

ORDER OF SERVICE SUNDAY 21st August 2022

Kingussie Parish Church linked with Laggan and Newtonmore

Good morning and welcome to worship this morning at Laggan, Newtonmore

Church notices

Kingussie Parish Church :-

Evening Service tonight at 18:00 in Inch Village Church

Babies and Toddlers meet 24th August 2022 from 09:00.

KPC continues with the open days each Thursday. Everyone is welcome to call in for coffee and cake from 10:00 until 13:00

KPC craft group restarts Monday 29th August 2022.

If you are at a loose end or feel you would like to try your hand at a craft, pop along between 19:00 and 21:00. We would love to welcome new faces.

There's always tea, coffee, cake and biscuits on offer too. ☺

Thursday 25th August 2022 Organ Recital at 7pm

Entry by donation

Recitalist Mr Henry Wallace, Organist and Choirmaster at Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh.

Newtonmore and Laggan:-

Newtonmore

Tuesday 23 August 2022 concert at 7:30 pmChristina Lawrie (piano) and her husband Marcus (violin) who is leader of the second violins in the SCO are playing a programme of classical music.

PRAYER MEETINGS will be held on

16th September at Laggan and

21st October at Newtonmore,

Both meetings run from 11am-12noon. All welcome. If you wish to join and these days/times are not suitable, please let Rev Mary Ellen Thomson know.

Call to Worship

The Faith Nurture Forum would like to thank the group of the Church of Scotland Children's Youth and Family workers we invited into conversation, for their thoughts on the eleventh Sunday after Pentecost.

1st Hymn 160 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven

1st Reading

Hebrews Ch 12 v 18 - 29

You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death." The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear." But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens." The words "once more" indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire."

2nd Hymn 502 Take my life, Lord, let it be

2nd reading

Luke Ch 13 v 10 - 17

On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God.

Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, "There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath."

The Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?"

When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.

Prayer of adoration and confession

Let us pray

Lord God, the wonders of your creation, the splendour of the heavens, the beauty of the earth, the order and richness of nature, all speak to us of your glory. The coming of your Son, the presence of your Spirit, the fellowship of your Church, show us the marvel of your love. We worship and adore you, God of grace and glory.

God of mercy, God of love, in humbleness of heart we confess our sins. We forget to love and serve you, and wander from your ways. We are careless of your world, and put its life in danger. We talk of our concern for others, but fail to match our words with action.

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Merciful God, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ your Son, our Saviour.

Amen

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Luke Ch 13 v 10-17 A Spirit of Infirmary

I would like you to look at two people today and compare them. One is a woman who is terribly bent and the other is a man who is very unbending.

The woman has a curvature of the spine. It sounds like some crippling form of arthritis. We are told that she has suffered this way for 18 years – definitely a chronic illness. Every movement is difficult and she needs a stick to walk with. It would be so easy for her to fall over. Yet she still made the effort and came to the Synagogue on the Sabbath. Her suffering made her look in towards herself. This is often the danger of illness: it makes us inward-looking.

The man was the leader of the Synagogue, an upright citizen, a man of good standing and rather unbending. He did not suffer fools gladly and he was quick to point out when people did wrong. He made sure that people kept the rules of their faith and did not stray. He was a law-abiding citizen and we need such as him – except that he is so unbending.

Jesus was in the Synagogue where the man was the leader. Jesus was teaching in the Synagogue on the Sabbath. No doubt the leader was listening to Jesus and trying to take in what he said. Then the woman arrived. Jesus saw her struggling and as she came near he invited her to come closer. Jesus said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' Then Jesus laid his hands upon her back and she was able to stand up, straight. She was able to look upwards and outwards. Jesus had given her a new vision of life. Jesus had freed her from being in a locked position. The woman was thrilled and immediately began praising God; the God in whom she trusted.

You would think everyone else would be thrilled. The leader of the Synagogue was not pleased; in fact, he was indignant. He was annoyed because Jesus had healed the woman on the Sabbath. It was a day of rest when no one should work and Jesus had done work by healing this woman. The man could not bend: the law is the law. He kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the Sabbath day.' He looked like a free man but he had become bound with a narrow outlook on what God requires. He was caught up in law rather than love. Such an attitude often binds people fast.

In life it is easy to become bound by rules and regulations or to hide behind them. People get stuck in routines, in watching television, in sport, in front of the computer- and all out of habit. We often think we have no time and it is because we have bound ourselves to certain patterns. It is easy to trap ourselves and lose the freedom that God wants us to have. Let Jesus touch your life. Come to him for he invites you. Come close and spend time with him. Break your routine and make space in your life for God – let him set you free.

Amen

Question time

Are we too unbending in our attitudes? Is our church
How long can our lives express the glorious freedom of the children of God?

Illustration

Robert was in prison for repeatedly breaking the law. He was a violent person. Taking drugs fuelled his violence. He was an addict – and that made him a prisoner as much as being in jail. He was not a likeable character and had few friends. Whilst in Jail he went regularly to a rehabilitation unit to cure him of his dependence on drugs. Slowly he was freed from the habit. Whilst this was going on he had a regular visit from the prison chaplain. At first Robert rejected him and refused to listen but then he accepted a Bible. One day when he was Reading St Luke the tears began to flow. When the chaplain came later Robert showed him the story of the crippled woman and said, 'Jesus has done the same for me. He has set me free.'

3rd Hymn 111 Holy, holy, holy

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray

Gracious God, rejoicing in your blessings,

trusting in your loving care for all, we bring you our prayers for the world.

We pray for the created world: for those who rebuild where many things have been destroyed; for those who fight hunger, poverty, and disease; for those who have power to bring change for the better and to renew hope.

We pray for our country: for our Queen and her family; for those who frame our laws and shape our common life; for those who keep the peace and administer justice; for those who teach, those who heal, all who serve the community.

We pray for people in need : those for whom life is a bitter struggle; those whose lives are clouded by death or loss, by pain or disability, by discouragement or fear, by shame or rejection. In lives of those in need.

We pray for the Church in its stand with the poor, in its love for the outcast and the ashamed, in its service to the sick and the neglected, in its proclamation of the Gospel, in this land, in this place. In the life of your Church.

And we join together saying:

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

Amen

4th Hymn 553 "Just as I am"

BENEDICTION

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Go in the strength of God. And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you, now and always. Amen.

Hymn 786 May the God of peace go with us.