www.holytrinitystirling.org

Holy Trinity Church

Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG

Scottish Charity: SC016471

Open
inclusive
inspiring
friendly
deep

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

Sunday 27th July 2025
PENTECOST 7 — 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Celebrant:

Readings: Sarah Shaw or Jan Foster

Sidespeople: Carol Kendall and Sandy Goss

PREPARATION

Organ Prelude

Opening Hymn

stand

1 Jesus calls us here to meet him
as, through word and song and prayer,
we affirm God's promised presence
where his people live and care.
Praise the God who keeps his promise;
praise the Son who calls us friends;
praise the Spirit who, among us,
to our hopes and fears attends.

2 Jesus calls us to confess him
Word of Life and Lord of All,
sharer of our flesh and frailness
saving all who fail or fall.
Tell his holy human story;
tell his tales that all may hear;
tell the world that Christ in glory
came to earth to meet us here.

3 Jesus calls us to each other:
vastly different though we are;
race and colour, class and gender
neither limit nor debar.
Join the hand of friend and stranger;
join the hands of age and youth;
join the faithful and the doubter
in their common search for truth.

4 Jesus calls us to his table
rooted firm in time and space,
where the church in earth and heaven
finds a common meeting place.
Share the bread and wine, his body;
share the love of which we sing;
share the feast for saints and sinners
hosted by our Lord and King.

John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (1958-2019)

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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

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 Alleluia 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!

Words: Christopher Idle
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Collect

O God, whose providence orders all things in heaven and earth: keep from us everything harmful, and lead us to all that is good; 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: Genesis 18.20-32

sit

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre [20]and said, 'How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! [21]I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know.' [22]So the men turned from there, and went towards Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. [23]Then Abraham came near and said, 'Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? [24]Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? [25]Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?' [26]And the Lord said, 'If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.' [27]Abraham answered, 'Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. [28]Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?' And he said, 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.' [29]Again he spoke to him, 'Suppose forty are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of forty I will not do it.' [30]Then he said, 'Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.' He answered, 'I will not do it, if I find thirty there.' [31]He said, 'Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.' [32]Then he said, 'Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.'

Gradual Hymn

1 With grateful heart my thanks I bring,
before the great your praise I sing;
I worship in your holy place
and praise you for your truth and grace;
for truth and grace together shine
in your most holy Word divine,
in your most holy Word divine.

2 I cried to you, and you did save;
your Word of grace new courage gave;
the kings of earth shall thank you, Lord,
for they have heard your wondrous Word;
yes, they shall come with songs of praise,
for great and glorious are your ways,
for great and glorious are your ways.

3 O Lord, enthroned in glory bright,
you reign above in heav'nly height;
the proud in vain your favour seek
but you have mercy for the meek;
through trouble though my pathway be,
you will revive and strengthen me,
you will revive and strengthen me.

4 You will stretch forth your mighty arm
to save me when my foes alarm;
the work you have for me begun
shall by your grace be fully done;
your mercy shall forever be;
O Lord, my Maker, think on me,
O Lord, my Maker think on me.

Psalms of Grace (based on Psalm 138)

Second Reading: Colossians 2.6-15

Brothers and sisters, [6]as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, [7]rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. [8]See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. [9]For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, [10]and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. [11]In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; [12]when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. [13]And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision

of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, [14]erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. [15]He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

Gospel Acclamation

stand

We repeat after the cantor:

Norah Duncan IV
Wild Goose Publications
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Gospel: Luke 11.1-13

When it is announced: **Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

[1]Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' [2]He said to them, 'When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. [3]Give us each day our daily bread. [4]And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.' [5]And he said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; [6]for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him." [7]And he answers from within, "Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything." [8]I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. [9]'So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. [10]For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. [11]Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? [12]Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? [13]If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

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

Sermon:

Nicene Creed

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 Mary Kenyon *sit or kneel*

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

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Offertory Hymn

1 Father, hear the prayer we offer:
not for ease that prayer shall be,
but for strength that we may ever
live our lives courageously.

2 Not forever in green pastures
do we ask our way to be;
but the steep and rugged pathway
may we tread rejoicingly.

3 Not forever by still waters
would we idly rest and stay;
but would smite the living fountains
from the rocks along our way.

4 Be our strength in hours of weakness,
in our wanderings be our guide;
through endeavour, failure, danger,
Father, be thou at our side.

Love Maria Willis (1824-1908)

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. *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

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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.

Communion Hymn

1 Lord of all power, I give you my will,
in joyful obedience your tasks to fulfil.
Your bondage is freedom,
your service is song,
and, held in your keeping,
my weakness is strong.

2 Lord of all wisdom, I give you my mind,
rich truth that surpasses
our knowledge to find.
What eye has not seen
and what ear has not heard
is taught by your Spirit
and shines from your word.

3 Lord of all bounty, I give you my heart;
I praise and adore you for all you impart:
your love to inspire me,
your counsel to guide,
your presence to cheer me,
whatever betide.

4 Lord of all being, I give you my all;
if e'er I disown you
I stumble and fall;
but, sworn in glad service
your word to obey,
I walk in your freedom
to the end of the way.

Jack C. Winslow (1882-1974)
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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

stand

1 Thy kingdom come! On bended knee
the passing ages pray;
and faithful souls have yearned to see
on earth that kingdom's day.

2 But the slow watches of the night
not less to God belong;
and for the everlasting right
the silent stars are strong.

3 And lo, already on the hills
the flags of dawn appear;
gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,
proclaim the day is near:

4 The day in whose clear-shining light
all wrong shall stand revealed,
when justice shall be throned in might,
and every hurt be healed;

5 When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,
shall walk the earth abroad:
the day of perfect righteousness,
the promised day of God.

F. L. Hosmer (1840-1929)

The Blessing & Dismissal

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

Tea and Coffee

After the 10.30 a.m. service, all are welcome, especially visitors, for tea, coffee and biscuits in the church.

Organ Postlude John Stanley: Gavot (Concerto no 3)

NEXT WEEK

Monday 28th July
1.30 pm **Gardening Group**

Wednesday 30th July
11 a.m. **Church open until 3 pm**

Thursday 31st July
11 a.m. **Holy Communion**

Saturday 2nd August
11 a.m. **Church open until 3 pm**

Sunday 3rd August
PENTECOST 8
8.30 a.m. **Holy Communion**
10.30 a.m. **Sung Eucharist**

Readings
Ecclesiastes 1.2,12-14,2.18-23; Colossians 3.1-11; Luke 12.13-21

Church Open: Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11am till 3pm. **Please see Jane Morris if you can help.**

Gardening Group: Meeting at 1.30 pm every Monday afternoon.

Conservation Repair Work: The work by Cornerstone Traditional Masonry Ltd really is nearly finished. The mobile access platform and the site cabin have gone. Still to do is some tidying up, including removing all the rubbish and installing the new cover for the manhole around the back of the church at the corner of the hall. (It has a yellow temporary cover with limited load bearing capacity, sufficient for a car, but care should be taken if driving around there.) There is also a repair to be made to a step at the back of the church and the front door to be repainted.

Church Hall Work: Work on the hall floor has begun and hall equipment is being temporarily stored in the church. The hall toilets continue to be available for use. Teas and coffees after the Sunday service will be served in the church. There will be vehicles connected with the work parking by the hall entrance during working hours.