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Holy Trinity Church

Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG

Scottish Charity: SC016471

Open
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Rector: The Revd Canon Christoph Wutscher · Tel: 01786 359821 · rector@holytrinitystirling.org

Sunday 5th February 2023 — 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist
EPIPHANY 5

Celebrant: The Rector
Readings: Sue Stirling-Aird
Sidespeople: Sandy & David Goss

PREPARATION

Organ Prelude C Hubert H Parry: Prelude on Martyrdom

Opening Hymn (*please stand*)

1 Thou, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

2 Thou, who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
now to all humankind
let there be light.

3 Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

4 Holy and blessèd Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the world, far and wide
let there be light.

John Marriott *alt.*

Opening

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

God is love and we are God's children, there is no room for fear in love.
We love because God loved us first. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith. *Silence*

God our Father, we confess to you
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry.
Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil.
For the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

God, who is both power and love, forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by the Holy Spirit and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria (*please stand*)

1 Glory in the highest to the God of heaven!
Peace to all your people through the earth be given:
mighty God and Father, thanks and praise we bring,
singing alleluias to our heavenly King.

2 Jesus Christ is risen, God the Father's Son:
with the Holy Spirit, you are Lord alone!
Lamb once killed for sinners, all our guilt to bear,
show us now your mercy, now receive our prayer.

3 Christ the world's true Saviour, high and holy one,
seated now and reigning from your Father's throne:
Lord and God, we praise you; highest heaven adores:
in the Father's glory, all the praise be yours!

Christopher Idle
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Collect

O Lord, watch over your household with constant love: that, supported by you alone, we may always stand firm in your protection; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 58.1-9*a* (*please sit*)

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. [2] Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. [3] 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?' Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. [4] Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. [5] Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down

the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?
6 Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the
oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? 7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the
homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your
own kin? 8 Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your
vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard. 9 Then you shall call, and
the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

Gradual Hymn

1 There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.

2 There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgement given.

3 For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.

4 But we make God's love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify his strictness
with a zeal God will not own.

5 There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrow of the Head.

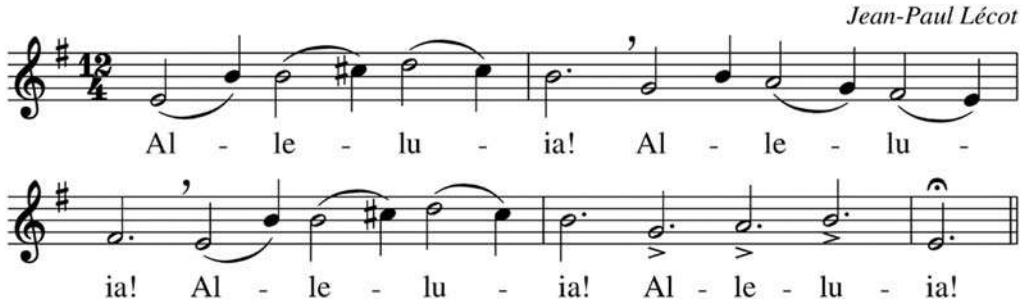
6 There is grace enough for thousands
of new words as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that upper home of bliss.

7 If our love were but more simple,
we should rest upon God's word,
and our lives would be all gladness
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

F W Faber

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2.1-12 (*please sit*)

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words
or wisdom. 2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 3 And I came to
you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. 4 My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible
words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 so that your faith might rest not on
human wisdom but on the power of God. 6 Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a
wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. 7 But we speak God's wisdom, secret
and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. 8 None of the rulers of this age understood this;
for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But, as it is written, 'What no eye has seen,
nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him'—10 these
things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of
God. 11 For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no
one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received not the spirit of the
world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

Gospel Acclamation (*please stand*)

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Gospel: Matthew 5.13-20 (*please stand*)

When it is announced: Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Jesus said, 'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. [14] 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. [15] No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. [16] In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. [17] 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. [18] For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. [19] Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. [20] For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Give thanks to the Lord for this glorious Gospel. Praise to Christ our Lord.

Sermon: Ian Boa

Nicene Creed (*please stand*)

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one substance with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father.

With the Father and the Son, he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Intercessions led by David Brown (*please sit or kneel*)

The Peace (*please stand*)
We meet in Christ's name. Let us share his peace.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Offertory Hymn (*please stand*)

1 Morning has broken,
like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken,
like the first bird.
Praise for the singing!
Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing
fresh from the Word!

