

SCONE and ST MARTINS PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

at

Scone and St Martins Church

Sunday 6 September 2020

To exit hymns back space immediately once hymn is finished –
click on the arrow pointing left at the top left of the screen.

Do not click on a cross x

Welcome to those who join us from out of town

Rev Maudeen MacDougall

Tel: 01738 551942

Email: Maudeen.MacDougall@churchofscotland.org.uk

A special welcome is extended to any visitors worshipping with us. You are invited to sign the Visitors' Book. If you have moved into this area, we would be very pleased to have you worship with us regularly. Please speak to one of the Welcome Party, or to the Minister as you leave.

Email: sconeandstmartinschurch@talktalk.net

A **Telephone Prayer Chain** is available to support in prayer any person/s in the church or community, or their family or friends whether living here or elsewhere, particularly if urgent prayer is required for matters such as illness, operations or other problems. Phone requests to Lilian at 553651 or, if she is unavailable, Ina at 551607 or Helen at 01821640560. Or, instead of phoning, you can write your request on a prayer request slip, sign it or leave it unsigned as you wish, and place it in the Church Prayer box on a Sunday morning.

A Very Warm Welcome to You!

This week on our virtual tour I leave the land of a number of my natural roots to journey to other areas. We inherit roots and we plant roots in different places. Whatever and wherever we have cause to Praise the Lord.

Introduction: Read Psalm 117 and Psalm 150 as printed:

Psalm 117	Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples! For His merciful kindness is great toward us, And the truth of the Lord <i>endures</i> forever. Praise the Lord!
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Psalm 150	Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty firmament! Praise Him for His mighty acts; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness! Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp! Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes! Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!
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Now feel your way into this lovely singing inspired by these two **Psalms** [CLICK HERE](#) (then click Back space).

We sing the **Hymn** God is love, let heaven adore him [CLICK HERE](#) (then click Back space).

Prayer	CLICK HERE (then click Back space).
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Girls and boys, I hope we'll say hello next week and smile, even though we're wearing masks. I'll see your eyes smiling and you'll see mine as hopefully the Church opens for worship. When I was very little (and not so little) I visited the town where I was born. In the news lately, the name of that town is Greenock. There is a football team called Greenock Morton and I watch their scores every week along with those of the Staggies, Caley Thistle and the Saints. I used to like going to the Sunday school there and always got a stamp on my card for attending. What a good idea? 😊 Anyway, in the Greenock Gaelic Parish Church Sunday School when on holiday I learned "A sunbeam, a sunbeam". Today, as we remember Jesus Loves Us, I'm sure that's good cause to smile and to sing the song [CLICK HERE](#) (then click Back space).

Greenock is on the River Clyde and many are the boats that have been built in Greenock and sailed in and out from its port. I've been in the dockyard when one was being refitted and in the sugar refinery which as far as smell was concerned was quite an experience (when I was doing 6th year studies Geography). I have also been up the Lyle Hill, but where have I not been. Through my years in Greenock I've even been on a steam train to

Gourock from Greenock West Station, through the dark tunnel and saying to the rhythm of the train, come on the light; come on the light – and beyond – beyond even Princes Pier. How I love Para Handy – maybe your Mums and Dads would help you find him on the computer. Each Sunday afternoon, I would get my dolls and teddies on to the settee when I was little, my sister in the middle of them, and then I would be the minister and take a service with one of the arm chairs my pulpit. (My sister led the singing) Anyway, Greenock was a place that I found had a great deal of Jesus love in it. It was too the place where an aunt dressed 2 black dolls for my sister and me in tartan capes. We learned when very young that whatever our colour or wherever we have come from God loves us equally. And on a Sunday morning I used to hear the clicking of heels as people criss-crossed the town to go to their church and BB bands and Scouts and Guides and Cubs and Brownies you often saw too. **Greenock is a place I associate with much love and with God's love. God loves each one of you. You are special.**

Hymn

Jesus loves you: [CLICK HERE](#) (then click Back space)

Now, I am informed that the Ferry still sails from McInroys Point to Dunoon and you can take your car across: [CLICK HERE](#) (then click Back space). On your way by car from Dunoon it is possible to call in at the Benmore Botanic Garden [CLICK HERE](#) (then click Back space) That would be ideal as this is Creation Month. You can also head for such scenic spots as Tighnabruaich and Strachur or just head straight to Inveraray where wild salmon and trout can be bought in the local fish shop. Of course Inveraray Castle, [CLICK HERE](#) (then click Back space) the historic jail and other interesting features can be visited. Many are the sites of interest in that area before heading along the road towards Ardrishaig and Lochgilphead and on to Campbeltown, or you can take the road to Dalmally and instead of returning to Oban head down the road via Crianlarich and meander from there to Scone.

