

6TH MARCH 2022

FERINTOSH PARISH CHURCH

WORSHIP AT HOME



www.ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk

"Adoption gives us the privilege of sons, regeneration the nature of sons" (Stephen Charnock)

HYMN

Christ, whose glo-ry fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the on-ly Light,
Sun of Righ-teous-ness, a-rise,
Tri-umph o'er the shades of night;
Day-spring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart ap-pear.

Dark and cheer-less is the morn
Un-ac-com-pa-nied by Thee;
Joy-less is the day's re-turn
Till Thy mer-cy's beams I see;
Till they in-ward light im-part,
Cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

Vis-it, then, this soul of mine;
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, Ra-dian-cy Di-vine;
Scat-ter all my un-be-lief;
More and more Thy-self dis-play,
Shin-ing to the per-fect day.

PRAYER

Gracious God and ever blessed Father, as we turn now to the Scriptures we ask for the blessing of the Holy Spirit to enlighten our minds and engage our affections and resolve our wills so that we might live for you in praise and adoration and we ask it in Jesus' 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

LUKE 10: 25 - 37

25 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

26 "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

27 He answered, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'"

28 "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

29 But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?"

30 In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead.

31 A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side.

32 So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

33 But a Samaritan, as he travelled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.

34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him.

35 The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

36 "Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

37 The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

SERMON



In the tenth chapter of Luke we are told of a certain lawyer who “put Jesus to the test” (v. 25). In the New Testament, lawyers, or scribes as they were also called, were specialists in the interpretation and teaching the law of God, having studied in one of the rabbinical schools. Jesus was not from one of these rabbinical schools. Yet, we read in Matthew 7:28-29, “And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at His teaching, for He was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.” That would help explain why there was always some lawyer confronting Jesus over matters of the law.

In Luke 10:25, the lawyer gets to the heart of the matter: “What shall I do to inherit eternal life?” This question rests on the assumption in the rabbinical community that eternal life is gained through the keeping of God’s law. This is why the scribes were so meticulous in their efforts to interpret God’s law. Jesus responds with a two-part question of His own: “What is written in the law?” and, “How do you read it?” (v. 26). In other words, how are you interpreting the requirements of the law? The lawyer’s response in verse 27 mirrors Jesus’ summation of the two tables of the law recorded in Matthew 22:34-40 and Mark 12:28-31.

The essence of the law is to love God with the totality of our being and to love our neighbour as ourselves. Jesus tells the lawyer, “Do this and you will live” (Luke 10:28). It should be noted that anyone who interprets the law in this twofold manner and keeps it perfectly in thought, word, and deed will earn eternal life. (Of course, no one has ever done this except Christ, which is why we must trust not in our own obedience but His.) At this point, the lawyer raised a question of interpretation: “Who is my neighbour?” (v. 29). This is what moved Jesus into the time-honoured parable of the good Samaritan.

There are three lessons we can learn from this parable. (1) This parable demonstrates the inseparable connection between the two parts of the law.

Our love of God is manifested in love of neighbour. We read in 1 John 4:20, “If anyone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.” Loving God and neighbour is agreed upon by Jesus and the lawyer as God’s requirement to inherit eternal life, and this parable illustrates what love of neighbour is.

(2) This parable demonstrates the dynamics and substance of the gospel message. The Good Samaritan’s care of the man ambushed by robbers is a picture of the love of God as it rescues us from our fallen condition.

(3) Finally, this parable illustrates the dynamics of new life that is a fruit of the gospel, in that we are able to see our fellow image bearers as we ought—as neighbours, rather than through the artificial barriers imposed by our fallen nature reinforced by culture. This is not what saves us or gives us eternal life. Being rescued by our Saviour does that, but part of the proof of our rescue and vertical reconciliation is horizontal love and service.

HYMN

A-las! and did my Sa-viour bleed
And did my Sov-ereign die?
Would He de-vote that sa-cred Head
For such a worm as I?

Was it for crimes that I have done
He groaned up-on the tree?
A-maz-ing pit-y! Grace un-known!
And love be-yond de-gree!

Well might the sun in dark-ness hide
And shut his glo-ries in,
When Christ, the great Cre-a-tor died
For man the crea-ture's sin.

Thus might I hide my blush-ing face
While His dear cross ap-pears,
Dis-solve my heart in thank-ful-ness,
And melt mine eyes to tears.

But drops of grief can ne'er re-pay
The debt of love I owe:
Here, Lord, I give my-self a-way--
'Tis all that I can do.

PRAYER

Father, we thank you for your word. We ask for grace to do whatever it is you are asking us to do and to do it with joy and to do it with peace. We ask it all in Jesus' name.

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 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 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

HOLY COMMUNION

This Sunday, the 6th March 2022, we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion at our morning service in the church at 11.00am. Please book your seat for the service in the usual way.

STATED ANNUAL MEETING

We plan to hold our Stated Annual Meeting on Wednesday, 23rd March at 7pm in the Church Hall. Everyone is most welcome to attend. Light Refreshments will be available. The Stated Annual Meeting is normally held annually but for obvious reasons this years meeting will cover the last 3 years (2019, 2020 and 2021). We look forward to seeing you there.

HIGHLAND FOODBANK

There is a new list of required items for March. There is still a need for corned beef and jars of cooking sauce (but not pasta sauce). However, we can now donate cartons of long-life juice and tins of potatoes/ smash. Bags for life are also useful for carrying the food items away. These can either be used or new. Thank you all so much for your continuing support.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Following our successful lunch together, we resume our meetings in the Church Hall on Wednesdays at 1.30pm when we will be turning to study the book of Joshua. This is from the BookbyBook series and has a DVD featuring the guest speaker, Sami Dagher who is a minister in Beirut, Lebanon. Perhaps you'd like to give the studies a try. Do come and see if this is what you might be looking for in your Bible journey. A warm welcome awaits.

GUILD

The next meeting of the Guild will take place in the Church hall on Monday 7th March at 2pm, when we hope to hear from Mr Rod Mackay on the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship. A warm welcome is extended to anyone who would like to know more about this worldwide Christian organisation. Unless anything changes in the meantime, the usual Covid mitigations will be in force.

SUPPORT FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

We are surely all aghast at the suffering of Ukrainians, as portrayed daily by the media. In addition to our prayers, we may wonder how we can help. Now Very Rev Dr Susan Brown, Convener of the Church of Scotland's Faith Impact Forum, has written informing us that our Church has contact with The Reformed Church in Hungary, which, through its Reformed Church in Hungary Aid programme is directly involved in supporting those fleeing the war. They have indicated that the best way to provide practical help is to send money, with which they can buy locally the things people need.

Donations can be made via the Bank account below, and in view of the urgency of the situation all money received will be transferred daily to RCHA:

Royal Bank of Scotland
Church of Scotland No 1 Account
Account no 00134859
Sort Code 83 06 08

The Kirk Session, meeting on 3rd March, encourages anyone who is able, prayerfully to consider donating in this way.

Anyone who is unable to donate on-line or in person at any branch of the Royal Bank, may contact Janet Winchester (865308), who will assist in forwarding donations.