

**ST CUTHBERT'S
SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
COLINTON**

**Pentecost 13
30 August 2020**



**COVID-19
No Services in Church**

Hymn 798 – We have a gospel to proclaim

**We have a gospel to proclaim,
good news for all throughout the earth;
the gospel of a Saviour's name:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**

**Tell of his reign at God's right hand,
by all creation glorified.
He sends his Spirit on his Church
to live for him, the Lamb who died.**

**Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel-message we proclaim:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.**

*Edward Joseph Burns (b.1938) ©The Revd Edward J. Burns
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Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

God is love and we are God's children.
There is no room for fear in love.
We love because God loved us first.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

God our Father, we confess to you and to our fellow members in the body of Christ that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry. Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil. For the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

God, who is both power and love, forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by the Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Gloria (*Said*)

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Author and Giver of all good things, graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us in all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 15.15-21

O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I

ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. Therefore, thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: Romans 12.9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but

associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn 364 – It is a thing most wonderful

**It is a thing most wonderful,
almost too wonderful to be,
that God's own Son should come from heav'n,
and die to save a child like me.**

**It is most wonderful to know
his love for me so free and sure;
but 'tis more wonderful to see
my love for him so faint and poor.**

**And yet I want to love thee, Lord;
O light the flame within my heart,
and I will love thee more and more,
until I see thee as thou art.**

William Walsham How (1823-1897)

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Gospel: Matthew 16.21-28

Hear the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to Christ our Saviour.

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? 'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

The Sermon

I think the most deceptive thing Jesus says in the whole Bible are those simple words, “Follow me.” It sounds pretty simple. Of course we can do that. Can’t we? However, continued personal experience tells me to hold on tight, it’s going to be a bumpy ride.

Our passage today, is a bumpy ride passage. Last week’s text had Jesus declaring that Peter would be handed the keys of the kingdom. Here was the rock upon which the church would be built. And where is he this week? A stumbling block to Jesus. Satan. And why? Because Peter was not ready for the bumps and curves and the speed of following Jesus.

Jesus started telling the disciples how he was going to go to Jerusalem and suffer and die and be raised. Well, the last part sounded okay to Peter, but the suffering and dying part, not so much. And that’s easy to understand. This is his great friend. His teacher. His master and companion. Suffer and die? Of course Peter protests. So would I. Wouldn’t you?

So, Jesus has to make it clear. Following him is going to take the disciples places they never would have gone on their own. Following Jesus is going to be a wild and scary ride at times. Following Jesus is going to mean they have to give up the things they want, and do the hard things that scare them or hurt them or, just make them uncomfortable. I think the key word in this entire passage is not “deny” or “cross” –

although they are important words. The most important word is “follow.” Jesus is always on the move.

Each Sunday, we gather (wherever we are) to meet God. If we are doing worship right, we come here to praise God for all the wonderful things God has done and promises to do. But as wonderful as worship can be, it is not the main point. This hour we spend together on Sunday morning is like a pit stop – a place to refuel, to fill us up ready to go out into the world as followers of Christ.

And where will Jesus take us? Well, that’s the bumpy part I was talking about before. It is highly likely that Jesus is going to take us to places where we do not feel comfortable. We will be challenged; we will be tested.

I’m certainly feeling challenged and tested right now, trying to make right decisions, to make sure everyone has the opportunity to worship in church, while ensuring everyone is kept safe as we do so. I know some of you will be unhappy with my decisions and others are happy just to be given the opportunity to worship together again, even if it isn’t every week. I’m afraid I will never please everyone but I can assure you, I am doing my best and truly believe I continue to follow Jesus, as I discern my ongoing call to serve God and God’s people.

By following Jesus, we are going to have to deny ourselves. We are going to have to take up the cross. We are going to meet people who are not grateful. We are going to meet people who mock us and yell at us or dismiss us.

We are going to fail sometimes, even most times, and be told to try again.

When we follow Jesus, we end up – whether we want to or not – denying ourselves and taking up our cross. And, of course, there is good news hidden in all this. Jesus wants to lead us on this trip because we will find true life, sweet reward, on this road.

