

Sunday 7th November 2021



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



This act of worship has been prepared to allow us all to spend some time with God, knowing that others are sharing in it. This morning we focus on signs and wonders.

We thank all 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, <https://youtu.be/GJIVTGZBIZ0>

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.

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

SONG for COP 26: Rise up

Watch video <https://youtu.be/fsHB8PmW2qI>

We gotta rise up and bring hope to the nations.

Gotta rise up together as one.

Right now the world is waiting

Act now there's no escaping

Now is the time to change the future

Rise up and care- for the world- in its need.

Hear the cry, creation is groaning

It's longing for freedom to come.

Earth and sky- and our deep sorrow-

Waiting for hope in a new day begun.

Oceans of justice and rivers of fairness

Do the right thing and blessing will come.

God of love -have mercy on us-

Show us the way - Let justice be done.

*We gotta rise up and bring hope to the nations.
Gotta rise up together as one.
Right now the world is waiting
Act now there's no escaping
Now is the time to change the future
Rise up and care- for the world- in its need.*

See the weak the poor and the weary
Sad and crushed by profit and loss
Skies are black and land is burning
Rivers are roaring and storms show their power
Burning hot sun and floating ice melting
The cry of our children is laid on the line
Something's wrong- and needs to be right-
We need your help- while there is yet time.

We gotta rise up and bring hope to the nations....

Act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God.

Act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God.

We gotta rise up and bring hope to the nations....

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WELCOME and INTRODUCTION

Peter Wood, PSH

OPENING RESPONSES

Led by David and Janis Hogg, PStM

God of the past,
God of our memories,

We are here to thank you.

God of the future,
God of our dreaming,

We are here to trust.

God of the present,
God of our salvation,

We are here to praise you.

You put songs in our hearts
And nourish our souls.

We are here to worship you Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

HYMN: HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Watch video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zzM9P_Gqw-s

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed trinity!

Reginald Heber 1826; John B. Dykes 1861

PRAYER

Isobel Alford (PSKH)

Father God,

Thank you that we can gather here this morning.

We are grateful for all the blessings you give us:

our health, our freedom to come and worship without fear of punishment,
for the sacrifice of your son Jesus who died for us.

In this time of quietness and stillness, let us think about how we know you, God:

-who is Jesus to us?

-when did we experience the power of the Holy Spirit?

Still our hearts, Lord.

Help us to notice what you are saying to us in this moment.

Father, we know we are imperfect.

We don't always respond the way you want us to.

We may choose to ignore what's important to you

And we are sorry...

In our frailty show us your mercy and forgiveness.

Help us trust in Jesus to strengthen and guide us.

Father God,

We seek your face.

Allow space in each of us to recognise the physical and spiritual gifts you've given us.

Help us to be bold in asking you to reveal what they are –
and how we use them here and now in this place for the benefit of your kingdom.
Help us strengthen bonds of friendship and acts of kindness to one another.
Build us up, Father, to become your servants here in Penicuik.
Show us how to connect with people who don't yet know you
–who don't yet experience your love, mercy and forgiveness.
Help us; show us how to live in a way that blesses others.
Help us God to hear our calling.
Lord in your mercy.
Hear our prayer. **Amen**

HYMN: CHRIST BE BESIDE ME

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

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
Christ be above me, never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, light of my heart.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me,
Christ be on all tongues telling of me.
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,
In ears that hear me Christ ever be.

James Quinn, adapt. from St. Patrick's Breastplate, 8th cent.

VIDEOS: MAKING NEW FRIENDS

PNK Young Church

HYMN: THIS IS AMAZING GRACE

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

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness?
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger?
The King of glory, the King above all kings.
Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder?
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?
The King of glory, the King above all kings.

*This is amazing grace,
this is unfailing love,
That You would take my place,
That You would bear my cross.*

*You laid down Your life, that I would be set free
Oh, Jesus, I sing for
All that You've done for me.*

Who brings our chaos back into order?
Who makes the orphans a son and daughter?
The King of glory, the King of glory
Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of glory, the King above all kings.

This is amazing grace....

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave.
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy, worthy, worthy.

This is amazing grace.....

*this is unfailing love,
That You would take my place,
That You would bear my cross.
You laid down Your life, that I would be set free
Oh, Jesus, I sing for
All that You've done for me.
All that You've done for me.*

*Jeremy Riddle, Josh Farro and Phil Wickham ©2012 Phil Wickham Music, Seems Like Music,
Sing My Songs, WB Music Corp, Bethel Music Publishing CCLI Song #6333821*

BIBLE READINGS

Chris Black (PNK)

Psalm 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you!

The earth has yielded its increase;

God, our God, shall bless us.

God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!

Mark 4.1-9 & 13-20

Again he began to teach beside the sea. And a very large crowd gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat in it on the sea, and the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. And he was teaching them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: "Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it. Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and immediately it sprang up, since it had no depth of soil. And when the sun rose, it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away. Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. And other seeds fell into good soil and produced grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold." And he said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

And he said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables? The sower sows the word. And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy. And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold."

English Standard Version. ESV® Text Edition: 2016. © 2001 by [Crossway Bibles/Good News Publishers](#).

REFLECTIONS

Peter Wood

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

'A New Creed';

Used widely by the Uniting church of Canada (1968; rev. 1980, 1995).

