

SUNDAY
15th November 2020
Pentecost 24
Charity Number
SC010781

The Scottish Episcopal Church

St John's, Arpafelie: St Andrew's, Fortrose: St Regulus, Cromarty

The Black Isle Family of Congregations

The Rev'd Canon (Father) Mel Langille
Tha Eaglais Easbuigeach na h-Alba / The Scottish Episcopal Church
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EVERYONE WHO IS BAPTISED is welcome to share with us in Communion this morning. There is no need to be a member of the Episcopal Church. Please feel free to celebrate with us.

If you are not baptised or would prefer, you are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing (simply come forward with hands together and head bowed as a sign to the priest).



THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Collect

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus to be the light of the world. Free us from all that darkens and ensnares us, and bring us to eternal light and joy; through the power of him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

+ First Reading : Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm."

Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

This is the word of the Lord.

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THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD - cont.

+ Psalm 90:1-8, 12

Lord, teach us to number our days.

Lord, teach us to number our days.

Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another. Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.

Lord, teach us to number our days.

You turn us back to the dust and say, "Go back, O child of earth." For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night.

Lord, teach us to number our days.

You sweep us away like a dream; we fade away suddenly like the grass. In the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.

Lord, teach us to number our days.

For we consume away in your displeasure; we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

Lord, teach us to number our days.

Our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance. So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Lord, teach us to number our days.

+ Second Reading : 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

This is the word of the Lord.

+ The Holy Gospel : Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

PRAYER REQUESTS

For grace to be Jesus' hands, feet, voice, eyes & heart in the world...that we all may LIVE and BE the GOOD NEWS.

OUR WORLD

For all places where Covid 19 and other diseases are on the rise. For all in leadership in health care and government and for the Spirit's guidance re the ending of lockdown. For all suffering with Covid 19, for all our healthcare workers, for all working for a cure, for all shop workers, lorry drivers, all we are depending on for our safety, health and protection and all living in fear of it. For healing and peace among all nations. For an end to terrorism and hatred in all its forms. For our fellow Christians and all who are persecuted for their faith.

OUR COMMUNION

Pray for the peace and unity of the Church. Pray our brothers and sisters of the Church of Ceylon : Bishops Dhiloraj Ranjit Canagasabay & Keerthisiri Fernando.

OUR DIOCESE

For all our brothers & sisters in the Porvoo Communion of Churches. For Philip S, Rachael W, Sandra W, Canon Graham T, Bishop Kevin, Dr John, Fr Ian B, their families and all who are studying for Ordination or Readership...for their instructors & all who support them. For Mark, our Bishop. For our brothers & sisters of the Gordonstoun School Chapel of St Christopher. For Inverness Street Pastors. For our sister Dioceses (Quebec, Canada & Tuam, Killala and Achonry, Ireland).

OUR CHURCH & COMMUNITY FAMILY & FRIENDS

For our three congregations, those who are able to join us in public worship and those joining us in spirit from home. Pray for all undergoing tests, awaiting results and undergoing treatment. Pray for Robbie and all living with OCD, Asperger's, Autism and other conditions that make Covid restrictions particularly difficult. For Janet S as she studies for ordination. For those whose relationships / marriages are struggling. Pray for our Granny in Guatemala: Santos De La Cruz Mendez. Pray for our Sunday Club in St Regulus'. For our Teen Gatherings. For James and his work in Biblical translation in Nigeria. For all we know to be in need of our prayers.

A DAILY PRAYER for the WEEK

Christ is the high priest of his people: it is in him that we come together to make our prayer to the Father of us all.

– *Father, put new hearts within us.*

We thank you for calling us into the Church: bless us with constant faith, and make it a source of life for others.

– *Father, put new hearts within us.*

Lord, bless Mark, our Bishop and Primus: we pray that his faith may not fail, and that he may strengthen his sisters and brothers.

– *Father, put new hearts within us.*

Turn sinners back to you: grant us a humble and contrite heart.

– *Father, put new hearts within us.*

Your Son knew what it was to be excluded from his homeland. Be mindful of those who must live far from their family and country.

– *Father, put new hearts within us.*

Give eternal rest to the dead: bring the whole Church together in heaven.

– *Father, put new hearts within us.*

Conclude with the Lord's Prayer.

DAILY PRAYER...

I will be offering these prayers at:

7 am : Invitatory & Office of Readings

9 am : Morning Prayer (Facebook Live Stream)

6 pm : Evening Prayer (Facebook Live Stream)

10 pm (but varies) : Night Prayer aka Compline

7 pm Eucharist on Tuesdays (Facebook Messenger*)

10 am Eucharist on Thursdays (Facebook Messenger*)

* If you'd like to be added to the Tues and Thurs Eucharists via Facebook Messenger, let me know. But you will have to be in FB and Messenger for that to work.

9:30am Celtic Morning Prayer (Via Zoom: Contact Richard for info: richard@nesscottage.scot)

SUNDAY EUCHARIST

15 November : Pentecost 24

9:45am Reserved Sacrament Service in St Regulus' with Patsy.