2 Sweet the rain's new fall
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall
on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness
where his feet pass.

3 Mine is the sunlight!
Mine is the morning
born of the one light
Eden saw play!
Praise with elation,
praise every morning,
God's re-creation
of the new day!

Eleanor Farjeon
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Offertory Prayer (*please stand*)

Let us present our offerings to the Lord. Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own we give you.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker, in every place and at all times. All power is yours. You created the heavens and established the earth; you sustain in being all that is. In Christ your Son our life and yours are brought together in a wonderful exchange. He made his home among us that we might for ever dwell in you. Through your Holy Spirit, you call us to new birth in a creation restored by love. As children of your redeeming purpose we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. *(please sit)*

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father, for the gift of your Son born in human flesh. He is the Word existing beyond time, both source and final purpose, bringing to wholeness all that is made. Obedient to your will he died upon the Cross. By your power you raised him from the dead. He broke the bonds of evil and set your people free to be his Body in the world. On the night when he was given up to death, knowing that his hour had come, having loved his own, he loved them to the end. At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you." After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by the Spirit's life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptised into
the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters
living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The living bread is broken for the life of the world. **Lord, unite us in this sign.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Do not bring us to the time of trial but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Agnus Dei *see separate music sheet*

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, Redeemer of the world: give us your peace.

Communion *is administered in both kinds at the bottom of the chancel steps. Hand sanitiser is provided. It is perfectly acceptable to only receive the bread, should you so wish. Please do not intinct (dip the bread into the wine) as this is not considered to be a hygienic practice.*

(In the following song, the words "those who" are each sung to two notes.)

1 The love of God comes close
where stands an open door
to let the stranger in,
to mingle rich and poor:
the love of God is here to stay,
embracing thöse whö walk his way.

2 The peace of God comes close
to those caught in the storm,
forgoing loves of ease
to ease the lives forlorn:
the peace of God is here to stay,
embracing thöse whö walk his way.

3 The joy of God comes close
where faith encounters fears,
where heights and depths of life
are found through smiles and tears:
the joy of God is here to stay,
embracing thöse whö walk his way.

4 The grace of God comes close
to those whose grace is spent,
when hearts are tired or sore
and hope is bruised or bent:
the grace of God is here to stay,
embracing thöse whö walk his way.

5 The Son of God comes close
where people praise his name,
where bread and wine are blest
and shared, as when he came:
the Son of God is here to stay,
embracing thöse whö walk God's way.

John Bell & Graham Maule
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THANKSGIVING AND SENDING OUT

Post Communion Prayer

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Final Hymn (*please stand*)

1 God of freedom, God of justice,
God whose love is strong as death,
God who saw the dark of prison,
God who knew the price of faith:
touch our world of sad oppression
with Your Spirit's healing breath.

2 Rid the earth of torture's terror,
You whose hands were nailed to wood;
hear the cries of pain and protest,
you who shed the tears and blood;
move in us the power of pity,
restless for the common good.

3 Make in us a captive conscience
quick to hear, to act, to plead;
make us truly sisters, brothers,
of whatever race or creed:
teach us to be fully human,
open to each other's need.

Shirley Erena Murray
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The Blessing & Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Organ Postlude Johann Sebastian Bach (attrib.): Prelude and Fugue in G BWV 557

NOTICES

Monday 6th February
10 – 11.30 a.m. **HT Tots Café**

Thursday 9th February
11 a.m. **Holy Communion**

Sunday 12th February
EPIPHANY 6
10.30 a.m. **Sung Eucharist**

Readings
Deuteronomy 30.15-20; 1 Corinthians 3.1-9;
Matthew 5.21-37

Lent Groups 2023

This year, we'll offer an Adult Confirmation Course for our Lent Groups, as we meet to discuss Christian basics and peculiarities of the Scottish Episcopal Church. Whether you've been confirmed or not, this will hopefully be a good opportunity to discuss and re-visit the foundations of our faith and share in fellowship with others at HT. Two groups will run in parallel for five weeks during Lent on Wednesday mornings at 10.30 a.m. and Thursday evenings at 8 p.m.

Bishop Ian will be with us at HT on Sunday 21st May for a service of Confirmation. Should you have not been confirmed yet and wish to be included, please speak to the Rector or a member of the ministry team.