

Welcome to Penicuik: St Mungo's Parish Church online



Sunday 13th September 2020

This act of worship has been prepared to allow us to spend some time with God, knowing that others are sharing in it.

We thank all the team involved in creating and distributing this service, and praise God for his unchanging character and unfailing love.

This order of service is for you to use as you are able: some of you may wish simply to read it, whether silently or aloud. Others may wish to listen, and even join in with the singing: just click on the links.

**If you want to join in the whole service, follow the link which you'll find on our website: www.stmungos.freeuk.com . Service Video <https://youtu.be/u9jrBNjYuwg>
If you would like to listen to just the sermon and a prayer, dial **01968 700121**. There will be about 20 seconds' silence, after which the recording should start.**

INTROIT: Mayenziwe 'ntando yakho

South African Traditional; sung by the Scottish Festival Singers, Ian McCrorie (Conductor)

Listen at <https://music.churchofscotland.org.uk/hymn/805-your-will-be-done-on-earth-o-lord>

Mayenziwe 'ntando yakho.

(Xhosa)

Your will be done on earth, O Lord.

(English)



Jacob and Esau

George Frederic Watts (1817–1904)

WELCOME to St Mungo's.

Our opening worship is a modern version of an ancient psalm that speaks of longing to worship in God's house in Jerusalem. Today, some of us are meeting in St Mungo's for the first time in a while, and some are joining us from home.

No matter where we are, we can rejoice that all of us who trust in Jesus together form the living stones of a spiritual temple for the living God.

Together we are called to be a holy priesthood: we can offer praise and thanks to God, through our worship and through our lives offered up in service to God through Jesus.

Let us worship God.

HYMN: How lovely is Thy dwelling place (*Psalm 84*)

Listen at <https://kallmancreates.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/how-lovely-is-thy-dwelling-place.mp3>

How lovely is Thy dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts to me.
My soul is longing and fainting the courts of the Lord to see.
My heart and flesh they are singing for joy to the living God.
How lovely is Thy dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts to me.

Even the sparrow finds a home where he can settle down,
and the swallow she can build a nest where she may lay her young
within the courts of the Lord of Hosts, my King, my Lord and my God.
And happy are those who are dwelling where the song of praise is sung.

And I'd rather be a doorkeeper and only stay a day,
than live the life of a sinner and have to stay away.
For the Lord is shining as the sun, and the Lord is like a shield;
and no good thing does God withhold from those who walk the way.

How lovely is Thy dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts to me.
My soul is longing and fainting the courts of the Lord to see.
My heart and flesh they are singing for joy to the living God.
How lovely is Thy dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts to me.

*Jonathan Asprey, © 1975 Celebration/Kingsway's Thankyou Music arr. by Daniel Kallman.
Sung by The Singers, directed by Matthew Culloton, Minneapolis, Minnesota.*

PRAYER

God our Father,
we praise you that when we were still far away
you met us in your Son Jesus,
and that he is our way home to you.
We thank you that when we come to our senses
and ask you for forgiveness,
you welcome us with open arms.

We thank you that Jesus took our place and died for our sins
and rose again to make us right with you.

We ask that you'd help us to know you better:
to come closer to you and be made more like you.

For the times when we've not tried to have good relationships with other people,
we ask for your forgiveness and help.

For the times when we've been hurt because of what someone else has done.
we ask for your help and healing and for the grace to be able to forgive,
through Jesus, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN: Make me a channel of your peace *

Watch video at <https://youtu.be/daGWdbrSGBM>

Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me bring your love,
where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

*O Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood, as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there's despair in life let me bring hope;
where there is darkness, let me bring your light,
and where there's sadness, bring your joy.

*Oh Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood, as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.

For when we give, we will ourselves receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned
and in dying that we gain eternal life.

Sebastian Temple (1928-1997) © 1967, OCP Publications.

THE STORY SO FAR

Jacob has been mortally afraid of meeting Esau, his brother.
Years before, he cheated Esau and stole his father's blessing,
and Esau wanted to kill him because of this.

Today he is going to meet Esau for the first time in many years.
Jacob, fresh from an encounter with God, has changed in character
and in what he fears, having been blessed by God.

Now, he goes forward boldly to meet his brother.

What will Esau's reaction be?

Reader: Margaret Black

When Jacob looked off in the distance, there was Esau coming toward him, accompanied by 400 men! So Jacob divided Leah's children, Rachel, and the children of the two servants into separate groups. Then he positioned the women servants and their children first, then Leah and her children next, and then Rachel and Joseph after them. Then he went out to meet Esau, passing in front of all of them, and bowed low to the ground seven times as he approached his brother.

Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him. Then he fell on his neck and kissed him. And they wept.

