

Sunday 1st November 2020



One of a series of joint services
for the Church of Scotland
congregations in the town,
on the theme of



This morning's act of worship on the theme of *Fellowship* has been prepared to allow us all to spend some time with God, knowing that others are sharing in it.

We thank all 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, you'll find it here https://youtu.be/hoDKqdk_6YQ

And 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.

N.B. The phone recording of the sermon is an abridged version:
the full sermon is available on YouTube.

INTROIT: As we are gathered, Jesus is here

Watch video at https://youtu.be/e_Phj2x_1Lo

As we are gathered, Jesus is here;
one with each other, Jesus is here,
joined by the Spirit, washed in the blood,
part of the Body, the Church of God.

As we are gathered, Jesus is here;
one with each other, Jesus is here.

*John Daniels © 1979 Authentic Publishing, Adm. Integrity Music
Recording: John and Mairi Bowlerwell from Dunfermline East Church*

WELCOME

John Urquhart (StM)

Welcome to our joint service.

Listen to what the Apostle Paul says to the Church in Corinth:

“God is to be trusted,
the God who called you to have fellowship
with his Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.”

As we come to worship God,
let’s open our hearts and minds to God’s Word,
so that we might learn and experience
more of the meaning of fellowship on life’s journey.
through the fellowship of the Holy Spirit with us.

HYMN: Come, Christians, join to sing

Watch video at <https://youtu.be/rv0XaoRQwpc>

Come, Christians, join to sing
Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King;
Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice,
before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice.
Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high,
Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky;
Alleluia! Amen!
He is our Guide and Friend;
to us he’ll condescend;
his love shall never end.
Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again,
Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain;
Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven’s blissful shore,
his goodness we’ll adore,
singing forevermore,
“Alleluia! Amen!”

PRAYER

Margaret Webster (StM)

Father God,

as part of your people in every place and time—

your children, your family—we join in worship.

We've come from different backgrounds and different places,

yet we are one in our praise for you.

We praise you for the grace you've shown us in Jesus,

and for the love which binds us together as his Church.

We thank you that you know each one of us,

and call us personally by name,

and yet you also call us to each other:

to Christian community, to fellowship in Christ.

Help us to be ready to share our lives together,

not just with our friends or those we get on with,

but with all in our own church family

and in the wider fellowship of the Church.

Help us in love to serve one another -

ready, from our own experience of being helped by others,

to encourage and strengthen other people in turn.

Help us to be ready to put ourselves out on others' behalf,

and to use our gifts in the cause of Christ.

Father, teach us sensitivity in this:

Help us not to intrude into things

that people would rather keep private

but not to show polite indifference to their troubles.

You know our faults and failings.

Make us aware of them too.

Forgive us, strengthen and train us to follow your Son.

Come by your Spirit and help us

to learn more of what it means to be your people.

Make us one in thought and in purpose

so that our life together will speak of you and your goodness.

Unite us in faith and send us out in love to our neighbours

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BIBLE READING: 1 Corinthians 1: 1-17**Vicky Nicolson (PSAH)**

From Paul, who was called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and from our brother Sosthenes—

To the church of God which is in Corinth, to all who are called to be God's holy people, who belong to him in union with Christ Jesus, together with all people everywhere who worship our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours:

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

I always give thanks to my God for you because of the grace he has given you through Christ Jesus. For in union with Christ you have become rich in all things, including all speech and all knowledge. The message about Christ has become so firmly established in you that you have not failed to receive a single blessing, as you wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be faultless on the Day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is to be trusted, the God who called you to have fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.

By the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ I appeal to all of you, my friends, to agree in what you say, so that there will be no divisions among you. Be completely united, with only one thought and one purpose. For some people from Chloe's family have told me quite plainly, my friends, that there are quarrels among you. Let me put it this way: each one of you says something different. One says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Peter"; and another, "I follow Christ." Christ has been divided into groups! Was it Paul who died on the cross for you? Were you baptized as Paul's disciples?

I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius. No one can say, then, that you were baptized as my disciples. (Oh yes, I also baptized Stephanas and his family; but I can't remember whether I baptized anyone else.) Christ did not send me to baptize. He sent me to tell the Good News, and to tell it without using the language of human wisdom, in order to make sure that Christ's death on the cross is not robbed of its power.

Good News Translation © 1992 by the American Bible Society

ADDRESS: John Urquhart (StM)

HYMN: Brother, sister, let me serve you

Watch video at <https://youtu.be/0JahFRDrSCs>

Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
we're companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christlight for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

*Richard Gillard © 1977 Scripture in Song; Integrity Music, adm. Kingsway's Thankyou Music
Sung by St Laurence's Church, Chorley*

PRAYERS FOR THOSE OUT OF FELLOWSHIP:

Fiona Charleson (PNK)

After each sentence, pause briefly to pray quietly for those who come to mind.

Gracious God.

We pray for those
who find themselves alone,
who long for companionship.

We pray for those forbidden to meet
with brothers and sisters in Christ,
or denied the opportunity to do so.

We pray for those who have walked away
from Christian communities
that have loved them
and still pray for them.

We pray for those
who have been hurt or abused
in the name of fellowship.

We pray for those
who no longer feel welcome or loved
in a fellowship they once held dear.

We pray for fellowships
where the flame of the Spirit
seems to have been extinguished.

Gracious God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you dwell in community.
Restore, renew and heal those
we remember in prayer today.
May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be more than words for them and us.
May they be reality restored.

Amen.

*Reproduced from Holy Habits: Fellowship.
Andrew Roberts & others (eds), BRF, ISBN 978 0 85746 679 2.*

HYMN: The church's one foundation

Watch video at <https://youtu.be/9rIS166ppoE>

The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word:
from heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her
and for her life he died.

Called out from every nation,
yet one through all the earth;
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses,
and shares one holy food;
as to one hope she presses
with every grace endued.

We see her long divided
by heresy and sect;
yet she by God is guided
one people, one elect:
her vigil she is keeping,
her cry goes up, 'How long?'
and soon the night of weeping
shall be the dawn of song.

In toil and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore:
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blessed;
at last the church victorious
shall be the church at rest!

Yet she on earth has union
with God the Three-in-One;
and mystic, sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, grant to us your grace,
with them the meek and lowly,
in heaven to see your face.

*Jubilate Hymns version of The Church's one foundation
Samuel J Stone (1839-1900) © Jubilate Hymns Ltd*

A PARTING PRAYER

John Urquhart (StM)

Lord God,
the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Common Worship

All hymns/songs used on this sheet used by permission: CCL Licence No 974355
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The following congregations were involved in this service:

- PNK: Penicuik North Church
- PSAH: Penicuik South with Howgate
- StM: Penicuik St Mungo's