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Holy Trinity Church

Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG

Scottish Charity: SC016471

Open
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deep

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

Sunday 23rd August 2026 — 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

PENTECOST 13

Celebrant: The Revd Canon Val Nellist

Readings: David Brown

Sidespeople: Robert Nellist and Cate Watson

PREPARATION

Organ Prelude: Johann Sebastian Bach: O Mensch, bewein' dein Sünde groß BWV 622

Opening Hymn

stand

1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the Head and corner-stone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the church in one,
Holy Sion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

2 All that dedicated city,
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody,
God the One in Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.

3 Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three, and ever One,
consubstantial, co-eternal,
while unending ages run.

Latin, before 9th century .
tr. J M Neale 1818-1866 .

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 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 M Idle *b*. 1938 CCLI License # 237731.

Collect

Almighty and eternal God, by your generous love you grant to those who pray more than is desired or deserved: pour down your mercy upon us, forgiving what our conscience fears, and granting what we dare not ask; 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 51.1-6

sit

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were
hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. 2Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore
you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. 3For the LORD will comfort
Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden

of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. [4]Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. [5]I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. [6]Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Gradual Hymn

1 With grateful heart my thanks I bring;
before the "gods" 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.

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.

3 O Lord, enthroned in glory bright,
you reign alone in heavenly 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.

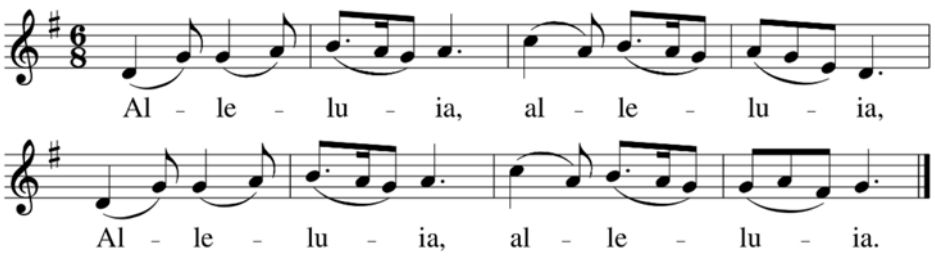
4 You will stretch forth your mighty arm
to save me when my foes alarm.
The work you have for me begun
shall by your grace be fully done.
Your love for ever will endure:
your mercy, Lord, is ever sure.

William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

Second Reading: Romans 12.1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. [2]Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. [3]For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. [4]For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, [5]so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. [6]We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; [7]ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; [8]the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Gospel Acclamation

stand

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Gospel: Matthew 16.13-20 *When it is announced:* Glory to Christ our Saviour.

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' [14]And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' [15]He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' [16]Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' [17]And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. [18]And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. [19]I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' [20]Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

Sermon: The Rector *sit*

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;
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and 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 Tony Mitchell *sit*

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

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Offertory Hymn

stand

1 Upon the rock of Peter stands the Church
though Peter's faith once faltered on the sand
when boastful Peter trusted in himself
and found that on himself he could not stand.

2 Once fallen, Peter found the love of Christ
far stronger a foundation than he knew
and rose to build his faith upon the Rock
that does not fail but stands forever true.

3 Upon the rock of Peter stands the Church,
but Peter stands upon the Rock of Christ,
whose faithful strength sustains the universe
upon the enduring cross of sacrifice.

Genevieve Glen

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Offertory Prayer

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 his 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.

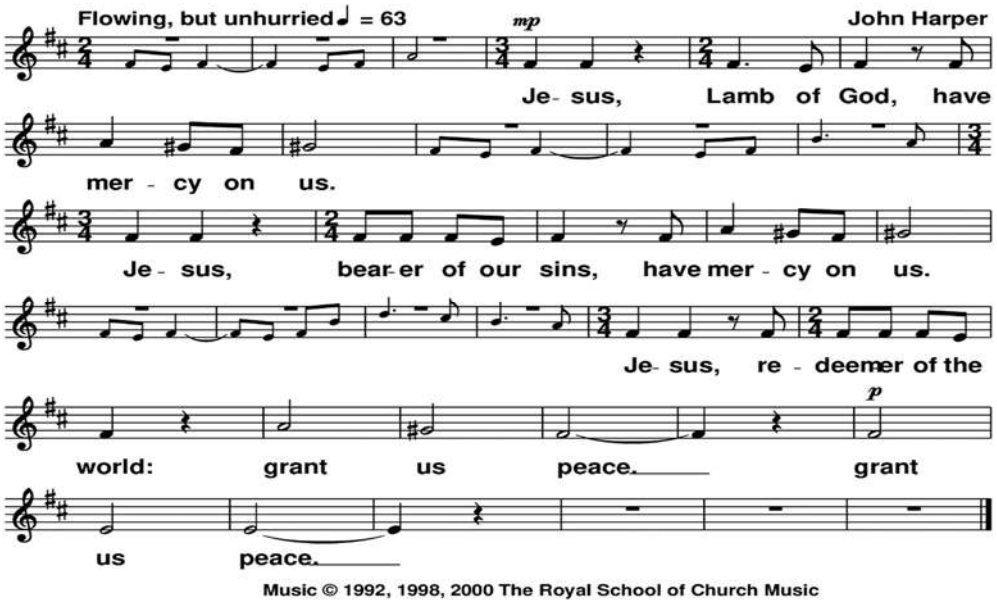
The Breaking of the Bread

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 There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy One.

Thank you, O my Father,
for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit
till the work on earth is done.

2 Jesus my Redeemer,
Name above all names,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
O for sinners slain:

3 When I stand in glory
I will see his face,
and there I'll serve my King for ever
in that holy place.

Keith Green 1953-1982
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THANKSGIVING AND SENDING OUT

Give thanks to our gracious God: whose mercy endures for ever.

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 Thou art the Christ, O Lord,
the Son of God most high:
for ever be adored
that name in earth and sky,
in which, though mortal strength may fail,
the saints of God at last prevail.

2 O surely he was blest
with blessedness unpriced,
who, taught of God, confessed
the Godhead in the Christ;
for of thy Church, Lord, thou didst own
thy saint a true foundation-stone.

3 Thrice fallen, thrice restored,
the bitter lesson learnt,
that heart for thee, O Lord,
with triple ardour burnt.
The cross he took he laid not down
until he grasped the martyr's crown.

4 O Bright triumphant faith,
O courage void of fears,
O love most strong in death,
O penitential tears!
By these, Lord, keep us lest we fall,
and make us go where thou shalt call.

W Walsham How 1823-1897

The Blessing & Dismissal

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

Organ Postlude Nicolas Gigault: Prélude du Premier Ton

NEXT WEEK

Today 23rd August
3 p.m. **Charity concert for Start-up Stirling:** The Glenbervie Duo: *Celtic Combinations*

Monday 24th August
10 – 11.30 a.m. **HT Tots Café**

Thursday 27th August
11 a.m. **Holy Communion**
11.30 a.m. and 7 p.m. **HT Groups:** Teresa of Avila

Sunday 30th August

Pentecost 14	**Readings**
10.30 a.m. **Sung Eucharist**	Jeremiah 15.15-21; Romans 12.9-21; Matthew 16.21-28

6.30 p.m. **Stirling Pride Service** at Holy Trinity