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Holy Trinity Church

Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG

Issue 8
June 2023

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The Rector's Letter

Dear all,

The editor has tasked us to share sounds we love for inclusion in this edition of the HT magazine. This exercise made me reflect on the sound of worship as experienced at Holy Trinity, for our worship is full of sound: most obviously, perhaps, there is music and the spoken word. But there are also other sounds which contribute to our worship experience. The rustling of paper, the sound of the light switch at the lectern, the voices and feet of children (if we are so lucky to have some in attendance), the sound of a congregation rising from their seats and many more sounds contribute to our worship experience at HT. Additionally, the building itself has a voice by virtue of its acoustics, thus joining in and reverberating our worship.

But the sound I am most aware of is what the Bible calls 'a sound of sheer silence'. Silence in worship isn't just the absence of sound (in fact, it might not be completely silent): silence in worship is shaped by word and music as we pause to hear God speak more clearly in the stillness of our hearts.

I do enjoy this sound of silence at HT: as we collectively pause to listen more intently to what God may be speaking into our hearts at that moment in time and in our lives.

Here is the biblical blueprint for this specific sound, as Elijah travels to Mount Horeb to meet God:

The angel said to Elijah: 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at

the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' (1 Kings 19.11-13)

How do we hear that sound of sheer silence? And what will we do with it?

Yours in Christ,

Christoph

Our Services

Sundays

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am Sung Eucharist

Thursdays

11.00am Holy Communion

At present Sunday School (HTKidZ) meets according to demand.

Contact Gen Pont for further information: gandapont@yahoo.co.uk

HT Youth Fellowship meets monthly on Saturday evenings. Contact

Sarah and Alistair Shaw for information: shaws1@talktalk.net

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Getting to Know...

We are, as some of you know already, a pair of Anglo-Scottish 50-somethings who emigrated to Scotland around 1990 to help plant a church. We met in Glasgow when said church was still new and vibrant. (Sadly, it's now a business; our experiences there and elsewhere are captured in Nick's book *Rogue leaders, rogue church*, which is now an international worst-seller.)

Like quite a few other Holy Trinitarians, we've been in a wide range of Christian settings on our journey here. But Nick's spiritual journey began, some 40 years ago, in an Anglican church in Sutton Coldfield, so between us we share some Anglican heritage. (This, by the way, is why you'll occasionally hear a voice near the front adding "...and the Son" during the Creed. That's how I learned it! We are NOT, by the way, trying to re-ignite the Great Schism...)



We started coming along to Holy Trinity around two years ago. We were rather burned out with "church" as we had grown used to it. Quite simply we wanted to go somewhere where the Bread and Wine, and not the sermon, were the focal point. We've grown to love the steady rhythms of

Nick and Lesley Bulbeck

liturgical gatherings; and, perhaps more importantly, we've appreciated getting to know some of you along the way. We love having folk round to dinner, by the way... just saying...

We have two grown-up children, and we love rock-climbing and the outdoors. And having folk round to dinner.

Thank you to Nick and Lesley this month and to Pam Allam in May for featuring in this article. Please get in touch with any of the editorial team if you would like to take part.



Ian Boa will be ordained deacon by Bishop Ian at a service at Holy Trinity on **Sunday 25th June at 6 p.m.** All are welcome at the service as we support Ian at this pivotal moment.

Articles for the July/August double edition are requested on or before

June 11th

The magazine will be available on

June 25th

Stained Glass Visitors

Holy Trinity is renowned for both the quantity and quality of its stained glass, all of which was created by top-grade artists and manufacturers from the mid-19th until the mid-20th century.

In the past month, several very important visitors have come specifically to look at our stained glass. Firstly, on Saturday 22 April, Lizzie Chittleboro and her husband Mark came to visit. They were no ordinary visitors – Lizzie is the grand-daughter of John Charles Norman Bewsey (1881-1940) who designed and supplied the window in our Memorial Chapel. The church magazine of December 1920 reveals that Bewsey had recently visited the church, before starting work on the window. He would presumably have wanted to assess the light conditions and surroundings of the window's location. The August 1921 edition reports that a member of the Memorial Chapel Committee had visited Bewsey's studio in London and found the window to be complete, stating that it 'made us feel sure that the window will give great satisfaction.'