Many are the saints associated with the West Coast, Blane, Laurence, Margaret, among them, and we cannot forget Patrick and Columba and those who followed after them. **Here in the Parish of Scone and St Martin** we major on St Martin. It seems however that the Abbey of Scone was dedicated by Alexander I in 1114 to the Holy Trinity and St Michael, although other saints are also mentioned including St John, St Lawrence and St Augustine. An Augustinian abbey, originated from the Church of St. Oswald, at Nastly, near Pontefract in Yorkshire. But **St Michael** seems to be the main saint associated with The Latin Church here and **St Martin** the saint of the Celtic Church. Also, in addition to my more recent predecessors **Bruce Thomson and Alex Millar**, I discovered a stained glass window in the Old Kirk to the **Rev Ronald Robertson** who gifted us our first dog that had grown by the time that my sister and I arrived having been gifted as a puppy to our parents at their wedding; I also discovered the minister who baptised me attended Scone New from his retiral to his death, **Rev Angus Macleod**.

HYMN of PILGRIMAGE (In all times) Scone and St Martins is keeping upbeat but to those for whom life may feel a struggle we offer the following hymn. This hymn is attributed to Macleod, Norman, D.D., son of Dr. Norman Macleod, who was born at Campbeltown, Argyllshire, June 3, 1812. He studied at the Universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh, and then went to Germany. Someone needs to correct the information on Hymnary.org, where the Church of Scotland is described as "Established". Click here for

the hymn, well sung by **St Machar's Cathedral**, Aberdeen: [CLICK HERE](#) (then click Back space).

Readings

Hebrews 11: 11 – 16 Faithful Abraham and Sarah and the Heavenly Hope.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born as many as the stars of the sky in multitude—innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore.

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

Psalm 46

(tune Stroudwater) [CLICK HERE](#) (then click Back space).

Revelation 21: 1 – 4 The New Heaven and the New Earth

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place¹ of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

John 7: 38

Whoever believes in me, as the Scriptures have said, "Out of their hearts will flow rivers of living water".

This Hymn we sing now was originally written by John Bunyan, known for his Pilgrims Progress. "Bunyan's burly song strikes a welcome note in our Hymnal. The quaint sincerity of the words stirs us out of our easy going, at times dull Christianity, to the thrill of great adventure. Also note that those who can only lip read can follow this lovely congregation Sing here: [CLICK HERE](#) (then click Back space).

Thought for the Day:

If you have been reading and singing and praying your way through this service, you may have had your thought for the day – mind you, I hope you have a few thoughts. If not, I invite you to sit quietly in your home or prepare to take yourself out of the footpaths of the world even on to the flight paths of positive purpose and spend some time in quiet meditation. Let there be quietness, and gently and gradually drink in God's Peace – Peace, Peace, Peace – the Peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

I wonder where you are – I am sitting in my study in Scone looking beyond a copper beech hedge, looking at a fine assortment of trees towering towards a blue sky where through white and grey clouds the sun continues to shine. Voices in the church car park seem to have gone quiet, the birds give an occasional chirp, a plane is passing overhead, the air coming in through the window has that early autumnal feel. I hear doves cooing in the distance and there is the constant humming of cars and the gentle ripple of the burn and rustle of the trees. On a path, skirting the glebe, folk are making their way to the Macmillan Coffee Centre. Though I cannot see them I know there will be movement on Abbey Road – day to day routine. Prayers hang from the trees in the Kirk yard next door where Church doors open again – Peace, Peace, Peace – The Peace of the Risen Christ is within and around.

Into the beauty of God's Peace come these words, words of John Baillie, once Principal of New College:

O Eternal God, although in one sense I cannot see you with my eyes or touch you with my hands, give me a clear conviction of your reality and power. Do not let me go into my day believing only in the world of sense and time but give me grace to understand that the world I cannot see or touch is the most real of all. My life today will be lived in time but it will involve eternal issues. The needs of my body will shout out but it is for the needs of my soul that I must care the most. My business will be with material things but let me be aware of spiritual things behind them. Let me always keep in mind that the things that matter are not money or possessions, not houses or property, not bodily comforts or pleasures, but truth and honour and gentleness, and helpfulness and a pure love of you.

Thank you Lord

For the power you have given me to grasp things unseen
For the strong sense I have that this is not my eternal home
For my restless heart that nothing finite can satisfy.

Thank you Lord

For sending your Spirit to fill my heart
For all human love and goodness that speaks to me of you
For the fullness of your glory poured out in Jesus Christ

On my pilgrim journey I come before you, the eternal One.
Let me not try to deaden or destroy the desire for you that disturbs my heart
Let me rather give myself over to its persuasion and go where it leads me.
Make me wise today to see all things within the dimensions of eternity and make me

brave enough to face all the changes in my life that come from this vision through the grace of Christ my Saviour. Amen.

Peace, Peace, Peace – the Peace of Christ be with you.

Prayer of Intercession [CLICK HERE](#) (then click Back space)

Hymn

Why leave singing this hymn to once a year. Christ the Lord is Risen Today! [CLICK HERE](#) (then click Back space)

Benediction (May) the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. And the Blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you now and forever more. Amen.