

Welcome to Penicuik: St Mungo's Parish Church online



Sunday 3rd January, 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. We welcome back as preacher this morning Fiona Devoy, a Church of Scotland reader from Edinburgh.

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 service <https://youtu.be/PxpeqloLT5Y>

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: Holy Jesus, God Incarnate (*Tune: Yr Hun Gan*)

Watch video at <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2020/advent/Advent-Day-16-Kirk-minister-present-new-Christmas-hymn-Holy-Jesus>

Holy Jesus, God Incarnate,
sleeping now in peaceful rest.
Mary's loving eyes to watch you,
Child and Mother heaven-blest.
Star and angel knew your glory,
shepherds worshipped where you lay.
Through the darkening chill of winter
slumber safely while you may.

Holy Jesus, wise men travel
with their gifts so rich and fine.
First, the gold to speak of kingship;
frankincense of power divine;
then the myrrh, a gift prophetic,
pointing out a mystery:

in your start an end envisaged;
life and death in unity.
Holy Jesus, here among us,
sent from God for our own good.
Bread of Life that will be broken
on a cross of rough-hewn wood.
In the wine-red blood of suffering
we will see your love's true way.
May we join your path to Easter,
setting out on Christmas Day.

With thanks to Rev Alec Shuttleworth (vocals), Rev Dr Robin Hill, Huw Thomas, and Alastair Clarke

WELCOME (Joan Cape)

Welcome to St Mungo's on this, the first Sunday of a new year. Whether you are in Penicuik or joining us from much further away, we're glad you can be with us. We're glad too to have with us Fiona Devoy. Fiona is a reader in the Church of Scotland, and she'll be delivering our sermon later. We have so many hopes for this year, along, no doubt, with many fears carried over from the year through which we have just come. But we are reminded by the words of the lovely song which we have just heard that we do not go into this year alone. For our Lord Jesus, whose birth we have so recently celebrated, remains here among us. As he has been with us in the days that are behind us, so he walks with us as we journey into the future.

PRAYER (Joan Cape)

Loving heavenly Father,
We come to worship you this morning from our celebrations of Christmas and the New Year: we thank you for these opportunities to reflect on the good things you have given us, even if those celebrations have been somewhat different this year.
At the start of this New Year, Lord, as we travel from darkness to light, we look forward in faith to what 2021 will bring us.
You, Lord, are the God of all time – all things are in your hands.

We come remembering all that you have done for us over these past twelve months: the ways in which you have guided and taught us, the times when you have offered us strength and support, the occasions when you have especially surrounded us with your comfort and compassion.

We come anticipating the year ahead, whatever it might bring,
Knowing you will always be watching over us through it,
Constantly working out your purpose in our lives,

And leading us to a deeper understanding of your love.

Forgive us the times when we have doubted this love,
or failed to trust the future to your hands.

Forgive us the smallness of our vision,
and our failure to live as you would have us live.

Despite our doubts, give us the assurance of your forgiveness,
through your freely given grace in Jesus.

You came to earth so that we would have life in all its fullness – help us to embrace this
in the year to come, whatever it may bring.

Touch our hearts now as we join together in worship,
dedicating ourselves again to one another, to you, and to your kingdom.

Amen

HYMN: Wake up my soul (based on Psalm 103)

Watch video at https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B297dSor7_OURWUtQUtSemttbzA/view

Wake up my soul and bless your God.

Turn every sense to praise,
And sweetly speak His holy name,
And sweetly speak His holy name,
And sweetly speak His holy name
Who blesses all your ways.

The lord forgives your every debt:
Let sickness hold no fear.
His hand redeems you from the pit,
His hand redeems you from the pit,
His hand redeems you from the pit
And brings his goodness near.

Let thoughts of worry and distress
Slip from your troubled brow.
A crown of love and tenderness,
A crown of love and tenderness,
A crown of love and tenderness
From God adorns it now.

To Moses and to Israel
He showed his righteousness.
His justice shall be shown as well,
His justice shall be shown as well,
His justice shall be shown as well
To all who are oppressed.

His love transcends the clouds, the air,
The stars and spheres above.
Let fragile frames forget their care,
Let fragile frames forget their care,
Let fragile frames forget their care
And marvel at his love.

The hosts of heaven praise his name:
Great servants of his word.
On earth, let thankful souls proclaim,
On earth, let thankful souls proclaim,
On earth, let thankful souls proclaim
The glories of the Lord.

*Music: Greg de Blieck; Lyrics: Greg de Blieck; used with permission.
CCLI no: 7058208*

BIBLE READING: Ephesians 1 v 3 -14

Reader: Ian Dickson

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding.

