

## **Sunday Service 19th February 2023 at Kingussie Parish Church**

Good morning and a warm welcome to our Service at Kingussie Parish Church this morning.

**Church notices -**

## **Kingussie Parish Church**

Please note

**There will be no  
Babies and Toddlers on Wednesday 22nd February and 1st  
March 2023**

Thursday 23rd 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.

### **Let us Pray - Opening Prayer**

Lord God, who revealed your glory through Jesus to the disciples on the mountain, give us also a glimpse of your glory in our worship and in our lives.

Amen

1st **Hymn** 14: The Lord's my Shepherd

**1st Reading:** Exodus Ch 24 v 12 - 18

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and commandments I have written for their instruction."

Then Moses set out with Joshua his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God. He said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we come back to you. Aaron and Hur are with you, and anyone involved in a dispute can go to them."

When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, and the glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh

day the Lord called to Moses from within the cloud. To the Israelites the glory of the Lord looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

2nd **Hymn** 125: Lord of all being throned afar

**2nd Reading:** Matthew Ch 17 v 1 - 9

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

3rd **Hymn** 722 Spirit of God, come dwell within me.

### **Call to prayer**

Let all the earth acclaim the Lord! Worship the Lord in gladness.

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,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** "He giveth more grace"

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

The recognition of Jesus as the Christ at Caesarea Philippi and then his telling the disciples of how he must go to Jerusalem to face suffering and death is followed by the Transfiguration. It is as it, before all happened in Jerusalem, the disciples were given this glimpse of Jesus in his glory to give them hope in the future. Matthew continues to tell the story in a way that compares Jesus to Moses. The Transfiguration happened 'six days later'. In Exodus 24: 15-18 we hear of the cloud being on Mount Sinai for six days. The Lord came on Sinai in a cloud (Exodus 34: 29). All of these have parallels in the experience of the disciples on the mountain. Matthew draws this out : after telling us Jesus was transfigured and his face shone, he three times says, 'Behold'. This is seen best in the King James Bible, Matthew 17:3-5: ' behold there appeared unto them Moses and Elijah' (17: 3) behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them' (17:5) ' behold a voice out of the cloud which said, " This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased"(17:5).

St Matthew wants us to see not only that the face of Jesus shone like that of Moses but also that Jesus fulfils the law given to Moses and the prophecies as exemplified by Elijah. The bright cloud is a symbol of the hidden presence of God. Even in the darkest days God is present. The cloud is a bright one to remind us of the presence. This can be compared to the pillar of cloud in the desert; the cloud that descended on the Tent of Meeting when the Lord came down on Sinai in a cloud.

The voice out of the cloud is the assurance of the presence, and the voice affirms again what was said at the Baptism of Jesus: that this is the Son and Beloved of God. As at the beginning of his ministry, so, as it comes near to a close, Jesus is affirmed by the Father. Jesus is the true icon, the true image of God. St John will write, ' The word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.'

Before this revelation the disciples bowed down in fear. Jesus came and touched them and said, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' Jesus ordered them, ' Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.' Emphasising not only he is the Christ but the future resurrection.

Amen

### **PRAYERS of INTERCESSION**

Blessed are you, Lord God, ever present in our lives. Through the power of your Spirit you reveal your glory to us in the face of Jesus Christ. Help us to trust in you and in the power of the resurrection.

Lord, guide your Church, that in its words and actions it may reveal your glory. We remember all who have lost their way and who feel confused by life, especially those who feel life has no meaning or purpose. We pray for all who are captives of vice or drugs. We ask your blessing upon all who are fearful, especially those who are suffering from persecution or poverty.

Lord, change us and we shall be changed. Transform our homes into places of your glory. Transform our lives to reveal your presence. Transform our minds to know your

peace. Transform our hearts to abide in your love. May we know you are always with our loved ones and with us.

We rejoice in your power, and in the resurrection. We pray for friends and loved ones departed that they may enjoy and rest in your glory. We seek to share in the fellowship of all your saints in glory.

And now, 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

**Our closing Hymn 167** Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, please remain standing following this Hymn for the Benediction

### **Benediction**

Go now, with love in your hearts, light in your eyes, and life in your souls.

Go in the service of Christ, to proclaim what he has done for you and share what he has given , to his glory.

Amen

**Hymn 786** May the God of peace go with us