As a child a trip in the car was very rare. Actually, it was my grandmother's car and my step-father, on the whole, only used it to drive her to church on Sunday. But in the summer she would allow us to use it for days out to Barry Island, Porthcawl or Tenby. Dual carriageways and motorways were still relatively new in South Wales at that time, but my grandmother did not want to be driven along these long straight roads, with nothing to see and nowhere to stop. She liked the old back roads. The ride was not as smooth or quick. There were ups and downs. We sometimes got stuck behind slow traffic. And, we sometimes got lost.

But on these back roads we would stop and see places we would never have gone to otherwise. We helped people who had broken down. We found an injured dog and took it to the vet. We broke down ourselves and met some wonderful people who stopped and helped us. We found amazing ice cream shops and the best chips and gravy in Wales – the sweet reward of following a different road. Yes, I'm afraid, ice cream, chips and gravy were sweet reward to me at the time.

Jesus has a different road he wants to lead us down. It is not smooth. It is not going to be fun all the time. Indeed, sometimes keeping up with Jesus is going to scare us and make us do things we would never do - if it were up to us. But there is a sweet reward on that road. There is a loving Lord who will be with us for every twist and turn. One who refuels us as we gather before our screens each Sunday, (and shortly back in church) as we remember the bumpy road he travelled for us.

I wonder which road you are willing to follow?

Nicki

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one substance with the Father.

Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and Son, he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Intercessions

Spring is the time of new growth stirring in the heart of nature, when creation wakes and puts out feelers towards the sun and all of life seems to be a glorious possibility. We see this same springtime in the lives of our children, excitedly exploring the possibilities of their lives and their environment. And we see that same springtime in the innovation and imagination of the human spirit as a new business is started up, a new marriage is formed, a new personal challenge is taken on.

So, Father, we ask your blessing on us and on our children, thinking particularly of children in our family or in our church, or children we know whose springtime is delayed by illness or disability . . .

And we ask your blessing on those we know who are taking new risks in their jobs or their commitments or their dreams, people we name silently now . . .

Lord, the seasons change, ***but your love lasts for ever.***

Summer is the time of fullness, when nature luxuriates in its achievements. Summer assaults the senses with the smell of freshly cut grass, birdsong in the morning, the long shadows at the end of a golden day. We too have periods when life is full and everything is good and nothing seems impossible. Lord, we thank you for those times – times past, times present, or times still to hope for. We thank you also for those times, good and full, enjoyed by members of our family, or church family. Help us always to see life as a gift. May we always pray: ‘For what we have received, may the Lord make us truly thankful.’

Lord, the seasons change, ***but your love lasts for ever.***

Autumn comes upon us as a gradual closing down. A final exuberant burst of colour, swirling leaves, evening chill, nature settling settling down to sleep. The mood of autumn is reflective, pondering the turning of the years. So we too, sometimes, have autumn in our hearts as we adjust to a gentler stage of life, perhaps facing advancing years, or some debilitation or loss.

There is beauty in this time as memory and experience combine to give wisdom and a deeper grasp of what’s important. But some people are full of melancholy and sadness. So we picture some people now, entering their autumn with gratitude or with a sense of loss, and we pray for them quietly in our hearts . . .

Lord, the seasons change, ***but your love lasts for ever.***

Winter is the time of rest, of darkness and of short, sharp days. It's the time of keeping warm and hopeful as the deep engines of nature tick over quietly, awaiting their call to recreate the earth. We too get on with life as best we can in these dark days, preparing for that burst of light on December the 25th and planning our holidays in sun, sand and sea. But there are many who normally experience life as winter – a time of dark struggle, with illness, with poverty, with cruel relationships, with the daily wounds of injustice. For them there is little of winter's comfort, its rest and the joy of Christmas. There are some we know for whom life is perpetual winter. There are countless others whom we don't know, especially in places of poverty, war and oppression. We pray for them, and that you, Lord, may find ways to lighten their darkness.

