

Church of Scotland: Orphir and Stenness Parish

Interim Moderator: Rev June Freeth 721449

Locum Minister Rev Martin Prentice **Session Clerk:** Nicol Sclater 811242

Intimations

Sunday 14th Feb at 11am – Zoom Service – The first 5 minutes will be used to get everyone logged in and the service will start at 11.05am.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5901432179?pwd=aEhqejNGR1RWc1oyek9RSXBZcXJpQT09>

Meeting ID: 590 143 2179

Passcode: 927045

(These details are the same every week)

Please contact Kathryn if you have any questions. Phone 811 242 or email k_sclater@hotmail.com

- If you, or someone you are in contact with, would like to access pastoral care by telephone, please contact Carol Mainland 873596, Nicol Sclater 811242, Olivia Tait 811392 or Martin Prentice 851139.

Transfiguration Sunday

This is the last Sunday of Epiphany. Next Sunday we begin our journey through Lent to the memory of the cross, and the resurrection: to Easter. This week we look at Mark's account of the Transfiguration of Jesus, the event that marks the end of his ministry in Galilee and the beginning of his journey towards Jerusalem. Jesus's changed appearance and shining garments reflect his nature as both divine and human.

There are glimpses of God's glory elsewhere: in the Exodus story of the radiance of Moses' face when he came down from Mount Sinai, in the story of Elijah and Elisha, and in this week's reading from 2 Corinthians, where Paul warns that we may be blinded by earthly gods, and kept from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ.

In today's reading from Mark's Gospel, Jesus invites his three closest disciples to go up a mountain with him. There the disciples are dazzled by Jesus' altered appearance. In contrast to the voice that spoke to Jesus at his baptism, this time a voice speaks directly to the disciples and tells them to 'listen to him', before they then head back down the mountain.

This mountain-top experience provides a glimpse of the glory of God, but it is a passing experience. As you think about it, ask yourself, have you had an unexpected or intense awareness of the glory of God? Was it difficult to leave that experience behind? Did you want to hold onto it even as everyday life continued? How can we tune into God's 'wow' moments in our lives? Not least, how would we respond to a voice saying "this is my beloved child, Jesus. Listen to him"?

Prayer:

Open our minds and hearts to see and embrace the glory of God and the light of the gospel. Amen.

Martin.