul binds the army with a foolish vow to fast before a major engagement. This plays out badly for the army, for the battle and for Jonathan, who barely escapes with his life.

The chapter ends with a seemingly positive assessment of Saul. 'When Saul became king over Israel, he fought against all his enemies on every side... Everywhere he turned he was victorious. He acted valiantly, defeated Amalek, and delivered Israel from those who had been plundering them.' However, one recurring thing will prove his undoing.

1 Samuel 15:10-26 (International Standard Version) Reader: Fiona Hutcheson

This message from the Lord came to Samuel: “I regret that I made Saul king, because he has turned away from following me and has not carried out my commands.” Samuel was angry, and he cried out to the Lord all night.

Samuel got up early in the morning to meet Saul, but Samuel was told, “Saul went up to Carmel to set up a monument for himself. Then he turned around and travelled on to Gilgal.”

Samuel approached Saul. “May the Lord bless you,” Saul said. “I’ve carried out the Lord’s command.”

Samuel said, “Then what is this bleating of sheep in my ears and the lowing of cattle that I hear?”

Saul replied, “They brought them from the Amalekites. The people spared the best of the sheep and cattle to offer sacrifices to the Lord your God, and the rest they completely destroyed.”

“Be quiet!” Samuel said. “I’ll tell you what the Lord told me last night.”

Saul told him, “Speak.”

So Samuel replied, “Is it not true that though you were small in your own eyes you became head of the tribes of Israel, and the Lord anointed you king over Israel? The Lord sent you on a mission: ‘Go and completely destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they’re destroyed.’ Why didn’t you obey the Lord, but grabbed the spoil and did evil in the Lord’s sight?”

Saul told Samuel, “I did obey the Lord. I went on the mission on which the Lord sent me, I brought Agag king of Amalek, and I completely destroyed the Amalekites. The people took some of the spoil—sheep, cattle, and the best of what was to be completely destroyed—to sacrifice to the Lord your God at Gilgal.”

Samuel said,

“Does the Lord delight as much in burnt offerings and sacrifices
as in obeying the Lord?

Surely, to obey is better than sacrifice,
to pay attention is better than the fat of rams.

Indeed, rebellion is the sin of divination,
and arrogance is iniquity and idolatry.

Because you have rejected this message from the Lord,
he has rejected you from being king.”

“I’ve sinned,” Saul replied to Samuel. “I’ve broken the Lord’s command and your word, because I was afraid of the people and listened to them. Now, please forgive my sin and return with me so I may worship the Lord.”

Samuel told Saul, “I won’t return with you because you have rejected the message from the Lord, and the Lord has rejected you from being king over Israel.”

John 3:15-17 (The Passion Translation)

Reader: Fiona Hutcheson

For here is the way God loved the world—he gave his only, unique Son as a gift. So now everyone who believes in him will never perish but experience everlasting life.

God did not send his Son into the world to judge and condemn the world, but to be its Saviour and rescue it!

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SHORT ADDRESS

HYMN: Change my heart O God

Watch video at: https://youtu.be/gHWQrWX_AX0

Change my heart O God, make it ever true.

Change my heart O God, may I be like You.

You are the potter, I am the clay,

Mould me and make me, this is what I pray.

Search me, O God, and know my heart today;

Try me, O Saviour, know my thoughts, I pray.

Take all my will, my passion, self and pride;

I now surrender, Lord, in me abide.

You are the potter, I am the clay,

Mould me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart O God, make it ever true.

Change my heart O God, may I be like You.

*"Change My Heart, O God"; Words & Music: Eddie Spinosa ©1982 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing;
Adm. Integrity Music; Setting by Joel Raney*

*"Search Me, O God; Words by J. Edwin Orr; © The Wilds Christian Association, Inc.
Sung by Jakarta Festival Chorus; Ndaru Darsono, conductor; Fonny Hartono, piano*

HOLY COMMUNION: THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

As we come to this table,

we remember before the Lord,

our fellow Christians in the Pastorate of Saontalpur.

