

12TH JUNE 2022

FERINTOSH PARISH CHURCH

WORSHIP AT HOME



www.ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk

"If we empty our hearts of self, God will fill them with His love."
(C. H. Spurgeon)

PSALM 8

How excellent in all the earth,
Lord, our Lord, is thy name!
Who hast thy glory far advanc'd
above the starry frame.

When I look up unto the heav'ns,
which thine own fingers fram'd,
Unto the moon, and to the stars,
which were by thee ordain'd;

Fowls of the air, fish of the sea,
all that pass through the same.
How excellent in all the earth,
Lord, our Lord, is thy name!

PRAYER

*Almighty God,
In Christ we are loved with an everlasting love,
Clothed in eternal righteousness,
Our peace flowing like a river,
Our joy and triumph unutterable,
Our souls lively with the knowledge of salvation,
Our sense of justification unclouded.
All the treasures of a million worlds could not
make us richer, happier, more contented, for
Christ's unsearchable riches are ours.
One moment of communion with Christ, one
view of his grace, is ineffable, inestimable.
But O God, we could not long after your
presence if we did not know the sweetness of
it;
And such we could not know except by your
Spirit in our hearts, nor love you at all unless
you first elect us, call us, adopt us, save us.
We give thanks for the covenant of grace,
In Jesus Name we pray, Amen.
(Prayer from 'A collection of puritan prayers')*

SCRIPTURE READING 1 CORINTHIANS 13: 1 - 13 NKJV

1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.
2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.



3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;

5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil;

6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;

7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

8 Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.

9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part.

10 But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

11 When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

13 And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

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

The Christian life has three ingredients: faith, love, and hope. We must have all three to truly live out the Christian life.

Faith: The Christian life is grounded in faith in Jesus Christ. Paul's message was not about a new religion; it was not about Paul's ideas. It was all about Jesus. After hearing this story, some people in Thessalonica turned from their idols and converted to Jesus (1 Thess. 1:9).

They transferred their faith from their self-appointed idols to the God-sent Jesus. Based on what they had heard, they placed their faith in Jesus Christ. They did not add Jesus to their own idols; they got rid of the idols and embraced Jesus as Saviour and Lord. The gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ that turns people away from their idols and toward God, therefore leading to salvation by Him and in Him. This is an essential ingredient of the Christian life. We cannot have faith in our idols and in God. It's either/or.

Love: The Christian life is shown forth in love. If we really trust God and believe in Him, this leads us to the second ingredient. Paul says that the Christian life consists of faith in God and love. If we have faith, we must have love as well. Faith without love is not a real faith. It is a poisoned ingredient. It is a fake ingredient. Real faith in God is always followed by love.

If we say, "I believe in God but I don't love," that's not the authentic recipe. On the other hand, if we say, "I love all but I don't believe in Christ," that's not the love the Bible talks about. In some Christian circles, the risk is to sever faith from love, putting an emphasis on faith but not always matching it with love. In other circles, they want love, but without a commitment to the historic gospel of Jesus Christ. But we cannot have true love without true faith. They are inseparable.

Hope: The Christian life is lived out with hope. Faith redirects our lives from our petty idols to the living God who gave His Son to bear our sins for our salvation. Love opens up our lives not to be self-centred but to care for others. Paul says that there is hope that amalgamates the whole. These new Christians learned to gear their lives around "the day of Christ" (Phil. 1:6), to live in anticipation of His second coming, to look forward to eternity with God. Before they turned to God, these Christians were self-centred and time-limited. Their lives were hopeless and sealed in their time frames. After believing and loving, they learned to live with an eternal hope in their hearts, even in the midst of suffering, difficult circumstances, and trials.

Faith, love, and hope: this is the biblical recipe of the Christian life.

HYMN

Majesty, worship his majesty
Unto Jesus be all glory, power and praise
Majesty, kingdom authority flow from his throne
Unto his own his anthem raise
So exalt lift up on high the name of Jesus
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the king
Majesty, worship his majesty
Jesus who died now glorified
King of all kings.

PRAYER

Our heavenly Father, we pray as You have given us Your Word with the strong consolation of its truth, with the assurance that through faith we are anchored to Jesus Christ, we pray that you would give to each of us a gracious sense that you desire that we should be absolutely convinced of the security that You give us through faith in our beloved Saviour. Lead us into such assurance and its joy and its stability we pray for Jesus Christ our Saviour's 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.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY WORSHIP UPDATE

Next Wednesday 15th June we meet in the Church Hall at 1.30pm for approximately one hour. We are continuing the Trussell Trust material and looking at "Justice". Do come along to join this small group . You will receive a very warm welcome.

During our time of studying Joshua, we collected donations to send to Medicin Sans Frontiers since they help in many war torn places in the world. The magnificent sum of £235 has been forwarded to this organisation, a truly great response to a great need.

After the Bible study, we have been having a prayer time for about half an hour to pray for issues national, international and local as well as those on our hearts. This is open to all. So feel free to join us.

Sunday morning worship takes place at 11.00am in the church. We no longer need people to book a seat for each service as we have increased the number of available chairs. The wearing of masks in church is also no longer a legal requirement but we would ask that folk continue to do so if at all possible so as to protect everyone and reduce transmission of the Covid virus. Please continue to sanitise hands on entering and leaving the church, and dress appropriately as we will keep the front and back doors of the church open during the service to maintain ventilation.

The Sunday Zoom service is at 6.30pm. If you would like to join the Zoom service, please contact the Session Clerk by email at SessionClerk@ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk for the details.

HIGHLAND FOODBANK

The June list of items to donate is available in the vestibule. The foodbank is still in need of corned beef, tins of potatoes/smash, tins of custard, wheetabix/cornflakes, UHT milk, long life fruit juice, toilet rolls and bags for life (new or used). They have plenty beans, pasta and soup for now. Please do think about putting one or two items into your trolley to donate. Your generosity is very much appreciated.