Welcome to Penicuik: St Mungo's Parish Church online



Sunday 22nd November 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.

Full service video https://youtu.be/_50NbGdrQkk

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: Lead me, Lord

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

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness, make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.

Text from Psalm 5:8; music by Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876) Sung by the Choir of Somerville College, Oxford David Crown (conductor); Robert Pecksmith (organist) Used by permission of Stefan Schwarz (recording) & William Dawes (Director of Chapel Music)

WELCOME to St Mungo's. We're glad you can join us. Let us worship God.

HYMN: O God of Bethel (Genesis 28: 20-22) Watch video at https://youtu.be/Z4bQ_z9n_jE

O God of Bethel! by whose hand thy people still are fed, who through this earthly pilgrimage hast all our fathers led:

Our vows, our prayers, we now present before thy throne of grace; God of our fathers! be the God of their succeeding race.

Through each perplexing path of life our wandering footsteps guide; give us each day our daily bread, and raiment fit provide.

O spread thy covering wings around till all our wanderings cease, and at our Father's loved abode our souls arrive in peace.

Such blessings from thy gracious hand our humble prayers implore; and thou shalt be our chosen God, and portion evermore.

Scottish Paraphrases 1781 (Public Domain) Sung by the virtual choir of Troon Old Parish Church; choirmaster David Moore.

PRAYER

God our Father, reassure us again today, as we encounter you in spirit and in truth, that you intend good to us and for us and more than that. that you plan to achieve good things through us, to bless and help others. Help us to offer ourselves to you and trust you in all things. Where there's something unworthy that damages that relationship of trust we quietly confess it to you now. We know we can trust you for forgiveness, for help, strength and direction, because in Jesus you restored our broken relationship with you. You didn't count people's sins against them, you took our blotted record upon yourself in Christ and in him you speak lovingly and reassuringly to us: 'Be comforted, your sins are forgiven.' This word is not just for us: you have committed to us, your church, the message and the ministry of reconciliation, to take it to others. So fill us with your Holy Spirit, that we may be ambassadors for you, that we might help to restore broken relationships between people and you and those between people themselves. May your kingdom be established on earth. May your will be done on earth as in heaven,

in the name of Jesus. Amen.

THE STORY SO FAR

Jacob has sent his sons, along with Benjamin, to Egypt, to deal with Pharaoh's 'man'. On the way home, Benjamin is arrested on a trumped-up charge of stealing the man's silver cup. Judah pleads for Benjamin's release, offering himself in his stead. Joseph, overcome, by this change of heart, reveals himself to his brothers to their amazement. He tells them: 'it was not you who sent me here, but God'.

Jacob is encouraged to come to Egypt, both by Joseph and by God, where he lives for 17 years, and finally dies, giving instructions to his sons where he is to be buried.

BIBLE READINGS (Reader: Janis Hogg)

Genesis 50: 12-26

New International Version

So Jacob's sons did as he had commanded them: they carried him to the land of Canaan and buried him in the cave in the field of Machpelah, near Mamre, which Abraham had bought along with the field as a burial place from Ephron the Hittite. After burying his father, Joseph returned to Egypt, together with his brothers and all the others who had gone with him to bury his father.

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, 'What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?' So they sent word to Joseph, saying, 'Your father left these instructions before he died: "This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly." Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father.' When their message came to him, Joseph wept. His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. 'We are your slaves,' they said.

But Joseph said to them, 'Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.' And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

Joseph stayed in Egypt, along with all his father's family. He lived a hundred and ten years and saw the third generation of Ephraim's children. Also the children of Makir son of Manasseh were placed at birth on Joseph's knees.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am about to die. But God will surely come to your aid and take you up out of this land to the land he promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.' And Joseph made the Israelites swear an oath and said, 'God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up from this place.'

So Joseph died at the age of a hundred and ten. And after they embalmed him, he was placed in a coffin in Egypt.

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Romans 12: 17-21

New Testament for Everyone

Never repay anyone evil for evil; think through what will seem good to everyone who is watching. If it's possible, as far as you can, live at peace with all people. Don't take revenge, my dear people, but allow God's anger room to work. The Bible says, after all, 'Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord.' No: 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink. If you do this, you will pile up burning coals on his head.' Don't let evil conquer you. Rather, conquer evil with good.

Scripture quotations from The New Testament for Everyone are copyright © Nicholas Thomas Wright 2011

SHORT ADDRESS

HYMN: Forgive

Watch video at https://youtu.be/dAhYZCptck0

'Forgive our sins as we forgive,' you taught us, Lord, to pray, but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless an unforgiving heart, that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?

How completely you forgive! Your blood has made me clean. When I am wounded, hurt or wronged, you ask the same of me.

In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew: how trifling other's debts to us, how great our debt to you!

How completely you forgive! Your blood has made me clean. When I am wounded, hurt or wronged, you ask the same of me.

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls, and bid resentment cease; then, by your mercy reconciled, our lives will spread your peace... our lives will spread your peace.... Let us spread your peace, your peace!

How completely you forgive! Your blood has made me clean. When I am wounded, hurt or wronged, you ask the same of me.

How completely you forgive. How completely you forgive. You ask the same of me!

Original words: Rosamond E. Herklots (1905-1987) © Oxford University Press Refrain (also sung by) Catherine Lovett; https://reflectworship.com; used by permission

PRAYERS FOR OTHER PEOPLE AND OURSELVES

God our Father, in Christ you showed the wonder of your grace to us: he came to live among us, as one of us, and to die for us, taking all our sins upon himself, and offering new life to all who turn from their own way. By your empowering Spirit, help us to show your grace to others. We pray for those with political or military power and all whose decisions affect people's lives. Send those who will speak the truth to them and give them ears to listen, and, if not, restrain them from doing evil. We remember the children in Yemen, who are facing the worst levels of malnutrition since the conflict there began. We ask for your provision and protection for them. Assist the people helping families overcome hunger. We pray for those who are in turmoil, through illness, bereavement, or other circumstances. We pray especially for all who are dying, alone or unprepared. In your mercy, give them a clear understanding of your salvation in Christ that by faith in him, they may find your peace. We pray in the name of our Lord Jesus and in the words that he taught us: 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: Psalm 23: Surely Goodness, Surely Mercy

Watch video https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RNJWZpb5hbdnMw1UbUMkFieHsIsenIx1/view The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. In green pastures, He makes me lie down. He restores my soul and leads me on for His Name, for His great Name.

Surely goodness, surely mercy, right beside me all my days and I will dwell in Your house forever and bless Your Holy Name.

You prepare a table right before me in the presence of my enemies. Though the arrow flies and the terror of night is at my door, I'll trust you Lord.

Surely goodness, surely mercy, right beside me all my days and I will dwell in Your house forever and bless Your Holy Name.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil...

and even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, You are on my side— oh-oh-oh!

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, You are on my side.

Surely goodness, surely mercy, right beside me all my days and I will dwell in Your house forever and bless Your Holy Name.

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THE BLESSING

May the goodness and mercy of God follow you this day and all your days, and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you, now and forever. **Amen.**

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Next week: Holy Communion for Advent Sunday: Waiting for a King