

# **Welcome** to Penicuik: St Mungo's Parish Church online

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December 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](http://www.stmungos.freeuk.com) Full video <https://youtu.be/DU7HtgLrVjE>**

**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: He came down that we may have love**

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

He came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have love;  
hallelujah for evermore!

He came down that we may have peace...

He came down that we may have joy...

He came down that we may have power...

He came down that we may have hope...

He came down that we may have love...

*Words: Anon, from Cameroon*

*Music: Cameroon Traditional, arrangement by Geoff Weaver*

*Recording from jubilate.co.uk*

**WELCOME** to St Mungo's on this, the last Sunday of the year.

It's been, to put it mildly, a strange year and for most of us, a very different Christmas from what we have grown to expect. But different or not, the central message of God coming among us in the shape of Christ Jesus, remains unchanged. This is a special time, the ending of one year, the beginning of a new one. We give thanks to God that he has been with us and for the certainty that he will continue to be with us in the time to come. This morning, through the wonders of technology, we, along with a number of congregations across the land, will be joined by the Moderator of the Church of Scotland, the Right Reverend Martin Fair. But now let us join together in worship, with a brand-new Christmas song written and played for us by the Heart and Soul Swing Band.

**HYMN: Yo ho! God loves us so!**

Watch video at <https://www.facebook.com/HeartSoulSwing/videos/220125436171156/>

Yo ho, (yo ho) Yo ho, (yo ho)  
God loves (God loves) us so (us so)  
He sent (He sent) his son (his son )  
so he (so he ) could show (could show)  
God's grace (God's grace ) so free (so free)  
for all the world to see (that's you and me!)  
Yo ho, (yo ho)! We truly know  
God loves us so!

When the world was dark as night and in need of saving light,  
God was there before us.  
In a tiny baby boy came the gift of Christmas joy.  
God will soon restore us.  
Through his love for you and me it was plain for all to see  
God will not ignore us.  
As we go from A to Zee we're as loved as loved can be.  
He'll always adore us.

Yo ho, (yo ho) Yo ho, (yo ho)  
God loves (God loves) us so (us so)  
He sent (He sent) his son (his son )  
so he (so he ) could show (could show)  
God's grace (God's grace ) so free (so free)  
for all the world to see (that's you and me!)  
Yo ho, (yo ho)! We truly know  
God loves us so!

Let me tell it to you straight, coz' the news is really great,  
God got there before us  
Through a tiny little child we are fully reconciled,  
God would soon restore us.  
When the world was down and out, full of dread and full of doubt,  
God would not ignore us  
Do not fret and do not fear, God is love and love is here.  
He'll always adore us!  
Yo ho, (yo ho)! We truly know  
God loves us so!

*Written by Robin Hill.*

*Performed by the Heart and Soul Swing Band and the Heart and Soul Community Gospel Choirs*

### **Prayer: led by Martin Fair**

*Adore, come let us adore  
O come let us adore Him.  
The Lord, worship Christ, the Lord.  
Let all that is within us, adore.*

Almighty and everlasting God, with heads bowed and hearts lifted up, we worship and adore you. For you are from everlasting to everlasting. In the beginning you brought all things into being and when the time was right, you came among us in Jesus. And so we worship and adore for he is Christ the Lord!

*Adore, come let us adore  
O come let us adore Him.  
The Lord, worship Christ, the Lord.  
Let all that is within us, adore.*

Lord, your love for us is extravagant beyond description and wholly undeserved. We know we have fallen short. We know we have made for ourselves other gods. We have given our worship in other directions. We have not followed in the footsteps of Jesus as you have invited us to do. And so for your love, your amazing love, we worship, we worship and adore.

*Adore, come let us adore  
O come let us adore Him.  
The Lord, worship Christ, the Lord.  
Let all that is within us, adore.*

Good and generous God, some ask 'What Child is this?' We answer, 'This is Christ the Lord!' And so, give us voices with the angels to adore him, the excitement of the shepherds to speak of him, and as those who travelled from afar to bow before him, receive the gift of our hearts.

We love you Lord Jesus. We worship and adore you.

*Adore, come let us adore*

*O come let us adore Him.*

*The Lord, worship Christ, the Lord.*

*Let all that is within us, adore.*

In Jesus' name, we pray **Amen**.

*Music and vocal: Alan Campbell Video: Dez Johnson*

## READING

### LUKE 2: 25-38 (New International Version)

**Reader: Bill Webster**

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,  
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.  
For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of your people Israel.”

The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.

There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

## ADDRESS (Martin Fair)

## **HYMN: What child is this**

Watch video at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnFVLDVP\\_x4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnFVLDVP_x4)

What child is this?

Who lay to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping

*This, this is Christ the King  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring him laud:  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh.  
Come, peasant king, to own him.  
The King of Kings salvation brings.  
Let loving hearts enthrone him.

*This, this is Christ the King  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring him laud:  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

## **PRAYERS FOR OTHERS AND OURSELVES (Margaret Webster)**

‘And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.’

Let's pray together.

Lord God, Heavenly Father:

We look back on a year like no other – so many mourning for the loss of lives, the cancelling of so many events, the separation of family and friends – Father, thank you that whatever happens, You remain the same yesterday, today and forever.

We have just celebrated the birth of Your son, our saviour, Jesus Christ, who lived among us and fully understands grief, pain, loneliness, who suffered death on a cross but rose again – and so we have hope. We know that He alone can reach the depth of our souls and bring His healing love to us and to the people we pray for this morning: for those who are in despair because of floods, war, famine - Father, we pray for practical provision and for Your comfort and hope;

for those who are ill and close to death, those who care for them, those who are mourning – Father, bless them with Your peace and a real sense of Your love and care; those who are stressed and exhausted – Father give them courage and strength to carry on.

Father, there are so many who need the blessing of Your strength, hope and love - we take a moment in silence to bring our prayers to You for people particularly on our hearts .....

Father God, as we move towards a new year – help us individually and as Your church to serve you here in Penicuik – to look out for neighbours, friends and those in need in our community, and as we do that please give us opportunities to tell them about You.

As we trust and place our hands in Yours, may we bring light and blessing; and be a church that builds up, befriends and helps others to believe.

Hear our prayers in the name of Jesus, in whose death and resurrection we know a love that is immense, forgiving and everlasting. **Amen**

### **CLOSING PRAISE: In the beginning**

Watch video at [https://www.resoundworship.org/song/in\\_the\\_beginning](https://www.resoundworship.org/song/in_the_beginning)

In the beginning was the Word  
and the Word was God  
and the Word was with God.  
And everything that has been made  
has been made through him,  
nothing made without him.

In him was life,  
that life was light for everyone.  
The darkness tries,  
but the light will not be overcome.

*The light that shines for everyone  
has come into the world.*

*The light of Christ the only Son  
has come into the world,  
has come into the world.*

He made his dwelling in the world  
as the Word made flesh,  
and we've seen his glory.  
And in the sending of the Son,  
grace and truth have come  
through the one and only.

In him was life,  
that life was light for everyone.

The darkness tries,  
but the light will not be overcome.

*The light that shines for everyone  
has come into the world.*

*The light of Christ the only Son  
has come into the world,  
has come into the world.*

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### **THE BLESSING**

May the blessing of God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be among us and remain with us, now and in the days to come. **Amen**

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**Next week: “Gifts worth getting”**