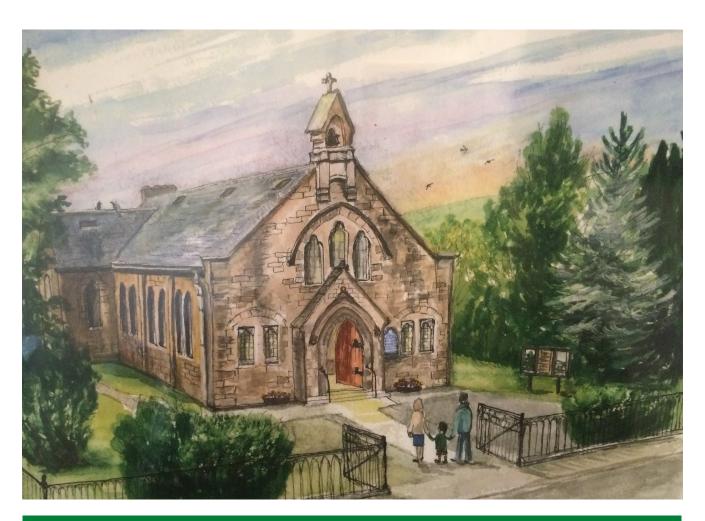
FERINTOSH PARISH CHURCH

WORSHIP AT HOME



www.ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk

Our good works do not generate righteousness, rather our righteousness in Christ generates good works. (Martin Luther)

HYMN

1 What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain:

O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow; no other fount I know; nothing but the blood of Jesus.

2 For my pardon this I see:
nothing but the blood of Jesus.
For my cleansing this my plea:
nothing but the blood of Jesus. [Refrain]

3 Nothing can for sin atone:
nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Naught of good that I have done:
nothing but the blood of Jesus. [Refrain]

4 This is all my hope and peace: nothing but the blood of Jesus. This is all my righteousness: nothing but the blood of Jesus. [Refrain]

PRAYER

Father, we pray that you would take your Word and that you would write it on our hearts and that you would teach us what it is to be righteous and faithful in this generation we serve and live in. We pray that your grace would be upon us today and we would look for you to be our deliverer and that we would delight in the preciousness that we have in your sight. We pray in Jesus' mighty name, Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING JOHN 19: 23 - 24 (NKJV)

23 Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece. 24 They said therefore among themselves, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be," that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says:

"They divided My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots."

Therefore the soldiers did these things.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

SERMON

"When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom" (v. 23).

To the crowd present at the crucifixion of Jesus, our Saviour certainly did not look like any king they had heard of. Sure, there was a placard reading "King of the Jews" affixed to the cross on which Jesus hung (John 19:19–22), but this was not a true proclamation of His royalty. Instead, it was the public announcement of the charge for which the Romans had Jesus crucified, for this was how Roman officials typically expressed to onlookers the reason for a person's crucifixion. Also, the bloodied and bruised body of Jesus, like that of other crucified men, would have been seen as evidence of our Lord's defeat, not proof that He was a conquering King.

And yet, anyone who truly understood what was going on would have seen Jesus' suffering as the demonstration of His destroying all His and our enemies. The Apostle Paul explains that at the cross, Jesus triumphed over rulers and authorities (Col. 2:15), and he says this because the crucifixion was not the end of the story.

Both earthly rulers—the Romans and the Jewish authorities—and spiritual authorities—Satan and His demons—threw everything they had at Jesus and, in fact, succeeded in killing Him. But while they might have won a "victory" of sorts, they ended up losing the war, as Jesus overcame death, rising again on the third day (John 20:1-10). Jesus conquered sin and death. Bearing and exhausting the penalty of sin, Jesus made it so that death could have no more dominion over Him (Rom. 6:9-10). He perfectly endured the wrath of God such that the debt of sin He bore was paid in full, and death has no rights over those who have fully paid sin's debt. United to Christ by faith alone, we are reckoned as having our debt of sin paid, so death cannot have final dominion over believers either, Hallelujah!