9:45am in St John's with Fr Mel

11:30am in St Andrew's with Fr Mel

22 November : Christ the King

9:45am in St Regulus' with Fr Mel

9:45am in St John's with Rev Christine

11:30am in St Andrew's with Fr Mel

AS THE CHURCH DEPLOYED - LET US UNITE IN PRAYER FROM OUR HOMES

Dear All,

I always find November to be so moving. Starting as it does with All Saints' Day and the remembering of our loved ones departed on All Souls' Day and then Remembrance Sunday...truly November is the month of remembering. I found the Act of Remembrance on the 11th particularly moving...keeping the 2 minutes...and then playing the Flowers of the Forest on the pipes...by myself...on my front step. As much as I like the big gatherings and they are so fitting, I found today to be especially personal and moving. I hope you did. It was nice to get messages from some of the Academy students who were always keeping the silence....it seems they heard me piping the Lament and they found it very poignant.

A strange year indeed! Might it be teaching us some important lessons?

Next Sunday is Christ the King! That means Sunday the 29th is the beginning of the Church's new year – Advent Sunday!

Time to prepare Advent Wreaths!

Perhaps we might all, loosely, do out **Reverse Advent Calendar** and start filling our boxes with things for the Foodbank...aiming to deliver our donation to them by 8 December for Christmas delivery?

Much love to all!

Mel +



An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe you are truly present
in this Most Holy Sacrament
of your Body and Blood,
and since I cannot, at this time, receive you in
Holy Communion,
I pray you to come into my heart.
I unite myself with you and embrace you
with all my heart, my soul, and my mind.
Let nothing separate me from you.
In whose Name I pray.
Amen.

OR Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, cleanse me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within Thy wounds hide me.
Never let me be separated from Thee.
From the malicious enemy, defend me.
At the hour of death, call me.
And bid me come to Thee.
That with Thy saints I may praise Thee,
forever and ever. Amen.

If you need anything or just a friendly voice, ring me at 01381 622 241 (or 07780 512 990)...and I will do my utmost!

REVERSE
ADVENT CALENDAR

It was a big hit last year....but,
you'll all remember the goods needed to be collected
by the FIRST SUNDAY IN DECEMBER

SO
please start today (8 NOVEMBER)
and bring all
you have collected each day
to our churches for the
6th of DECEMBER
And we will make sure they reach
where they are needed

Feel free to add Christmassy treats...mince pies, cranberry sauce, shortbreads, etc.





Remembrance Day floral arrangement by Louise Jeffery outside the door of St Andrew's .

Poppy Crosses planted by Diana Hamilton-Jones in the Cathedral grounds.

The crosses will be gathered next Sunday and kept for 2021.



Black Isle Branch of Legion Scotland wreath and the wreath laid on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant

OUR CHARITY SHOP
in Saint Andrew's Hall :
Wednesdays & Saturdays,
10am -1pm.



**SATURDAY COFFEE
MORNINGS AND CHARITY
SHOP BOTH CANCELLED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

The Books and cards normally on sale at the back of St Andrew's are not available during the present restrictions.



Please help local people in Crisis

Tins of ham

Tins of corned beef

Tins of mince/stew

Tins of Potato

Tins of custard

Soap powder (small)

Washing up liquid (small)

Shaving foam/razors

TINNED VEGETABLES

The food bank team are always very appreciative of our donations, but at the moment they have excess pasta, tinned soup and tinned beans, so won't be accepting more of these at present.

The items on our list are still things that they need more of, also individually wrapped toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, sugar and toilet roll.

Thanks for all your ongoing generosity.

Highland Foodbank

Thought for today

Never doubt God has a purpose. Someday you will see

The pattern He is working on the looms of destiny.

Much is hidden

All the colours cannot show and shine,

But every thread is needed to complete the great design.

St John's Arpafeelie

Sunday 15th November - 09.45



Diocesan Prayer Cycle -

Porvoo Cycle -

Notices

Visitor Details

Should you have any visitors attending your church you need to get their details for the Track and Trace list. You need to get their Name, Phone Number, and note the date of their visit and email this, **ALONG** with the regular congregation's names who were in attendance, every Sunday after the service to Ramsay.

This allows Ramsay to be the point of contact for the Track and Trace system for The Charge should any member be unfortunate enough to get the disease.

For those attending church during the Covid outbreak we have an information sheet for you to assess your personal risk with an explanation attached. This is used within the NHS and other Churches. We **DO NOT** want to know your personal score but would ask that you confirm either by email or in writing that you have received and read the form. Spare copies will be available in church for visitors etc.

Stewards and Co-ordinators need to ensure that details of everyone who attended the service are passed to the Vestry Secretary by email by each Sunday night. This needs to be undertaken to meet the Track and Trace section of the legislation.

Church Rotas

St Andrew's

Readers & Intercessors

H Ireland / M Hulse / J Deakin / A Garraway

Sides-men

Ann McGhee and Bill Fraser

Servers

Sacristan

Flowers

Teas

Cleaning

St John's