



**A7 Centre of Mission
St Peter's, St John's & St Cuthbert's
Scottish Episcopal Churches
4th October 2020 newsletter**



opening for communal worship from September.

St John's still has no date for getting back to using the church.

St Peter's 10.30am services on 1st and 4th Sundays will be Communion with Simon or other clergy. 2nd & 3rd Sundays will be Service of the Word. Thursday mornings will be a Said Communion service.

St Cuthbert's 10.30am services on 2nd & 3rd Sundays will be Communion, 1st & 4th Sundays Service of the Word. Wednesdays at 11.00am will be Said Holy Communion. Please remember to bring a face covering to wear unless you have health issues and the service booklet and newsletter which contains the readings etc for the week.

Please if you wish to attend ring Sheena (01896 751694) or by e mail (smstcg1945@gmail.com) by Friday .

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU RING OR INFORM ON LINE SO WE KNOW NUMBERS AND FOR GOVERNMENT TRACK AND PROTECT.



Communion
for the
Homebound

Home Communion is only available to those people can't come out or get to church for self isolation reasons. Please book through Sheena then Simon will contact to arrange a time. Reserved Sacrament is still suspended until further notice due to corona virus restrictions.



If you need a priest while Simon is away in extreme emergencies call Rev Pip Blackledge 01896 822626

Spiritual Communion

Here is a prayer that can be used at 10.30 on Sundays when Simon will be celebrating the Eucharist For an Act of spiritual Communion, the following prayer -

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.



Collect for 4th October

O Lord, we beseech you: give your people grace to turn away from evil; and to follow you, the only God, in pureness of heart and mind; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

Isaiah 5:1-7 New Revised Standard Version The Song of the Unfruitful Vineyard

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

1 Thessalonians 5:13-24 NRSV

Esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Matthew 21:33-46 NRSV The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect



my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?" Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Prayer for reflection

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; honour everyone;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen



Address: Rev Ursula Shone

How are you coping with these changing and difficult times? It can be frustrating and depressing. For most of us it is the lack of socialising that is hardest. I was thinking back to when the new services came in back in 1982 and the introduction of the 'Sharing the Peace'. Some really did not like this idea of greeting one's neighbour in church but it caught on and now it is something I certainly miss and I'm certainly not alone. Not touching another, not holding a hand to comfort or a hug of welcome It's hard!

There is a prayer of blessing which I will use at the end of the service which is based on those words you have just heard in the letter to the Thessalonians. (it is on your service sheet). Words which are very encouraging for us in our Christian journey and hopefully can say something to you individually.

Go forth into the world in peace. This service ends with the words 'go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.' Peace! How much is peace needed at present, peace in our hearts, our communities our world. The first words of Jesus to the frightened disciples after his resurrection was 'Peace'. It is so easy to get grumpy and to moan about how difficult life is at present. We feel helpless! Can we hear those words of Jesus in our hearts 'Peace be with you'? To accept that peace into our lives and then to share with those we meet and in the way we talk to each other.

Be of good courage. We can be reassured of God's presence with us always and everywhere. It is to say in your heart God give me courage in the everyday things even in the small things. It is unlikely that we will be called to great acts of bravery. No, for us it is to trust in God to face the difficulties of whatever kind with courage. Another word for this kind of courage is resilience.

Hold fast that which is good, render to no one evil for evil. Some of the modern ways of being in contact have made life so much better, phone calls, internet, video links and zoom. It means families and friends can be in touch when visiting isn't possible. Yet something that has so much good has it's dark side! The unkind and cruel words sent anonymously. The growth of mis-information, the lies and wicked propaganda that sow hatred and violence. As Christians we have to hold fast to the good. To be careful that we do not spread untruths and try to be careful in what we say and sometimes how we say it!

Strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the afflicted. Here is what is required of us in our Christian service, the mutual caring for each other and all those whom we meet, our neighbours, and those we meet in our everyday lives. It is easy to feel faint-hearted, I do at times. Yet help and encouragement does come in acts of kindness given and received. It can be in the kindly word as we go about our lives or a phone call for chat. For those who are not able to get out there they can pray for others. There are also the ways of helping through charitable giving .

