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Holy Trinity Church

Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG

Scottish Charity: SC016471

Open
inclusive
inspiring
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deep

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

Sunday 12th March 2023 — 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist
LENT 3 (Sea Sunday)

Celebrant: The Rector
Readings: Tony Mitchell
Sidespeople: Ann Lees & Libby Coats

PREPARATION

Organ Prelude Johann Sebastian Bach: Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier BWV 731

Opening Hymn (*please stand*)

1 From ashes to the living font
your Church must journey, Lord,
baptised in grace, in grace renewed,
by your most holy word.

2 Through fasting, prayer, and charity,
your voice speaks deep within,
returning us to ways of truth
and turning us from sin.

3 From desert to the mountaintop
in Christ our way we see,
so, tempered by temptation's might,
we might transfigured be.

4 For thirsting hearts let waters flow,
our fainting souls revive;
and at the well your waters give –
our everlasting life.

5 From ashes to the living font
your Church must journey still;
through cross and tomb to Easter joy,
in Spirit-fire fulfilled.

Alan J Hommerding
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Opening

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

Collect for Purity

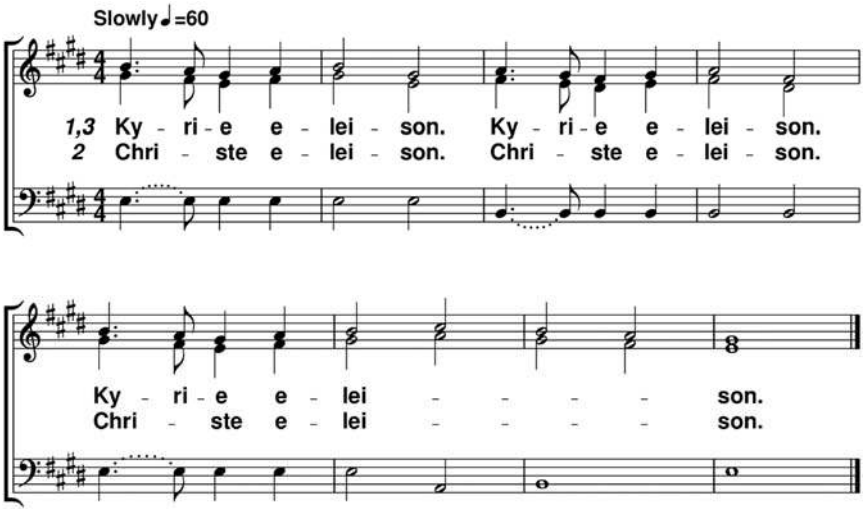
Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this:
"Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind and with all your strength."
The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself."
There is no other commandment greater than these.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Kyrie (*please stand*)



Collect

Merciful Father, we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: when we are discouraged by our weakness, give us strength to follow Christ, our pattern and our hope; 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: Exodus 17.1-7 (*please sit*)

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as
the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. 2 The people
quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me?
Why do you test the LORD?' 3 But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against
Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' 4 So
Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone
me.' 5 The LORD said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take
in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. 6 I will be standing there in front of you on the
rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in
the sight of the elders of Israel. 7 He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled
and tested the LORD, saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

Psalm 95 (*please join in saying the text in **bold**, pausing shortly at the *asterisk*)

Refrain: Hear God's voice, **harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come before the presence of the Lord with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to God with psalms.

For you, O Lord, are a great God, *
and a great sovereign above all gods.

In your hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are yours also.

The sea is yours, for you made it, *
and your hands have moulded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For you are our God, and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand. *
Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

"Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.

They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.

Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *
'This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways.'

So I swore in my wrath, *
'They shall not enter into my rest.'"

