

ORDER OF SERVICE

SUNDAY 6th March 2022

Welcome to our service this morning in Laggan and Kingussie churches.

NOTICES

Next week 13th March there will be Communion Services at

Laggan Parish Church 09:30

Newtonmore Parish Church 11:30

with retiring offering to Edinburgh Direct Syrian Refugee Support

There is a Session Meeting on Monday 14th March at 19:00 in St Bride's

KINGUSSIE

Monday Lunch tomorrow 7th March at 12.30 . All welcome

Monday Craft class will meet at 19:00. All welcome

Wednesday 9th March Mothers and Toddlers will meet from 09:00

Thursday 10th March Church Open Day from 10:00 until 13:00

SERVICE

Today is the first Sunday in Lent. As we enter this season of Lent help us to reflect on your words in the Scriptures, and give us the faith and courage to follow Jesus in the way of active engagement with the world for justice and an equal sharing of all that brings fullness of life to each human being. Save us from the temptation of making gods of our possessions or status, misusing the power we hold over others. Guide us by your Holy Spirit to a deeper understanding of our joyful dependence on your love. These things we ask through our saviour Jesus Christ.

Call to worship Prayer

Come, you who live in the shelter of the Most High.

Come, you who abide in the Shadow of the Almighty

Come, you who call on the Lord in the time of trouble.

God of Lent and God of love, deliver us from all that troubles, protect us from all that harms, answer us when all seems confused, rescue us in our hour of need, satisfy us with your Salvation.

Our refuge and my fortress our God in whom we trust.

Amen

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

1st Hymn 337 Forty days and forty nights

1st Reading Deuteronomy Ch 26 v 1 - 11

When you have entered the land the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the Lord your God is giving you and put them in a basket. Then go to the place the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name and say to the priest in office at the time, "I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come to the land the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the Lord your God. Then you shall declare before the Lord your God: "My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, subjecting us to harsh labor. Then we cried out to the Lord, the God of our ancestors, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. So the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with signs and wonders. He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; and now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." Place the basket before the Lord your God and bow down before him. Then you and the Levites and the foreigners residing among you shall rejoice in all the good things the Lord your God has given to you and your household

2nd Hymn 55 (Psalm 91) Safe in the shadow of the Lord

2nd Reading Luke Ch 4 v 1 - 13

Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."
Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.'"
The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. If you worship me, it will all be yours."
Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'"
The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here. For it is written: " 'He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; They will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'"
Jesus answered, "It is said: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"
When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Jesus is full of the Holy Spirit after his Baptism, and it is this Spirit who leads him into the wilderness. Here, the one through whom all things were made and in whom all things hold together looks up at His own handiwork through the eyes of a human being. He feels the heat of the sun, and the cold of the night on his fragile skin. And he knows hunger and thirst here. Jesus takes up the work of humility before lifting His voice to declare God's justice.

For the people of Israel, the wilderness was a complicated place. It was both a place of encounter with God and a place of testing of punishment of danger. It was in the wilderness that God met them in cloud and fire, and it was in the wilderness that God's law was revealed. But it was also in the wilderness that they wandered for 40 years and they hungered and thirsted; it was in the wilderness that they succumbed to the temptations of power and comfort and worshipped a golden calf instead of the God who had rescued them .

Though the wilderness tests away from the eyes of the world and the security of control, we discover the hard road of humility and whether we are willing to take up the demands it places on us, at the beginning of Lent , it is a reminder to lean on the love of God as we set out on this journey into the wilderness for 40 days of Lent.

This is a realisation of our need for dependence more than a command to love and know at verse 14. These are invitational words to receive the reassurance and comfort of a nurturing God in the midst of struggle and testing , whether in exile or living through persecution as early listeners of this Psalm would have been. There will still be lions, adders and serpents along the way, but God will be with us in trouble – rather than removing it.

Verse 15 tells us "Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name."

These words alone might provide a rhythm for our walking during our Lenten sojourn.

3rd Hymn 547 What a friend we have in Jesus

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Blessed are you, Lord our God, for you never leave us. When we wander away from you, you keep with us. When we turn our backs on you, you wait patiently until we turn again. You are a loving and a forgiving God.

God, we thank you for our talents and abilities and for all the people who help us to achieve in life. We pray for all who are striving to improve their lives and the communities in which they live.

Today we pray for the people of Ukraine, for those who have striving to improve their lives and the communities in which they live, for those who have given their life protecting their land, for the citizens who remain in the towns and cities, not knowing how the war will escalate. We give thanks for the doctors and nursing staff who are working in the hospitals.

Our hearts go out to the fathers who have so stoically said goodbye to their wives and children who are going to safety on trains out of Ukraine.

We remember in our prayers Pastor Mirek and his congregation at the Church in Libis.

We pray for the medics who are travelling to Ukraine to help in the hospitals and places of safety. Lord guard and guide all who have helped in any way they can.

We remember the people from Ukraine who have been staying in the UK for some time, our thoughts and prayers are with them all.

At KPC

Lord as we come together to celebrate Holy Communion at Kingussie Parish Church together, remember we are privileged to have the freedom to do so.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayers.

Amen

Our closing Hymn 706 For the Healing of the nations

Benediction

Be bold to share the life of Christ, and show his love. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you.

Amen