Honour everyone However frustrated we may feel with our leaders, the politicians. Who hasn't shouted at the TV when a certain politician appears or a new restriction is introduced! It must never be forgotten that they like us are imperfect human beings and will get things wrong at times. We cannot all agree on what should or should not be done and there is much division in political issues. Respect is due to those in authority with prayer for guidance and wisdom for all. Respect for each other, we are all equal before God. All this is summed up in the final sentence 'love and serve the Lord' not in our own strength but 'in the power of the Holy Spirit'. This is our calling as Christians.

I will use this prayer at the final blessing . It is on your weekly sheet, think and pray how it can become your prayer. Amen



Intercessions for 4th October 2020

Lord God you are the father of all people and we come before you today with our prayers knowing that you will hear us, help us and guide us.

We pray today for reconciliation and forgiveness in our own lives. Peace will begin with us and we ask that the change we all so long for in the world would be present in our own lives and be an example to others.

Lord we ask you to help us to seek out opportunities to work for understanding and tolerance between people of different religious backgrounds, different social backgrounds, different racial and political backgrounds. We pray especially that religious views would not lead to bitterness and hatred between us your children whom you so love and with whom your patience and tolerance is boundless.

We remember the example of the Good Samaritan who reached out to someone outside of his own religion and culture, may this example inspire us to go beyond our own comfort zones and help those in need regardless of them being different to ourselves.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Lord today we pray for victims of fire, flood earthquake, famine or disease. For those whom disaster has left homeless, injured or bereaved and today our thoughts and prayers are especially with the people of the US Gulf Coast states and particularly with the people of New Orleans and Biloxi.

Give all who suffer the love that bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things. Be the support of all who give their strength, their skill and their stamina in a ministry of providing relief. We ask you to open our hearts in generosity and prayer that we may also be partners and support their commitment to bring relief to the thousands in need at this time.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

We pray for people who are frightened because they are ill. Reassure them that because of the knowledge that you give to us, many diseases can now be cured. Help them to have confidence in those with medical knowledge to diagnose illness and care for the sick. Give them courage, hope and peace, and the knowledge that you are present in their weakness, pain and suffering. We pray especially for those who have no one to help them, that in their loneliness they may know that you are with them.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

Heavenly Father, we pray for those whose hearts have been saddened by the death of someone close and dear to them, for members of our families who have died and whose anniversary we recall. Help us to experience the comfort of the Holy Spirit within us, and the fellowship of the church family around us until we are reunited once more in your heavenly kingdom.

Jesus Christ is the light of the World, a light which no darkness can quench. We remember before God those who have died and light a candle to symbolize the light of Christ which eternally shines and brings hope.

You turn our darkness into light in your light shall we see light

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Be with us Lord in the week ahead as we go out onto the world. May the lips that have sung your praises always speak the truth, may the ears which have heard your word listen only to what is good and may our lives as well as our worship be always pleasing in your sight for the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord

Merciful Father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.**



As part of the ongoing response to the Coronavirus pandemic the Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC) will be broadcasting video coverage of Eucharistic services via its website, social media channels and YouTube channel. The web page for the broadcast is located at www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship



For those who are not online the Archbishop of Canterbury has set up a Freephone Daily Hope service of hymns, prayers and readings. It is available 24 hours a day on 0800 8048044

Join Pip this week at Holy Trinity at <https://www.holytrinitymelrose.org/> and click on the link on the home (front) page - Holy Trinity YouTube channel. 11.00am <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJkxEqnglnze4SeN4I54Ecw>

St John's Selkirk now has their weekly Sunday services on their YouTube channel, with several (different) familiar voices each week, music, inspirational quotes and images at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9ITNAH6VHZkqMONiH6Vt9w> available from 10am each Sunday morning. Please feel free to have a listen at any time which suits you.