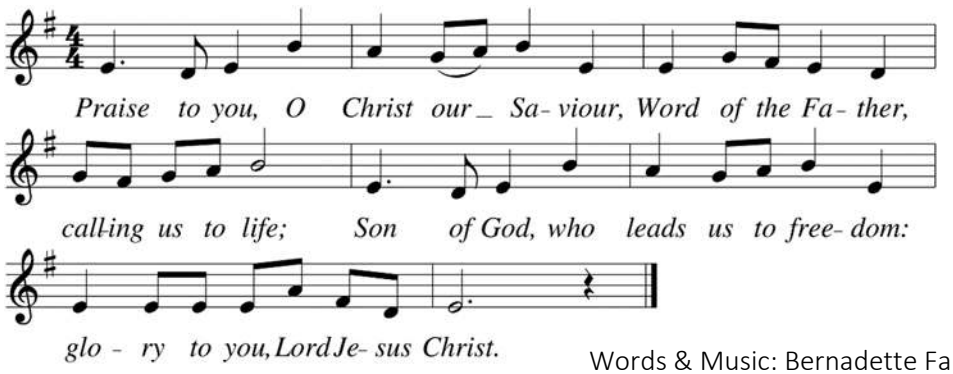
Refrain: Hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: Romans 5.1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, [2] through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. [3] And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, [4] and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, [5] and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. [6] For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. [7] Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. [8] But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. [9] Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. [10] For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. [11] But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Gospel Acclamation

(*please stand*)



Words & Music: Bernadette Farrell
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Gospel: John 4.5-26 (*please stand*) *When it is announced:* Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son
Joseph. [6] Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.
[7] A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. [8] (His disciples had gone
to the city to buy food.) [9] The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a
woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) [10] Jesus answered her, 'If you
knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he
would have given you living water.' [11] The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep.
Where do you get that living water? [12] Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and
with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' [13] Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be
thirsty again, [14] but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I
will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' [15] The woman said to him, 'Sir, give
me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.' [16] Jesus said to her,
'Go, call your husband, and come back.' [17] The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her,
'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; [18] for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is
not your husband. What you have said is true!' [19] The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a
prophet. [20] Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must
worship is in Jerusalem.' [21] Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship
the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. [22] You worship what you do not know; we worship what
we know, for salvation is from the Jews. [23] But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers
will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. [24] God is spirit,
and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' [25] The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah
is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' [26] Jesus said to her, 'I am
he, the one who is speaking to you.' [27] Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking
with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' [28] Then the woman
left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, [29] 'Come and see a man who told me
everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' [30] They left the city and were on their way
to him. [31] Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' [32] But he said to them, 'I have food
to eat that you do not know about.' [33] So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him
something to eat?' [34] Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his
work. [35] Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and
see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. [36] The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for
eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. [37] For here the saying holds true, "One sows and
another reaps." [38] I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have
entered into their labour.' [39] Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's
testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' [40] So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him
to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. [41] And many more believed because of his word. [42] They
said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves,
and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

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

Sermon: David Graham-Service, Chair & Treasurer Mission to Seafarers Scotland

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 Nick Morris (*please sit or kneel*)

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.**

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 Word of God, renew your people,
make us now your living sign.
Recreate us for your purpose
in this place and in this time.

2 Word of hope and Word of healing,
make us now your living sign.
Recreate us for your purpose
in this place and in this time.

3 Word of peace and Word of justice,
make us now your living sign.
Recreate us for your purpose
in this place and in this time.

4 To the waters lead your people,
make us now your living sign.
Recreate us for your purpose
in this place and in this time.

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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, maker of light and darkness. Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos, brings a harvest out of sorrow and leads the exiles home. In Christ your Son enemies are reconciled, debts forgiven and strangers made welcome. Your Spirit frees us to live as sons and daughters in our Father's house. We who by Christ's power follow the way of the Cross, sharing the joy of his obedience, now 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 Christ in whom the world is reconciled. Lifted on the Cross, his suffering and forgiveness spanned the gulf our sins had made. Through that dark struggle death was swallowed up in victory, that life and light might reign. Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night of Israel's release, the night in which the sons of Egypt died, your Chosen One, himself the First-Born, freely offered his life. 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.**

