

19TH DECEMBER 2021

# FERINTOSH PARISH CHURCH

WORSHIP AT HOME



[www.ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk)

*"If I am not today all that I hope to be, yet I see Jesus, and that assures me that I shall one day be like Him." (C. H. Spurgeon)*

## Christmas at Ferintosh Parish Church

- |                                    |                                 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> December   | - Watchnight Service at 11.30pm |
| Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> December | - Christmas Day Service at 11am |
| Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> December   | - Sunday Service at 11am        |
| Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January     | - Communion Service at 11am     |

*All Welcome*



# HYMN

*O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem  
Come and behold Him  
Born the King of Angels  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord!*

*God of God, Light of Light  
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb  
Very God  
Begotten, not created  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord!*

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God  
All glory in the highest  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord!*

*Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born that happy  
morning  
Jesus, to Thee be glory given  
Word of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord!*

# PRAYER

*Our heavenly Father, truly all blessings come from you. We thank you that in Jesus Christ you have filled us with blessings: the knowledge of the Lord, peace, the forgiveness of our sins, the transformation of our lives, a taste and indeed desire for the words that come to us from your mouth in the pages of Scripture. We thank you for the Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ who has opened our eyes to see our need of Him and His all-sufficiency to be our Saviour here and hereafter.*

*And we thank you for the way in which He has brought us to you so that we come to you as children to their heavenly Father. Lord, as you speak to us, make us conscious of how great your love for us is and so we look to you to lead us and to teach us from your word. We pray this in Jesus our Saviour's name. Amen.*

# 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.*

# SCRIPTURE READING

## HEBREWS 2: 5 - 9

5 For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels.  
6 But one testified in a certain place, saying:  
"What is man that You are mindful of him,  
Or the son of man that You take care of him?  
7 You have made him a little lower than the angels;  
You have crowned him with glory and honour,  
And set him over the works of Your hands.  
8 You have put all things in subjection under his feet." For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him.  
9 But we see Jesus, who was made [c]a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honour, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.

# SERMON

After pausing to give a practical application regarding the superiority of Christ to the angels – that we must not abandon the gospel (Heb. 2:1-4; see 1:1-14) – the author of Hebrews returns to the greatness of Jesus over the angels. He asserts that God has not subjected “the world to come” to the angels (2:5), and we are to conclude that He has subjected the world to come to Jesus. The world to come is the new heaven and earth, where God’s kingdom will be consummated, the presence of sin removed from creation, and the lordship of Christ made evident to all (Rev. 21).

The greatness of the world to come testifies to the greatness of its King, Jesus Christ. But Jesus became King of this new creation in a particular way. To explain how Jesus was crowned King, Hebrews 2:5-9 turns to Psalm 8, which celebrates the place of mankind in God’s creation. The psalm teaches that God made human beings a little lower – with lesser power and evident glory – than the angels but that the Lord nonetheless gave men and women dominion or rule over the earth (Ps. 8:4-6). This reminds us of the Lord’s original commission to humanity in Genesis 1:26-28. We know, of course, that Adam and Eve did not continue in their original state but fell into sin, with the consequence that mankind surrendered their place as ruler of this world to the devil (Gen. 3; John 14:30).

We failed our original commission, so what Psalm 8 says about humanity must be fulfilled in one who did not fail. What Psalm 8 says of mankind is even truer of Jesus, who was for a time made lower than the angels, so much lower that He actually suffered death (Heb. 2:5-9). Here we have a reference to the incarnation and work of Jesus. The Son of God, being God Himself, humbled Himself by taking on a human nature, adding to Himself that which is lower than the angels in power and evident glory without sacrificing His divine attributes.

But having completed the work of atonement, Jesus was raised from the dead and His humanity was glorified so that now our Saviour, in both His deity and humanity, enjoys a glory greater than that of the angels (see Phil. 2:5-11).

He became the God-man, the divine-human Mediator of salvation, perfect in glory and might. Some might have questioned Jesus’ superiority to the angels because of His humanity, but the author of Hebrews tells us that in taking on our humanity and succeeding where we failed, He has made redeemed humanity greater than the angels.

We can hardly imagine it, but there is a sense in which redeemed human beings are greater than the angels. We will, after all, “judge angels” (1 Cor. 6:3). We must therefore understand the dignity of redeemed human beings, creatures who will be more exalted than the angels.

## HYMN

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th' angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored:  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of the favoured one.  
Veil'd in flesh, the Godhead see;  
Hail, th'incarnate Deity:  
Pleased, as man, with men to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail! the heav'n born Prince of peace!  
Hail! the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die:  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"



# PRAYER

Heavenly Father, streams upon streams of love  
overflow our path,  
Thou hast made us out of nothing,  
Hast recalled us from the far country,  
Hast translated us from ignorance to knowledge,  
From darkness to light,  
From death to life,  
From folly to wisdom,  
From error to truth,  
From sin to victory.  
Thanks be to thee for the comfort of thy Word,  
For the ordinances of thy church,  
For the teaching of thy Spirit,  
For Christian fellowship.  
Our heaven-born faith gives promise to eternal  
sight,  
Our new birth a pledge of never-ending life.  
We draw near to thee, knowing thou wilt draw  
near to us.  
We bless and adore thee, the eternal God,  
For the comforts of these thoughts,  
The joys of these hopes,  
Have mercy on us, we pray in Jesus name, Amen.  
(Prayer from 'A collection of puritan prayers')

# 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.**

# LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Due to the further restrictions, the ladies did not meet for the last chapter of Galatians and have carried this over until the meetings resume in the New Year. During this period of study, monetary contributions towards the Foodbank have been received. Therefore an amount of £185 is being donated, most from weekly donations but also from generous extra ones. This is a remarkable sum which I know will be of such good use. Thank you all.

# WORSHIP

Sunday morning worship takes place at 11.00am in the church. We have reduced social distancing to 1 metre within the church and as a result have been able to increase the number of seats that are available, though there is still an upper limit. We would love to be able to welcome you to the service, so to guarantee a seat, please book with the Session Clerk, Martin McLauchlan, preferably by 5pm on the Friday prior to the service.

To book, either visit the church website, and complete and submit the online booking form at: [ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk/booking](http://ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk/booking) or email the Session Clerk at [SessionClerk@ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:SessionClerk@ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk)

Please continue to take care and stay safe.

# HIGHLAND FOODBANK

Christmas is not always a very happy time for some people especially if you are living from hand to mouth. Your donations are really needed to help the most vulnerable in the Highlands. As you shop, remember those who could use a helping hand this festive period. Thank you for your continuing generosity.

# GIFT DAY UPDATE

Our new updated total for Gift Day is £10,095.00. Very many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this magnificent sum.

# STAMP APPEAL

Please remember to retain your postage stamps for now and Janet Winchester will arrange to collect them in the new year or they can be given to her directly.