The Memorial Chapel was dedicated in November 1921 and the magazine of that month stated "The window, in accordance with our Architect's advice, was entrusted to Mr J. C. Bewsey of London. It consists of three single figures beneath tall canopies - St Michael in the centre, triumphant over the dragon, the symbol of the victory of good over evil; St George on his right, bearing his banner; and St Victor of Marseilles on his left, representing the victory over death. On a scroll are the words, "Vicisti beate Victor, Vicisti" - "Victor, thou hast conquered", the words which legend says were uttered by angels at his death. Both St George and St Victor are wearing the red robe of martyrdom and on their shields are blazoned the traditional coat of armour assigned to them by the heralds of the middle ages. Above, in the canopy over St Michael, are introduced tiny figures of the Blessed Mother and her Holy Child. No War Memorial window would be complete without a representation of womanhood and motherhood. Under the main figures are the shields of Scotland, St George and the Diocese of Edinburgh. The clear

Stained Glass Visitors

primary colours are most beautiful. We have not seen stained glass which admitted so much light and that is a particular advantage in this chapel.' The July 1922 edition reported that the window cost £477 3s 6d.

Lizzie and Mark thoroughly enjoyed their visit to our church and took a great interest in all of our other stained glass windows.



Lizzie admires her grandfather's work in the Memorial Chapel

On Saturday 29 April, we were visited by Peter Burman and Ross Burgess. Peter is a distinguished academic and author, who was due to give a talk on the art and architecture of Holy Trinity at the Scottish Federation of Organists Conference held within Holy Trinity on Friday 5 May. During his visit, he was able to gather much useful material, which he put to excellent use in the talk that he gave. In it, he firstly established his own academic credentials, then proceeded to place Holy Trinity in its proper context within British ecclesiastical art and architecture. He provided a holistic interpretation of the building with all its artistic elements coming together in one coherent whole, making clear that Holy Trinity can hold its own in relation to other classic churches and deserves to be better known.

David and I greatly enjoyed welcoming our visitors and showing them round the church. It is very gratifying when we receive knowledgeable visitors who are struck by the sheer quality of our lovely church. *Sheila Brown*

Ian Boa's thoughts prior to his Ordination

How often have you been sitting in a pew in Holy Trinity and something that is said rings so true that you must respond to it? That happened to me last September. I was minding my own business when suddenly I felt compelled to investigate whether I would be able to transfer my Minister status from the United Free Church to the SEC. That was the beginning of a very interesting journey back through my past. The discernment process, that was started by my enquiry, led me to relook at events that happened to me 30 years ago. We were attending Calder Church in Lochwinnoch and there was to be a large outdoor youth event in the local park.

I, overenthusiastically, volunteered to lead the concluding act of worship in front of 200 happy but tired children. It was based on Mark 2, the healing of the paralysed man who was lowered through the roof. We had great fun getting kids to enact it. I was responsible for summarising the day considering the passage.

That short 10 minutes changed my life, not because I thought I would be able to preach and teach God's word (nothing could have been further from my mind) but because those around about me thought that way. It was my church friends who saw something in me which I could not. They saw the possibility and they told me. That was the kernel of my calling into the Ministry. A recognition of others that was gently expressed.

To my mind, that's why our sense of community is so important to us all. Those small interactions, quiet words, kind acts add up and will be used by God to deepen our collective faith and individual faith. Don't be scared to mention and to listen, that could be God prompting you to new ways or it could be that you have good supportive friends who care for you. *Ian Boa*



Everything I need to know... I learned from Noah's Ark

1. Don't miss the boat.
2. Remember that we are all in the same boat.
3. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
4. Stay fit. When you're very old Someone may ask you to do something really big.
5. Don't listen to critics. Just get on with the job needing to be done.
6. Build your future on high ground.
7. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
8. Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
9. When you're stressed, float awhile.
10. No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.
- 11.