Father, help and protect them

during this difficult time in India.

Give the Indian authorities your wisdom

in combatting the spread of the virus. **Amen.**

Why do we come to this table?

We come to this table
because of Jesus' command and invitation.
In remembrance of him,
Jesus tells us to eat this broken bread
and to drink this cup in true faith
and to keep doing so until he comes again.

How is this meal different from all others?

In this supper God tells us
that our sins have been completely forgiven
through the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross
where his body was broken
and his blood was shed.
God also tells us that the Holy Spirit makes us one with Christ,
and in Christ one with all other Christians.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Loving God,
you made this world marvellous for us to enjoy.
You gave Jesus to be our Saviour, Lord, and friend,
and to bring us to you.
You send your Spirit to make us one family in Christ.
We thank you for your kindness to us
and your goodness to all,
We thank you that you showed your love
by sending your Son,
who gave his life for us,
and rose again from death,
and lives to pray for us forever.
We thank you that he has taken away
all that separates us from you,
and has made us friends with you and with one another.
We thank you that he has brought us together at this table,
to strengthen us by his love.
Send your Holy Spirit on us,
to bless these gifts of bread and wine to us,
that we may know Christ's presence, real and true,
and be his faithful followers,
showing your love for the world.

Let's join together in the family prayer of the Church:

**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.**

THE SHARING

Why do we eat the bread?

The bread which we break
is a sharing in the body of Christ.
We remember and believe
that the body of our Lord Jesus was given
for the complete forgiveness of all our sins.

Why do we drink the cup?

The cup for which we give thanks
is a sharing in the blood of Christ.
We remember and believe
that the blood of our Lord Jesus was shed
for the complete forgiveness of all our sins.

THE PEACE *(using British Sign Language)*

The peace of the Lord Jesus be with you all.

HYMN The Lion and the Lamb

Watch video: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Xv9wpulEhnoy_Ew8t5a-34qVUVWVtyNi/view?usp=sharing

He's coming on the clouds.
Kings and kingdoms will bow down,
every chain will break
as broken hearts declare His praise.
For who can stop the Lord almighty?

*Our God is the Lion, the Lion of Judah.
He's roaring with power and fighting our battles.
And every knee will bow before Him.*

*Our God is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain
for the sin of the world, His blood breaks the chains.
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb.
Oh, every knee will bow before Him.*

Open up the gates,
Make way before the King of kings.
Our God who comes to save
is here to set the captives free.
For who can stop the Lord almighty?

*Our God is the Lion, the Lion of Judah.
He's roaring with power and fighting our battles.
And every knee will bow before Him.*

*Our God is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain
for the sin of the world, His blood breaks the chains.
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb.
Oh, every knee will bow before Him.*

Who can stop the Lord Almighty?
Who can stop the Lord Almighty?
Who can stop the Lord Almighty?
Who can stop the Lord Almighty?

Who can stop the Lord Almighty?
Who can stop the Lord Almighty?
Who can stop the Lord Almighty?
Who can stop the Lord?

*Our God is the Lion, the Lion of Judah.
He's roaring with power and fighting our battles.
And every knee will bow before Him.*

*Our God is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain
for the sin of the world, His blood breaks the chains.
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb.
Oh, every knee will bow before Him.*

*And every knee will bow before Him....
And every knee will bow before Him.
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb.*

*Written by Leeland Mooring, Brenton Brown, Brian Johnson
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/ Thankyou Music (PRS) / Bethel Music Publishing (ASCAP).
Sung by Mairi Bowlerwell, accompanied by John Bowlerwell, Dunfermline East Ch of Scotland*

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 (May 2nd)



Another in our series of joint Church of Scotland services. This time we focus on the theme of **Worship** (led by Rev Graham Astles)

**The following week (May 9th):
A new start, promised and delayed**

