

Sunday 7th March 2021



One of a series of joint services
for the Church of Scotland
congregations in the town,
on the theme of



This morning's service is another in our series of joint services for the Church of Scotland congregations in the town: today we focus on the holy habit of Prayer. This act of worship has been prepared to allow us all to spend some time with God, knowing that others are sharing in it. We thank all involved in creating and distributing the service, and we 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, you'll find it here <https://youtu.be/P2EXwv4pTXE>

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. NB The phone recording of the sermon is an abridged version – the full sermon is available on YouTube.

WELCOME and INTRODUCTION: Rev Peter Wood (PS&H)

OPENING WORDS: Isobel Alford (PS&H)

OPENING SONG: Dear Lord and Father of mankind

Watch this at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WqOnjmr9Ah0>

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
reclothe 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!

With that deep hush subduing all
Our words and works that drown
The tender whisper of thy call,
As noiseless let thy blessing fall
As fell thy manna down.

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!

OPENING PRAYER: Agnes Ovenstone (StM)

Heavenly Father,

We ask your blessing on our time of worship here today. We thank you for all who are gathered to watch or listen. We pray that you will speak to them through the scriptures and that our worship will still be meaningful even though we are scattered. We know we will be brought together by your Holy Spirit.

While we struggle with the frustration of lockdown and are not able to visit family and friends or gather together in our church building we pray that we will feel your presence and share in that fellowship which binds us together with your son Jesus.

We can see before us a horizon of hope in the numbers receiving the vaccine for Covid. We pray that you will fill our hearts with peace and joy as we hold onto the hope that we will reach the end of this long hard road, a road which we know you will walk with us. We pray that you will sustain and support us, and that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen

REFLECTIONS: PRAYER Part 1 (Rev Peter Wood)

READINGS

Reader: Margaret Carr (PS&H)

Job 30. 20-31

- ²⁰ "I cry out to you, God, but you do not answer; I stand up, but you merely look at me.
²¹ You turn on me ruthlessly; with the might of your hand you attack me.
²² You snatch me up and drive me before the wind; you toss me about in the storm.
²³ I know you will bring me down to death, to the place appointed for all the living.
²⁴ "Surely no one lays a hand on a broken man when he cries for help in his distress.
²⁵ Have I not wept for those in trouble? Has not my soul grieved for the poor?
²⁶ Yet when I hoped for good, evil came; when I looked for light, then came darkness.
²⁷ The churning inside me never stops; days of suffering confront me.
²⁸ I go about blackened, but not by the sun; I stand up in the assembly and cry for help.
²⁹ I have become a brother of jackals, a companion of owls.
³⁰ My skin grows black and peels; my body burns with fever.
³¹ My lyre is tuned to mourning, and my pipe to the sound of wailing.

Matthew 7.7-11

- ⁷ "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.
⁹ "Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? ¹¹ If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

SONG: O God, you search me and you know me

Watch this at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4ScBPE9v_I

O God, you search me, and you know me
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze
When I walk or lie down, you are before me
Ever the maker and keeper of my days

You know my resting and my rising
You discern my purpose from afar
And with love everlasting, you besiege me
In ev'ry moment of life or death, you are

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord
You have known its meaning through and through
You are with me beyond my understanding
God of my present, my past and future, too

Although your Spirit is upon me
Still I search for shelter from your light
There is nowhere on Earth I can escape you
Even the darkness is radiant in your sight

For you created me and shaped me
Gave me life within my mother's womb
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you
Safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

*Words & Music by Bernadette Farrell © 1992, Bernadette Farrell.
Published by OCP Publications*

REFLECTIONS: PRAYER Part 2

SONG: O Lord, hear my prayer

Watch this at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JVldY8ECJyg>

O Lord, hear my prayer.
O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer.
O Lord, hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.

Jacques Berthier © 1982, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent.

A PRAYER FOR THE DAY : Eunice Astles (PNK)

from the Renew wellbeing community

LORD'S PRAYER (Collective Group Video)

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.**

TRY PRAYING STORY: Angela's Story

Watch this at <https://vimeo.com/499675106>

CLOSING SONG: May the grace of Jesus Christ

Watch a video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INPoOfjFJ5s>

May the grace of Jesus Christ
and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Spirit
be with us.

The Lord bless us and keep us,
his face shine upon us,
his grace and his peace rest on us.

CCL# 7088236© Mark Bradford / Resound Worship.

Administered by Jubilate Hymns Ltd - copyrightmanager@jubilatehymns.co.uk

CLOSING WORDS: Today & tomorrow

Isobel Alford (PSH)

BLESSING

Rev Peter Wood (PSAH)

All hymns/songs used on this sheet used by permission: CCL Licence No 974355
Scottish Charity No SC005838

The following congregations were involved in this service:

- PNK: Penicuik North
- PSH: Penicuik South with Howgate
- StM: Penicuik St Mungo's

Next KIP service: Sunday May 2nd