

11TH JULY 2021

FERINTOSH PARISH CHURCH

WORSHIP AT HOME



www.ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk

"A Christian enters meditation as a man enters into a hospital that he may be healed. Meditation heals the soul of its deadness and earthliness." (Thomas Watson)

HYMN

I love to tell the story,
What Jesus is to me;
My heart is filled with glory,
Since through His grace I'm free.

Refrain:

*I'm drinking at the fountain,
My cup of joy o'erflows;
I live upon the mountain,
My heart no trouble knows.*

My life is full of sweetness,
My heart is full of rest;
I feel a blest completeness,
While leaning on His breast.

My life is blissful sunshine,
No clouds o'erhang my way;
All is a joyous springtime,
A bright and sunny day.

I live in blissful Eden,
Where flowers ever bloom;
In pastures green I'm feeding,
My life is free from gloom.

Some say there must be shadows,
Each one dark days must see;
But since I found the Saviour,
I've constant victory.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you that in your mercy you have given us your Word that we might know the Word made flesh, the Word of God the Father. We bow before your magnificent majesty. We acknowledge your authority over our lives. We wonder at your amazing grace. We delight in your demonstrated love for us in Christ. And we cast ourselves utterly on your mercy in Jesus' precious name. Amen.



SCRIPTURE READING 1 CHRONICLES 15: 25 - 16: 3

25 So David, the elders of Israel, and the captains over thousands went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord from the house of Obed-Edom with joy.

26 And so it was, when God helped the Levites who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord, that they offered seven bulls and seven rams.

27 David was clothed with a robe of fine linen, as were all the Levites who bore the ark, the singers, and Chenaniah the music master *with* the singers. David also wore a linen ephod.

28 Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the Lord with shouting and with the sound of the horn, with trumpets and with cymbals, making music with stringed instruments and harps.

29 And it happened, as the ark of the covenant of the Lord came to the City of David, that Michal, Saul's daughter, looked through a window and saw King David whirling and playing music; and she despised him in her heart.

6:1 So, they brought the ark of God, and set it in the midst of the tabernacle that David had erected for it. Then they offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before God.

2 And when David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord.

3 Then he distributed to everyone of Israel, both man and woman, to everyone a loaf of bread, a piece of *meat*, and a cake of raisins.

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

"All Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, to the sound of the horn, trumpets, and cymbals, and made loud music on harps and lyres" (15:28).

David's initial attempt to bring the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem stalled when God struck Uzzah dead for touching the ark. Fearing what the Lord might do to him and to others if they kept going with the ark, David had it taken to the house of Obed-edom (2 Sam. 6:1-10; 1 Chron. 13:1-13). But God blessed the house of Obed-edom while the ark was present, indicating that His curse was not inevitable in the presence of the ark (2 Sam. 6:11; 1 Chron. 13:14). This convinced David that he should move forward in bringing the ark into Jerusalem (2 Sam. 6:12).

In today's passage, we see that David learned an important lesson about following the Lord's regulations for worship. Having pitched a tent for the ark in Jerusalem, David told the people that only the Levites could transport the ark. The reason God's wrath broke out against Uzzah and Israel was because they did not follow the rule regarding the Levites and their appointed task of carrying the ark. Therefore, we see that the Levites returned to their sacred role of transporting the ark, the footstool of God, and the families of Levi enlisted to do this were the families that were chosen hundreds of years earlier in the days of Aaron and Moses (1 Chron. 15:1-13; see Num. 4). Notice also that the tent David built for the ark in Jerusalem was not the tabernacle. At this time, the tabernacle and ark were separated, with the tabernacle and altar located at Gibeon (see 1 Chron. 16:39-40).

This time, the Levites carried the ark properly, using the poles and putting it on their shoulders so that they would not actually touch the ark (1 Chron. 15:14-15; see Ex. 25:10-16). The ark then came into the city with great celebration. Musicians and singers from the Levites played instruments and praised God for His goodness in bringing His throne, symbolised by the ark as His footstool, into Jerusalem, where His representative king would reign over the people (1 Chron. 15:16-24).

David even helped lead in the worship, wearing the same kind of fine linen that the Levites wore and offering sacrifices as the ark moved toward its resting place (vv. 25-28; see 2 Sam. 6:16-17). Ordinarily, the king did not lead in worship in that manner, but this was a special occasion, and David was a special king. In his actions here, we have a type of the King to come who would be both Priest and King, the Lord Jesus Christ. His reign is one of eternal peace and celebration (John 15:11; Rev. 19:6-8).

Joy is an important aspect of our worship. While there is no one mandated way of expressing joy in Scripture, we do understand that our worship should include reverent joy as we think on our great salvation and praise the Lord for His goodness and glory. Let us make every effort to worship the Lord with great joy and ask Him to help us rejoice in His presence.

PSALM 96

O sing a new song to the Lord:
sing all the earth to God.
To God sing, bless his name, show still
his saving health abroad.

Among the heathen nations
his glory do declare;
And unto all the people show
his works that wondrous are.

For great's the Lord, and greatly he
is to be magnified;
Yea, worthy to be feared is he
above all gods beside.

For all the gods are idols dumb,
which blinded nations fear;
But our God is the Lord, by whom
the heav'ns created were.

Great honour is before his face,
and majesty divine;
Strength is within his holy place,
and there doth beauty shine.

PRAYER

*Gracious Lord, Your Name is love, in love receive our prayer. Look to the cross of Your beloved Son and view the preciousness of His atoning blood; Listen to His never-failing intercession, and speak to our hearts, 'your sins are forgiven, be of good cheer.' Give to us more and more to prize the privilege of prayer, to find pardon in Christ, to converse with You; to know You in prayer as the path in which our feet tread, the latch upon the door of our lips, the marrow of our understanding, the strength of our will, the power of our affection and the sweetness of our memory. May the matter of our prayer be always wise, humble, scriptural, Christ-like. Give Your people unwavering faith that our prayers are never in vain. You have given us the greatest gift, the person of Your Son, and in Him You will give us all we need.
(Prayer from 'A collection of puritan prayers')*

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 SessionClerk@ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk

Please continue to take care and stay safe.

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.

HIGHLAND FOODBANK

Your donations are still urgently required to help the most vulnerable in our local area. Donations can be placed in the container in the vestibule as you enter the Church.