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

Sheila Anderson, Glencorse

Dear Father,

Thank you that you delight in us and that you listen to and answer prayer.
We lift to you the community of Penicuik. We pray for those people who express their faith through action by serving in the local charity shops, the Storehouse, Penicuik Community Development Trust, and Arts Association. Lord, give them the opportunities to speak about the reason for their faith, and the wisdom to know what to say and when to say it. As the nations' leaders discuss climate change in Glasgow at COP26, we pray that Penicuik Carbon Challenge has an impact in Penicuik so that we can in our small way contribute to keeping the world temperature within 1.5 degrees of warming. We pray for continued blessing on Nick Bowry as he inspires the local community to get involved in his vision to "Let Penicuik Flourish".

You trust us to follow Jesus' instruction to make disciples, despite our many failings. Lord, thank you for the ACORN model that each of us can use to pray for your people. Touch our hearts to ask you each morning who you would like us to reach that day and to respond to your call. Help the Christians in Penicuik to be bold about their faith. In a moment of silence listen to see if God is putting a name on your heart now

.....

Lord, we pray for this time of change within the church. Change is difficult for those of us who get attached to our buildings and traditions. Help us to remember that You who remains unchanging and ever faithful is in every new way of being church. We pray particularly this morning for the congregation of Glencorse as they meet about the dissolution of the church. I pray that each member of the congregation find another church where they feel they belong and that the ultimate outcome is that you,

O Lord, are glorified. Through prayer you lead us to new opportunities for mission, and we thank you for all the Try Praying initiatives and prayer groups there are in Penicuik. We ask that you expand their vision that you show us clearly where you are working and allow us to join in.

In the current climate when there is an increased awareness that people need to engage with nature we thank you for the gentle start of the local Forest Church. We pray that those of us who attend church already can be led to invite the people You would like to see there and that those who engage, even those who come out of nosiness meet You in a way they had never before imagined.

We pray for Renew 26. Thank you for bringing forward hosts, community partners and a venue in the Glencorse Centre that allows a safe space where it is OK not to be OK, particularly for people whose mental health is fragile. We pray for the new treasurer, steering group and Chaplain and pray that they are blessed in their roles. We also raise to you the growing number of attendees. We pray that they will become regulars, that others will join them and that through the activities and prayer space they will become closer to being OK.

We lift to you the foodbanks in Penicuik at Penicuik North Kirk, Sacred Heart and Food Fact Friends. Lord, we are sorry that these are now essential for so many people and pray for a time when they are not necessary. In the meantime, though, we ask that you give strength, wisdom and good humour to those who serve there. We particularly raise to you Mark Wells of FFF who along with his son have contracted Covid. We ask you to bring them back to health with no lasting ill effects. Let them know they are resting under the shadow of Your wing.

We pray for the involvement of the churches, particularly Penicuik North Kirk, with Midlothian Council in the MidAid initiative. Father, thank you for the gifts already given for the Afghan refugees who have been brought to our community. We pray that as the families begin to settle in the area that they can find a welcome and employment. Teach them to take any fear, anger or other heightened emotions to you and those who can give practical support. Most of all, Father, help them to forgive in order that they can live without bitterness.

As Christmas approaches, we give thanks that the churches in Penicuik are involved in event planning and the opportunities to present Jesus birth to those who live in EH26. Give those involved in these events inspiration, creativity and humility and those who view the presentations a heart to listen.

We can't pray for everything that is needed for our neighbours both near and far in one morning service, so, Father, for the next moment listen to the cries of our hearts for the world.....

We offer all these prayers to you, spoken and unspoken, in Jesus' name.

Amen

HYMN: Hear the call of the kingdom

Watch video: <https://youtu.be/5OdlpJZVs0A>

Hear the call of the kingdom, lift your eyes to the King,
let His song rise within you as a fragrant offering,
of how God, rich in mercy, came in Christ to redeem
all who trust in His unfailing grace.

Hear the call of the Kingdom to be children of light,
with the mercy of heaven, the humility of Christ.
Walking justly before Him, loving all that is right,
that the life of Christ may shine through us.

*King of Heaven, we will answer the call.
We will follow, bringing hope to the world,
filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim
salvation in Jesus' name.*

Hear the call of the Kingdom to reach out to the lost,
with the Father's compassion in the wonder of the cross,
bringing peace and forgiveness, and a hope yet to come;
let the nations put their trust in Him.

*King of Heaven, we will answer the call.
We will follow, bringing hope to the world,
filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim
salvation in Jesus' name.*

*King of Heaven, we will answer the call.
We will follow, bringing hope to the world,
filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim
salvation in Jesus' name...
salvation in Jesus' name...
salvation in Jesus' name!*

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Led by the All Souls Music team, arr. Michael Andrews © 2021 Langham Arts Trust*

CLOSING RESPONSES

David and Janis Hogg

From what we know
To what we have yet to discover,

God is calling us on

From all that binds us
To the truth which frees us,

God is calling us on.

From self-containment and religiosity
To self-giving and service,

God is calling us on

From the blessings of today
To the possibilities of tomorrow,
God is calling us on.

BLESSING

Peter Wood

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The following congregations were involved in this service:

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

Next Sunday in St Mungo's:

Remembrance Service

Note earlier start time: 10.45am



Next KIP service: Sunday 5th December

Holy Habits Finale