Miscellaneous observations on life

I burn about 2000 calories every time I put on fitted sheets by myself.

It's weird, being the same age as old people.

One who boasts of being a self-made person relieves the Lord of a lot of responsibility.

Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.

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Favourite Sounds

Many thanks to those who have sent in their favourite sounds. They are so evocative.

The next edition will be the summer double edition and it would be good to develop the sounds theme to include other senses. Please send in examples of sights, sounds, smells and tastes that come to mind when you reflect on Summer. **Submissions by 11th June please**

Here are this month's favourite sounds:

My favourite sound is the bow wave of a yacht cleaving the water in a good breeze. I would lie on the foredeck and listen to that as often as I could; music to my ears!

Tony Mitchell



When I stayed at my aunt's house on holiday in Newton-on-Ayr back in the 1960s the clinking of the railway trucks made a lovely noise. Also the clinking of masts in harbours.

Sheila Brown

At last some sunny days have come and we can sit in our garden, often eat and drink there. Two pigeons bill and coo on top of our swing. Often I hear the children who are being fostered nearby outside in the garden. Knowing how hard the road they have had to travel to be fostered, I love to hear their voices as they play. Very occasionally a child cries, maybe on the first day there, but not for long. They have a little tent and all sorts of imaginative things to do.

Liza Green

Favourite Sounds

The sound of a horse eating hay in his stable at night reminds me of many happy years helping the children with their ponies.



I like the sound of welly boots
squelching in the mud !

The sound of a water flowing quickly over stone reminds me of walks beside the River Allan

The sound of a Labrador`s tail thumping on the floor reminds me of a much loved dog I inherited called Ruskie

The sound of waves breaking on the sand reminds me of childhood holidays on the south Cornish coast.

The sound of geese flying overhead

Goodness, there are so many sounds to
enjoy ! *Sue Stirling Aird*



Prayer Diary June

Thu 01 Justin of Rome, Martyr c165, that we hold true to our faith

Fri 02 for the people of Sudan

Sat 03 Charles Lwanga and his companions, 1886, Janani Luwum, Bishop, 1977, Martyrs of Uganda, for those who are victims of violence
<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/glossary/martyrs-of-uganda/>

Sun 04 Trinity Sunday

Mon 05 Boniface of Mainz, Bishop, Missionary and Martyr, 754, that we build the Church <https://catholicmagazine.news/st-boniface-of-mainz-father-of-the-german-people/>

Tue 06 for all who work in the Emergency Services

Wed 07 for the work of Startup Stirling

Thu 08 Corpus Christi, <https://arundelcathedral.uk/corpus-christi>

Fri 09 Columba of Iona, Abbot, 597, that we may speak truth to power
<http://saintsresource.com/columba-of-iona>

Sat 10 for refugees everywhere

Sun 11 Pentecost 2

Mon 12 Barnabas, Apostle, that we encourage others
<https://www.bibleinfo.com/en/questions/barnabas>

Tue 13 for all who feel lost and frightened

Wed 14 Basil of Caesarea, 379; Gregory of Nazianzus, c 390; Gregory of Nyssa, 394, Bishops and Teachers of the Faith, and pray for Bishop Ian
<https://allthehousehold.com/ss-basil-the-great-gregory-of-nazianzus-and-gregory-of-nyssa/>

Thu 15 for members of the Church who suffered under the Penal Laws of the eighteenth century, for all suffering religious persecution

Prayer Diary June

Fri 16 for the work of Strathcarron Hospice

Sat 17 for the work of Christian Aid

Sun 18 Pentecost 3

Mon 19 for all affected by addiction

Tue 20 Fillan, Abbot, c750, for all affected by mental illness

<https://saintoftheday.com/st-fillan/>

Wed 21 for all who work in Social Services

Thu 22 Alban, Martyr, c209, that we have courage to do extraordinary things. <https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/the-story-of-alban>

Fri 23 for all who question their faith

Sat 24 The Birth of John the Baptist, that we have courage to speak of faith

<https://bible-history.com/new-testament/the-birth-of-john-the-baptist>

Sun 25 Pentecost 4, for the Ordination of Ian Boa

Mon 26 Robert Leighton, Bishop, 1684, for our friends at St Mary Dunblane

Tue 27 Alexander Jolly, Bishop, 1838, for liturgists everywhere. <http://anglicanhistory.org/scotland/ajolly/>

Wed 28 Irenaeus of Lyons, Bishop and Teacher of the Faith, 202, that we seek Christian Unity.