God has now revealed to us his mysterious will regarding Christ—which is to fulfill his own good plan. And this is the plan: at the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth. Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan. God’s purpose was that we Jews who were the first to trust in Christ would bring praise and glory to God. And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago. The Spirit is God’s guarantee that he will give us the inheritance he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify him.

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ADDRESS: Fiona Devoy

HYMN: Lean hard

Watch video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IBLRnDSyO-Q>

He lavishes grace as our burdens grow greater.
He sends us more strength as our labours increase.
To added afflictions, He offers more mercy.
To multiplied trials, He multiplies peace.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
When our strength has failed and the day is half done,
When we've reached the end of our earthly resources,
Our Father's full giving is only begun,
Our Father's full giving is only begun,

*So lean hard, lean hard,
Lean on the everlasting arms.
Lean hard, lean hard,
Lean on the everlasting arms,
Lean on the everlasting arms!*

His love has no limits, His grace has no measure.
His power has no boundary that's known unto men.
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus
He giveth and giveth, and giveth again,
He giveth and giveth, and giveth again.

*So lean hard, lean hard,
Lean on the everlasting arms.....*

You lead me beside still waters
Your goodness restores my soul
I know that You'll never leave me
I know that You won't let go!

*So lean hard, lean hard,
Lean on the everlasting arms.....*

Sung by Lou Fellingham, with the National Methodist Choir of Great Britain and the Virtual Church Choir. Production: Matt Beckingham

*Verse words by Annie J. Flint, adapted and chorus by Lou Fellingham, Chris and Abbie Eaton
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PRAYERS FOR OTHER PEOPLE AND OURSELVES (Neil Cape)

Let us pray, bringing to God our concerns for this world and its people.

Heavenly father, at the start of this new year we pray for our world, so large and complicated, with so many places where things are going wrong – flood, drought, earthquake, wars – and we pray that all of us will wake up to the fact that all of

creation is connected. Help us to see that our lifestyle affects people on the other side of the planet, whether through our contribution to climate change, our trading policies, or the spread of disease. We pray for those who are suffering from the effects of poverty, famine, storms or conflict and ask that you will work in people's hearts to produce generosity in the place of greed, and care instead of thoughtlessness.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

Our news is dominated by Covid and Brexit – we pray for all those who are directly involved in fighting disease, in our health service and in the development and distribution of vaccines. We pray for those who are ill, anxious, grieving or who have lost their jobs, and we pray that out of the turmoil in our way of life will come a more just distribution of wealth and power, not only in this country but across the world. We pray for encouragement for those with the vision of a 'new normal' that explicitly addresses inequalities and the reversal of man-made climate change.

We pray for our governments, in Scotland and the UK, and across the world, as they try to balance the demands of providing employment and maintaining mental health with controlling the spread of disease – give them knowledge and wisdom.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

We pray for your church across the world, as it too comes to terms with different patterns of life. Thank you that we have had access to technologies that allow us to keep connected with one another, and we pray that what we have learned can be used to spread the good news of Jesus.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

Finally, we remember those individuals known to us who are ill, grieving or anxious, and pray that they will know your love and peace in their lives.

We bring all these prayers to you in the name of Jesus, who taught his disciples to pray:

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory

For ever,

Amen.

HYMN: I know not why God's wondrous grace

Watch video at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1d2wK-IQhSRWOR8tGSvi-fhz2EGhq0r6T>

I know not why God's wondrous grace
To me hath been made known;
Nor why, unworthy as I am,
He claimed me for His own.

*But I know whom I have believed;
And am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed
Unto Him against that day.*

I know not how this saving faith
To me He did impart;
Or how believing in His word
Wrought peace within my heart.

But I know whom I have believed.....

I know not how the Spirit moves,
Convincing men of sin;
Revealing Jesus through the word,
Creating faith in Him.

But I know whom I have believed.....

I know not what of good or ill
May be reserved for me,
Of weary ways or golden days
Before His face I see.

But I know whom I have believed.....

I know not when my Lord may come;
I know not how or where,
If I shall pass the vale of death,
Or "meet Him in the air".

*But I know whom I have believed,
And am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed
Unto Him against that day.*

With thanks to John and Mairi Bowlerwell, Dunfermline East Church. Words by D.W. Whittle (1840-1901)

THE BLESSING

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all, now and forever.

Amen.

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**Next week: Joint Church of Scotland (KIP) service,
continuing our series on “Holy Habits” .
Led by Rev Graham Astles, Penicuik North Church,
the theme is “Serving” .**