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# 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](mailto:rector@holytrinitystirling.org)

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

**PENTECOST 13**

**Celebrant:** The Rector

**Readings:** Sarah Shaw

**Sidespeople:** Barrie & Cate Watson

**8.30 a.m. Holy Communion**

**10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist**

*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** Percy W. Whitlock: Dolcezza (No.3 of Reflections)

**Opening Hymn** (*please stand*)

1 Lord, thy church on earth is seeking  
power and wisdom from above;  
teach us all the art of speaking  
with the accent of thy love.  
We will heed thy great commission:  
Go now into every place -  
preach, baptize, fulfil my mission,  
serve with love and share my grace.'

3 In the streets of every city  
where the bruised and lonely dwell,  
let us show the Saviour's pity,  
let us of his mercy tell;  
to all lands and peoples bringing  
all the richness of thy word,  
till the world, thy praises singing,  
hails thee Christ, Redeemer, Lord.

2 Freedom give to those in bondage,  
lift the burdens caused by sin.  
Give new hope, new strength and courage,  
grant release from fears within.  
Light for darkness; joy for sorrow;  
love for hatred; peace for strife:  
these and countless blessings follow  
as the Spirit gives new life.

Hugh Sherlock

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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** 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 make known your almighty power in your merciful compassion: increase your mercy towards us; that we, being eager for your promises, may inherit the treasures of heaven; 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 (*please 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. <sup>2</sup> Look 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. <sup>3</sup> For 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. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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 Psalm (Psalm 67)

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



Your love, O Lord, is e - ter - nal, dis - card not the work of your hands.

1 I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,  
you have heard the words of my mouth.  
In the presence of the angels I will bless you.  
I will adore before your holy temple.

2 I thank you for your faithfulness and love  
which excel all we ever knew of you.  
On the day I called, you answered;  
you increased the strength of my soul.

3 The Lord is high yet looks on the lowly  
and the haughty God knows from afar.  
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,  
discard not the work of your hands.

Words: The Grail  
Music: Bernard Sexton  
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## 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. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup> We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup> ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

## Gospel Acclamation (please stand)

Jean-Paul Lécot

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Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu -  
ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## Gospel: Matthew 16.13-20 (please stand)

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?' <sup>14</sup> And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' <sup>15</sup> He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' <sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> 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.' <sup>20</sup> 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 Revd Rebekah Sims

## 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 Ian Boa (*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 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.

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.

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.

Genevieve Glen  
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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 One is the body and one is the Head,  
one is the Spirit by whom we are led;  
one God and Father,  
one faith and one call for all.

2 Christ who ascended to heaven above  
is the same Jesus whose nature is love,  
who once descended  
to bring to this earth new birth.

3 Gifts have been given well-suited to each,  
some to be prophets, to pastor or preach,  
some, through the gospel,  
to challenge, convert and teach.

4 Called to his service are women and men  
so that his body might ever again  
witness through worship,  
through deed and through word  
to Christ our Lord.

John L. Bell (based on Ephesians 4.11-16) © Wild Goose Resource Group OneLicense # A-632863

## 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 There's a wideness in God's mercy  
like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in God's justice,  
which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows  
are more felt than up in heaven;  
there is no place where earth's failings  
have such kindly judgement given.

2 For the love of God is broader  
than the measures of the mind;  
and the heart of the Eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.  
But we make God's love too narrow  
by false limits of our own;  
and we magnify his strictness  
with a zeal God will not own.

3 There is plentiful redemption  
in the blood that has been shed;  
there is joy for all the members  
in the sorrow of the Head.  
There is grace enough for thousands  
of new words as great as this;  
there is room for fresh creations  
in that upper home of bliss.

*(to the second half of the tune:)*

4 If our love were but more simple,  
we should rest upon God's word,  
and our lives would be all gladness  
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

F W Faber

## The Blessing & Dismissal

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

**Organ Postlude** Edward Elgar: Introduction and Voluntary 8 (*Vesper Voluntaries*)

## NEXT WEEK

### Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August

10 – 11.30 a.m. HT Tots Café

Tots is looking for more volunteers to join the rota. The role isn't onerous: please speak to Gen Pont or Hannah Gray if you'd like to know what's involved.

### Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August

11 a.m. Holy Communion

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

PENTECOST 14

8.30 a.m. Holy Communion

10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

### Readings

Jeremiah 15.15-21; Romans 12.9-21;

Matthew 16.21-28

Young Adults Group restarts after the summer break on **Tuesday 5 September** from 7.30pm – 9.30pm in St Saviour's Church Hall, Fountain Road, Bridge of Allan. Who is this for? Anyone aged 18-40, Open to people of all faiths and none, in particular international students, who would like to meet new people and make lasting connections in the community in this welcoming and inclusive space. Led by Revd Joan Lyon, James Gardner, Revd Rebekah Sims – and others who might lead different sessions. Interested? Want to find out more? Email – [youngadultsgroup201@gmail.com](mailto:youngadultsgroup201@gmail.com) or just come along.