When Esau eventually looked around, he saw the women and the children. "Who are these people with you?" he asked.

"The children, whom God has graciously given your servant," he answered. Then the women servants approached, accompanied by their children, and bowed low. Leah also approached, and she and her children bowed low. After this, Joseph and Rachel approached and bowed low.

Then Esau asked, "What are all these livestock for?"

"To solicit favour from you, sir," Jacob answered.

But Esau replied, "I already have so much, my brother, so keep what belongs to you."

"Please," Jacob implored him, "don't refuse. If I'm to receive favour from you, then receive this gift from me, because seeing your face is like seeing the face of God, since you have favourably accepted me. So receive my blessing, which has been sent to you, since God has been gracious to me. Besides, I have enough." Because Jacob kept pressing him, Esau accepted the gifts.

Then Esau suggested, "Let's set out and travel together, but let me go in front of you."

"Sir, you know that the children are frail," Jacob suggested, "and the ewes and cows with me are still nursing their young. If they're driven even for a day, the entire flock will die. So allow yourself to go ahead of your servant while I travel more slowly, letting the herds set their own pace with the children until I arrive to see my lord in Seir."

Esau said, "Let me leave with you some of the people who are with me."

"Why do that?" Jacob asked. "I've already found favour in your sight, sir." So Esau set out that very day back on his way to Seir, but Jacob set out for Succoth, built a house there, and constructed some cattle shelters. He named the place Succoth [Shelters].

After Jacob had arrived safely from Paddan-aram, he entered the city of Shechem, which was located in the territory of Canaan, and encamped facing that city. Then he bought a parcel of land for 100 pieces of silver from the descendants of Hamor, Shechem's father. He pitched his tent there, set up an altar, and named it El-elohe-israel [which means "God, the God of Israel"].

HYMN: Safe in the shadow of the Lord (Psalm 91)*

Watch video at <https://youtu.be/scIDVUOW80c>

Safe in the shadow of the Lord,
beneath his hand and power,
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
my fortress and my tower.

My hope is set on God alone,
though Satan spreads his snare,
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
to keep me in his care.

From fears and phantoms of the night,
from foes about my way,
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
by darkness as by day.

His holy angels keep my feet
secure from every stone;
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
and unafraid go on.

Strong in the everlasting Name,
and in my Father's care,
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
who hears and answers prayer.

Safe in the shadow of the Lord,
possessed by love divine,
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
and meet his love with mine.

*Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926) © Timothy Dudley-Smith; Adm. Oxford Univ. Press.
Sung by Lucy and Alice Paine, accompanied by Rachel Paine, for Premier Radio*

SHORT ADDRESS: *Reconciled*

HYMN: Christ is the one who calls *

Watch video at <https://youtu.be/ZJhNYBhm0cA>

Christ is the one who calls,
the one who loved and came,
to whom by right it falls
to bear the highest Name:
and still today our hearts are stirred
to hear his word and walk his way.

Christ is the one who seeks,
to whom our souls are known.
The word of love he speaks
can wake a heart of stone;
for at that sound the blind can see,
the slave is free, the lost are found.

Christ is the one who died,
forsaken and betrayed;
who, mocked and crucified,
the price of pardon paid.
Our dying Lord, what grief and loss,
what bitter cross, our souls restored!

Christ is the one who rose
in glory from the grave,
to share his life with those
whom once he died to save.
He drew death's sting and broke its chains,
who lives and reigns, our risen King.

Christ is the one who sends,
his story to declare;
who calls his servants friends
and gives them news to share.
His truth proclaim in all the earth,
his matchless worth and saving Name.

*© 1992 Timothy Dudley-Smith; Music: "Love Unknown" by John Ireland
Sung by members of Great Malvern Priory Choirs*

PRAYERS FOR OTHER PEOPLE AND OURSELVES

Father God,
your blessing is on those who work for peace,
for they will be identified as your children.
Hear our prayers for peace
in the lands of Israel and Palestine.
Give wisdom to all who work for a just peace there
that they won't grow weary in their efforts.
Be with those in political leadership
may their motives be wholesome and honourable,
that they won't just seek to do
what's popular and convenient,
but rather what's right and just.
Lead us to understand our common human fragility,
and give to all a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus,
who taught us to pray in his name and in this way:

**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,
the power and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

HYMN: And can it be...?

Watch video at <https://youtu.be/HrIgWfkh7f4>

And can it be, that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain --
for me, who him to death pursued?
*Amazing love! how can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?*
*Amazing love! how can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?*

Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quickening ray;
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
*my chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.
my chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.*

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
*bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.
bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.*

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Sung by New Community Church, Southampton

THE BLESSING

May the blessing of God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be with you, now and always. **Amen.**

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* these items will not be used in the live service in church.

Next week:

Joseph the dreamer