11am to 11:30 every Wednesday morning.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87979280424?pwd=UEJzRXk0UUFpVcnJuaUVZTzJvaE92UT09>

Meeting ID: 879 7928 0424 Password: 023545 Host: Tim Hatton



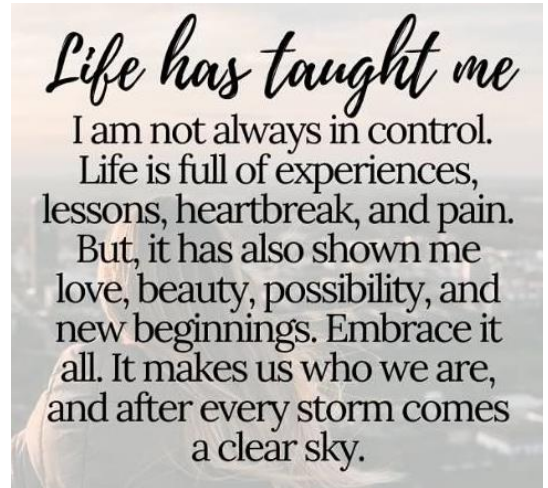
Bible Studies hosted on Zoom. Wednesday 7:30pm & Thursday 10:30am
 For this week Tim Hatton will host the studies. So please use this revised link for this week's studies only.: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87979280424?pwd=UEJzRXk0UFPVcnJuaUVZTzJvaE92UT09>
 Meeting ID: 879 7928 0424 Password: 023545

Go peaceful in gentleness through the violence of these days.
 Give freely. Show tenderness in all your ways.
 Through darkness, in troubled times let holiness be your aim.
 Seek wisdom.
 Let faithfulness burn like a flame.
 God speed you! God lead you,
 and keep you wrapped around his heart.
 May you be known by love.
 Be righteous.
 Speak truthfully in a world of greed and lies.
 Show kindness. See everyone through heaven's eyes.
 God hold you, God enfold you,
 and keep you wrapped around his heart.
 May you be known by love.

Paul Field.



Hello dear friends of the A7 Centre of Mission, I have completed my 1882 Challenge to run from St Cuthbert's to St Peter's via St John's in aid of Church Army.
 Thank you all for your words of encouragement, support and donations. You are awesome and God is good!
 Tim




IF YOU NEED SUPPORT

- Priest in charge of St Peter's, St John's & St Cuthbert's Rev Simon Cake 07710523856 cakekands@btinternet.com
- St Peter's pastoral support contact Monica Reynolds 01896 757114 monica@tempelstowe.com
- St Peter's prayer support Muriel Lounsbach 01896 831418 gordon.lounsbach@btinternet.com
- Tim Hatton (A7 Church Army) 07784872307 tim.w.hatton@gmail.com
- St Cuthbert's pastoral and prayer contact Sue Crozier 01450 376499 susancrozier17@yahoo.co.uk
- St John's pastoral and prayer contact Margaret Moyes mmoyes2@gmail.com
- Citizens Advice Scotland www.cas.org.uk
- Victim Support Scotland 0800 160 1985 www.victimsupport.scot
- Alcoholics Anonymous 0800 917 7650 www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk
- Al-Anon Family Groups Galashiels Local individual contacts 07709948205 or 07808946479
- Scotland National Domestic Abuse 24-hour helpline: 0800 027 123
- Cruse Scotland Bereavement Helpline 0845 600 2227 support@crusescotland.org.uk



Lord Jesus, in these difficult times of isolation, pain and sorrow,
 help me to remember that there is nothing in life that will happen
 to me that You and I together cannot handle.
 Keep me strong in faith, joyful in hope and strong in love, for You
 and for all whom You love. Amen.

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PARABLE
 LANDOWNER
 WINEPRESS
 TOWER
 VINTAGE
 PRODUCE
 RESPECT
 HEIR
 WRETCHES
 SEASON
 STONE
 FRUIT

