www.holytrinitystirling.org

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 16th July 2023
PENTECOST 7

8.30 a.m. Holy Communion
10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Celebrant: The Rector
Readings: Mary Kenyon
Sidespeople: Libby Coats & Ann Lees

Offerings at Holy Trinity – No Collection is taken during services. If you wish to make an Offering, please use one of the baskets at the back of the Church before or after the service. Gift Aid donation envelopes and a Card Reader for debit or credit cards are also both available. Contributions go towards the Ministry and running costs or to any special collections announced. All are gratefully received. Registered Scottish Charity SC016471.

PREPARATION

Organ Prelude

Opening Hymn (*please stand*)

1 Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

2 O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round,
the while my path illuming.

3 Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness mine inner clothing:
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings
weeps with loathing.

4 And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till Love create a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Bianco Da Siena tr. R. F. Littledale alt.

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 Kilcreggan Mass (*see separate music sheet*) (*please stand*)

Glory to God, to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Glory to God, to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Glory to God, to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us, you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer, receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, of God the Father. Amen, Amen.

Collect

O God, you have prepared for those who love you good things no eye has seen: pour into our hearts such love of you, that, by loving you in all things and above all things, we may be worthy of your promises, which surpass all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

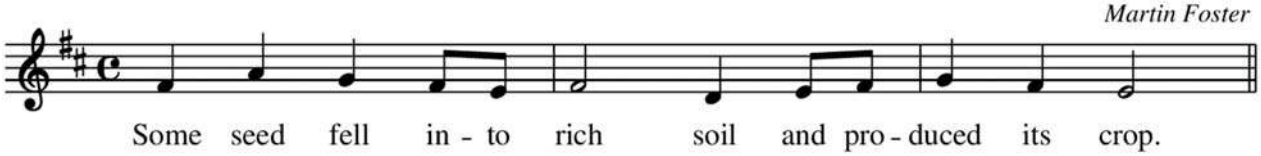
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 55.10-13 (*please sit*)

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the
earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, [11] so shall my word
be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. [12] For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the
mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
[13] Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be
to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Gradual Psalm (Psalm 65.9-13)

The verses are sung by a cantor. Please join in singing the refrain:



1 You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

Music: Martin Foster,
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2 You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges,
softening it with showers and blessing its growth.

3 You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

4 The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
the hills gird themselves with joy,
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
the valleys deck themselves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy.

Second Reading: Romans 8.1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. [2] For the law of the Spirit of life in
Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. [3] For God has done what the law, weakened by
the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he
condemned sin in the flesh, [4] so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not
according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. [5] For those who live according to the flesh set their minds
on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the
Spirit. [6] To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. [7] For this
reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it
cannot, [8] and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. [9] But you are not in the flesh; you are in the
Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to
him. [10] But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of
righteousness. [11] If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from
the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Gospel Acclamation
(*please stand*)

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Gospel: Matthew 13.1-9,18-23 (*please stand*)
When it is announced: Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. [2] Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into
a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. [3] And he told them many things in parables,
saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. [4] And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came
and ate them up. [5] Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up
quickly, since they had no depth of soil. [6] But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no
root, they withered away. [7] Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. [8] Other
seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. [9] Let anyone with
ears listen!' [18] 'Hear then the parable of the sower. [19] When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does
not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on
the path. [20] As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately
receives it with joy; [21] yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or
persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. [22] As for what was sown among
thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word,
and it yields nothing. [23] But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and
understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another
thirty.'

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

Sermon: The Rector

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 Bob Piper (*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 Take this moment, sign and space;
take my friends around;
here among us make the place
where your love is found.

2 Take the time to call my name,
take the time to mend
who I am and what I've been,
all I've failed to tend.

3 Take the tiredness of my days,
take my past regret,
letting Your forgiveness touch
all I can't forget.

4 Take the little child in me,
scared of growing old;
help me here to find my worth
made in Christ's own mould.

5 Take my talents, take my skills,
take what's yet to be;
let my life be yours, and yet
let it still be me.

John Bell & Graham Maule
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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. The communicant may respond with ***Amen*** *when receiving the bread and wine.*

Communion Hymn

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

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 Go forth and tell! O Church of God, awake!
God's saving news to all the nations take:
proclaim Christ Jesus, Saviour, Lord and King,
that all the world his glorious praise may sing.

2 Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all,
he will in grace respond to all who call:
how shall they call if they have never heard
the gracious invitation of his word?

3 Go forth and tell! The doors are open wide:
share God's good gifts — let no one be denied;
live out your life as Christ your Lord shall choose,
your ransomed powers for his sole glory use.

4 Go forth and tell! O Church of God, arise!
Go in the strength which Christ your Lord supplies;
go till all nations his great name adore
and serve him, Lord and King for evermore.

James E. Seddon
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The Blessing & Dismissal

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

Organ Postlude

NEXT WEEK

Thursday 20th July
11 a.m. **Holy Communion**

Sunday 23rd July
PENTECOST 8
8.30 a.m. **Holy Communion**
10.30 a.m. **Sung Eucharist**

Readings
Isaiah 44.6-8; Romans 8.12-25;
Matthew 13.24-30,36-43