Thu 29 Peter, Apostle (or Peter and Paul, Apostles), that we value love and friendship. <http://justus.anglican.org/resources/bio/195.html>

Fri 30 for the Stirling Street Pastors

Services June 2023

Thursday 1st	11am	Holy Communion
Sunday 4th	8.30am	Holy Communion
TRINITY SUNDAY	10.30am	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	Genesis 1.1-2.4a; 2 Corinthians 13.11-13 Matthew 28.16-20
Thursday 8th	11am	Holy Communion
Sunday 11th	8.30am	Holy Communion
PENTECOST 2	10.30am	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	Hosea 5.15-6.6; Romans 4.13-25; Matthew 9.9-13,18-26
Thursday 15th	11am	Holy Communion
Sunday 18th	8.30am	Holy Communion
PENTECOST 3	10.30am	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	Exodus 19.2-8a; Romans 5.1-8; Matthew 9.35-10.8
Thursday 23rd	11am	Holy Communion

Services June 2023

Sunday 25th	8.30am	Holy Communion
PENTECOST 4	10.30am	Sung Eucharist
	Readings	Jeremiah 20-7-13; Romans 6.1b-11; Matthew 10.24-39
	6 pm	Ordination Service
Thursday 29th	11am	Holy Communion
Peter & Paul, Apostles		

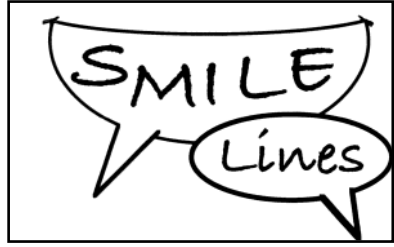
Rotas

	Readings	Intercessions
4th June	G Young	I Boa
11th June	C Johnston	A Pont
18th June	I Boa	D Brown
25th June	T Mitchell	V Nellist

Sidesduty

4th June J Foster and A Lees
11th June H Kemp and F MacLeod
18th June J and N Morris
25th June B and C Watson

Church bulletin notices that didn't quite work...



~ The Revd John Adams spoke briefly, much to the delight of his audience.

~ The students will present Shakespeare's 'Hamlet' in the church on Friday at 7pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

~ A new loudspeaker system has been installed in the church. It was given by one of our members in memory of his wife.

~ The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church.

~ The audience is asked to remain seated until the end of the recession.

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Organisations Meeting in the Church Hall

Mondays

10-12noon HTTots Gen Pont: gandapont@yahoo.co.uk

4.00-5.30pm Destination Judo: info@destinationjudo.com

6.15-7.45pm Mindbodysoul Yoga: grant@mindbodysoulyoga.co.uk

Tuesdays

10-12noon Pilates: judithgraham090@gmail.com

6.30-8pm Lishi Self Defence: damien@lishi.org

Wednesdays

9.15-10.15 Pilates Mini Ball Class: Jackie.govan@live.com

11.30-3pm Tea Dance (last Wednesday in the month):
stirling4community@gmail.com

5-7pm Dance: francescahamill@icloud.com

7-9pm SABOS: sabosmusicaltheatre@gmail.com

Thursdays

11-2pm Stirling Community Lunch: stirling4community@gmail.com

4-7pm Dance: kimmybruce@hotmail.com

7pm Stirling4 Community Choir

Fridays

10-12 noon Art Group: stirling4community@gmail.com

2-5pm University of the Third Age (monthly):
membership@fvu3a.org.uk

Saturdays

9-10am Babyballet: lpattison@hotmail.co.uk

The church hall is available for further lettings. If you would like to rent the hall please contact Sarah Shaw on 07970466551

or shaws1@talktalk.net