Additionally, Jesus' kingship is evident to those who pay close attention to the events described in today's passage. When the Romans crucified someone, the soldiers carrying out the execution typically had rights to his clothing. In the case of Jesus, the soldiers cast lots to determine how to divide our Lord's garments (John 19:23). John tells us that this act fulfilled prophecy, specifically Psalm 22:18 (John 19:24).

Psalm 22 was written by David, the greatest king of old covenant Israel. It was composed and first sung by the anointed ruler. That the words of Psalm 22 were true of Jesus as well—truer in even greater measure than they were of David—indicates that Christ, indeed, is King.

Jesus' loss of clothing was part of His work as the Suffering Servant-King to defeat sin and present us righteous before God. John Calvin writes, "Christ was stripped of his garments, that he might clothe us with righteousness ... his naked body was exposed to the insults of men, that we may appear in glory before the judgment-seat of God." We bow to Christ's rule and enjoy its benefits by repenting of sin and trusting Him alone for salvation.

HYMN

1 Jesus, Thou art my Righteousness, For all my sins were Thine: Thy death hath bought of God my peace, Thy life hath made Him mine.

2 Forever here my rest shall be, Close to Thy bleeding side; This all my hope, and all my plea: For me the Saviour died.

3 My dying Saviour and my God, fountain for guilt and sin. Sprinkle me ever with Thy Blood, And cleanse and keep me clean.

4 Jesus, my Strength, my Life, my Rest, On Thee will I depend, Till summoned to the marriage-feast, Where faith in sight shall end.

PRAYER

Father, we pray that you would please write your Word on our hearts that the joy of knowing the Lord Jesus, having a relationship with Him might so grip us that we would overcome some of our resentment or resistance, and embrace Him and find joy in knowing Him. We thank you so much that you are unchanging in your perfections, your glorious attributes, in the eternal counsel of your wonderful will, but also in the unchanging love of your Son toward us, who is the same yesterday, today and forever. Lord, remember each one of us and bless us in mercy for Jesus' sake. Amen.

BENEDICTION

And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all this day and forevermore, Amen.

WORSHIP

Sunday Church services are at 11am and 12.15pm (if required). Seating in the Church is limited to comply with current guidelines. To attend you must contact the Session Clerk, Martin McLauchlan, by Friday at 5pm prior to the service to book a place.

To book, either visit the church website, and complete and submit the online booking form at: ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk/booking or email the Session Clerk at SessionClerk@ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk and he will send you a link to the Booking Form for you to complete and submit. If you do not have access to the Internet, phone him on 01349 830303 and leave your name and phone number and he will get back to you as soon as he can to take your details.

The Sunday Zoom service is at 6.30pm. If you would like to join the Zoom-service, please contact the Session Clerk at SessionClerkeferintoshparishchurch.org.uk

Please continue to take care and stay safe.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Ladies Bible Study: The next Zoom meeting for this group will take place on Wednesday 5th May at 9.45am. We are continuing with the Letters of John and will look at 2 John which is entitled Be Alert. If you'd like to join with us please email jintys@btinternet.com to enable a link to be sent to you. We'd love to have you join us.

OTHE LEPROSY MISSION

Many thanks to everyone who donated money to the Leprosy Mission over the past year. A total of £150 has been forwarded to The Leprosy Mission Scotland.

The Leprosy Mission is asking for signatures on an online petition supporting the repeal of all laws which discriminate against people who have, have had or are affected by leprosy. In some countries, for example, a diagnosis of leprosy is still grounds for divorce. The petition can be accessed on The Leprosy Mission Scotland website.

You are also invited to join in a Global Day of Prayer relating to leprosy on Wednesday 12th May. Again, see the TLMScotland website.

HIGHLAND FOODBANK

The foodbank have an abundance of pasta, tinned soup and all kinds of tinned beans. However, they would appreciate donations of rice, long-life fruit juice, UHT milk, tinned potatoes, sugar, tins of ham/corned beef/mince/stew, oatcakes and crackers, tins of custard, small washing powder, toilet rolls and bags for life. There is a box for your donations inside the vestibule of the Church. Thank you.