

Joint Service at Kingussie Parish Church Sunday 12th February 2023

Church notices

Kingussie Church

Wednesday 15th February from 9:00. Babies and Toddlers.

Thursday 16th February Warm space will operate from 10:00 until 16:00

Hot drinks and snacks available throughout the day, with soup and bread at lunchtime. Craft activities including knitting, sewing, glass painting and friendly chat.

Everyone is welcome to pop in.

Foodshare table also available.

Tea and coffee served following the service this morning. Everyone is warmly invited to stay and enjoy.

Rev Mary Ellen Thomson

Call to worship

Collect Words of St. Augustine

O God, from whom to turn is to fall, to whom to turn is to rise, and in whom to stand is to abide for ever: grant us in all our duties your help, in all our perplexities your guidance, in all our dangers your protection, and in all our sorrows your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

St Augustine (354-430)

1st Hymn: 166 Lord of all hopefulness

1st Reading Deuteronomy Ch 30 v 15 - 20 Read for us by Eppy Mackay

See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

2nd Hymn 259: Beauty for brokenness

2nd Reading Matthew Ch 5 v 21 - 37 Read for us by Eppy Mackay

“ You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, ‘*Raca*,’ is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.

“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

“Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

Adultery

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

Divorce

“It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

Oaths

“Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but fulfil to the Lord the vows you have made.’ But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God’s throne; or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

Choir anthem

When the roll is called

3rd Hymn 360 Jesus Christ is waiting

Let us Pray

In reverence of our mighty and everlasting God, who heals us, keeps our confidence, supports us in times of crisis and shares our Joys.

Our God is King over all the earth, Our God has made us a little lower than the Angel’s. Our God sent his Son Jesus Christ Our Lord, into an unjust world. Our Lord was rejected, suffered and died for our Sins. Our Lord rose again in triumph and ascended into heaven. Our Lord now intercedes for us: for the forgiveness of our sin; for our faithfulness, in adversity, for our welfare, well being, and wholeness; for our justice, mercy and grace. Our Lord has sent his Holy Spirit, thelp us, comfort us, and guide us into all truth. Come Holy Spirit, guide us we pray together saying:

The Lord's Prayer:-

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

Thought for the Day

Matthew continues to show Jesus as a Moses figure, so today we hear of Jesus and the Ten Commandments. Jesus does not seek to abolish the Commandments but rather to look at their deeper meaning. Jesus is not challenging the Law but rather extending it to show its implications. Jesus moves from the rules about behaviour to the root cause of that behaviour.

This reminds us that our God sees into the heart and mind.

Our God is the God' to whom all hearts are open, all desires known and from whom no secrets are hidden'.

These words from the mountain deserve much attention and thought as they teach us about reverence for each other, for God and for ourselves. In the Jewish synagogue the scrolls of the Law were carried around the congregation at the beginning of each service so that all might show reverence for all people, always.

If our relationships with each other are broken or wrong, then it is very unlikely that we have a good relationship with God. There is no cheap grace. We need to look at our lives and our attitudes. We all know that it is wrong to harm others. Respect for all is required, Jesus wants all of us to show respect and reverence for each other as a reflection of our reverence for God.

We all have to have a reverence for the truth and respect for each other. We remember from the book of Exodus how God gave Moses the Ten Commandments to show the people how he wanted them to live; to reverence God and each other. If we want to be at peace with God.

Illustration

How we think affects all of our lives. It is not what we do but why we do it that has great effect. There is a lovely scene in *Peter Pan* by J.M. Barrie: The children have seen Peter fly and they wish to fly too. They try to fly from the floor and the bed but fail. 'How do you do it?' John asks Peter. Peter answers, 'You just like wonderful thoughts and they lift you up in the air' Too often we do not give enough direction to what goes on in our thoughts!

Prayers of Intercession

Blessed are you, Lord our God, for you have created us in your own image: you have called us to reflect your love and your forgiveness to all. You give us power to share in your grace.

Lord as you reveal your love to us, help us to show that love towards all whom we meet. We ask your blessing upon all who seek to reveal your grace and to walk in the ways of your laws. We remember all who teach of your love and who study in groups or schools.

Lord as you teach us to respect each other, help us to respect the earth and all its creatures. Give us reverence towards all of your creation. Guide all who care for the resources of our planet and the environment in which we live. We pray for areas that have been devastated by war or greed.

Lord, help us to live at peace with each other. May our communities be places where no one is belittled and no one oppressed. We pray for our homes and our loved ones.

We rejoice that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. We ask your blessing upon our friends and loved ones departed.

As we rejoice in the fellowship of all your saints, we commend this world, all peoples and ourselves to your unfailing love.

Merciful Father Accept these our prayers

Amen

4th Hymn 694 Brother, sister, let me serve you.

BENEDICTION

The peace of God, which is beyond all understanding, guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you all this day and forevermore.

Amen

Hymn 786 May the God of peace go with us