

Church of Scotland: Orphir and Stenness Parish

Interim Moderator: Rev June Freeth 721449

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

Intimations

- Orphir Post Office is open in the kirk on Thursdays from 10am to 12 noon. The Orcadian is available. Please take the correct money for papers; £1.50.
- For the time being, Orphir and Stenness kirk will not be open for Sunday worship.
- Presbytery have sent information about a Quiet Waters Counselling and Listening Training Workshop through Zoom. For details please email nsclater@gmail.com so that the original email can be forwarded to you
- Malawi news is attached with this weekend's link
- If you, or someone you are in contact with, would like to access pastoral care by telephone please contact Olivia Tait 811392, Carol Mainland 873596, Nicol Sclater 811242 or Martin Prentice 851139.

The numbers of people affected by the Covid-19 pandemic continue to rise, and the restrictions aimed at limiting the spread seem to change from day to day. In this stressful time, it is good to remember that God doesn't change. You may find these two prayers helpful. Keep safe. Blessings, *Martin*.

Prayer for those who could use a moment of peace:

May you listen to that subtle yearning within you, the voice you often impatiently brush off, and realize that this voice is calling you to seek a slightly different course today, not anything major, not anything earth-shaking, but a simple shift in your timeline, and whether you are over-scheduled and needing to postpone one stressful plan, or under-scheduled and needing to reach out to make one loving connection, may you do just one thing that brings you comfort and quiet, for no other reason than the truth that the still, small voice within you is asking for it. Amen.

Rev. Micah Bucey, New York, USA

And:

God of listening, God of peace,
In our hearts may you increase,
Till our flow of words shall cease,
and we hear you.

Listening is the hardest skill,
Silences we strain to fill,
Far too restless to be still
And just hear you.

If our well-planned words defeat
Words of others that we meet,
Hesitant and incomplete,
Father, hear them.

If the insights that we seek
Come from someone tired and weak,
Looking for a chance to speak,
Help us hear them.

— Janet Shepperson in *1000 World Prayers*

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Blessings,
Martin.