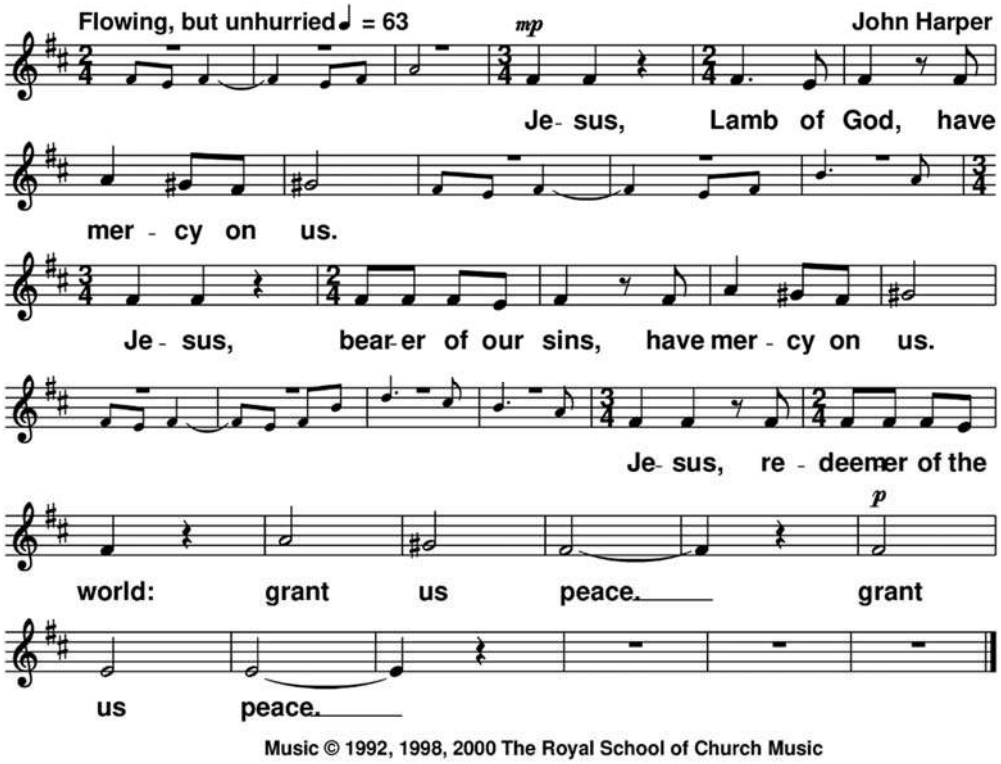
The Breaking of the Bread

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



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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. The communicant may respond with ***Amen*** *when receiving the bread and wine.*

Jacques Berthier Les Presses de Taizé OneLicense # A-632863

1 As water to the thirsty,
as beauty to the eyes,
as strength that follows weakness,
as truth instead of lies,
as songtime and springtime
and summertime to be,
so is my Lord, my living Lord
so is my Lord to me.

2 Like calm in place of clamour,
like peace that follows pain,
like meeting after parting,
like sunshine after rain,
like moonlight and starlight
and sunlight on the sea,
so is my Lord, my living Lord
so is my Lord to me.

3 As sleep that follows fever,
as gold instead of grey,
as freedom after bondage,
as sunshine to the day,
as home to the traveller
and all we long to see,
so is my Lord, my living Lord
so is my Lord to me.

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THANKSGIVING AND SENDING OUT

Post Communion Prayer

Loving God, your steadfast purpose is the completion of all things in your Son. May we who have received the pledges of the kingdom, live by faith, walk in hope and be renewed in love, until the world reflects your glory and you are all in all; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Final Hymn (*please stand*)

1 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of Heaven, Bread of Heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer, strong deliverer
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs and praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

William Williams

Blessing & Dismissal

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

Organ Postlude Friedrich Wilhelm Marpurg: Was Gott thut, das ist wohlgethan