Lord, the seasons change, ***but your love lasts for ever.***

Lord of the seasons, carry us through our years with hearts and minds open to see and receive all that you have to give, so that we may experience the gracious cycle of your love and mercy, which we have known supremely in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Roma Soderberg

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Offertory Hymn 491 – Love divine, all loves excelling

**Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix I us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.**

**Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above;
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.**

**Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee.
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.**

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

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Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made;
it will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands;
it will become the cup of our salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

OPENING PRAYER: celebrating the work of God, Father, Son and Spirit, in creating, restoring and bringing to completion, all that is His.

Worship and praise belong to you, Father, in every place and at all times. All power is yours. You created the heavens and established the earth; you sustain in being all that is.

In Christ your Son our life and yours are brought together in a wonderful exchange. He made his home among us that we might for ever dwell in you.

Through your Holy Spirit you call us to new birth
in a creation restored by love.

As children of your redeeming purpose, we offer you our
praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company
of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:

SANCTUS: an anthem to God's glory.

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

*BENEDICTUS: The greeting to him who came in the flesh, comes in the
sacrament and is still to come.*

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

*CHRISTOLOGICAL PRAYER: Thanksgiving to God for all that was
accomplished in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.*

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father,
for the gift of your Son born in human flesh. He is the Word
existing beyond time, both source and final purpose,
bringing to wholeness all that is made. Obedient to your will
he died upon the Cross. By your power you raised him from
the dead. He broke the bonds of evil and set your people
free to be his Body in the world.

NARRATIVE OF THE INSTITUTION: an account of the Last Supper.

On the night when he was given up to death, knowing that his hour had come, having loved his own, he loved them to the end. At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks.

He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:

"Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:

"Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

ANAMNESIS AND OBLATION: The work of Christ is recalled and linked with our offering.

We now obey your Son's command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy living sacrifice.

EPICLESIS: We ask for the descent of the Holy Spirit as the divine response to our obedience.

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

PRAYER OF PETITION: As members of the Church we pray for her whole life and mission.

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles and prophets, Saint Cuthbert and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

DOXOLOGY: A concluding act of praise.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end.

Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.

Lord, unite us in this sign.

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us,
we are bold to say:

**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 trespasses,**

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Communion

**Lamb of God; you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God; you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God; you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

Communion Hymn 374 – Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts

**Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts,
thou fount of life, thou perfect grace;
from the blest bliss that earth imparts
we turn unfilled to seek thy face.**

**We taste thee, O thou living bread,
and long to feast upon thee still;
we drink of thee, the fountain-head,
and thirst our souls from thee to fill.**

**O Jesu, ever with us stay;
make all our moments calm and bright;
chase the dark night of sin away;
shed o'er the world thy holy light.**

*'Jesu, dulcis memoria' (12th century) trans. Ray Palmer (1808-1887) alt.
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**God of unending love, you are present to us in Word and
Sacrament. With all around the world who gather to
worship, I offer you my praise and thanksgiving;
and though I cannot eat the bread of God, or drink the
royal wine of heaven, I pray that I may know the fountain
of your love drench my heart and your Incarnate presence
encompass me behind and before, that through the power
of your Spirit, I may rejoice in the sure and certain hope
that I abide in your wondrous love now and for all eternity,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING AND SENDING OUT

**Give thanks to our gracious God
Whose mercy endures for ever.**

Post Communion Prayer

**Father, your steadfast purpose is the completion of all
things in your Son. May we who have received the pledges**

of the kingdom, live by faith, walk in hope and be renewed in love, until the world reflects your glory and you are all in all; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

HYMN 718 – The Lord is King!

**The Lord is King! lift up thy voice,
O earth, and all ye heav'ns, rejoice;
from world to world the joy shall ring,
'The Lord omnipotent is King!'**

**The Lord is King! who then shall dare
resist his will, distrust his care,
or murmur at his wise decrees,
or doubt his royal promises?**

**He reigns! ye saints, exalt your strains;
your God is King, your Father reigns;
and his is at the Father's side,
the man of love, the crucified.**

**One Lord one empire all secures;
he reigns, and life and death are yours;
through earth and heav'n one song shall ring,
'The Lord omnipotent is King!'**

Josiah Conder (1789-1855)

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St Cuthbert's Notes

30 August 2020

St Cuthbert's Private Prayer:

For the foreseeable future, the church will not be open for private prayer, as services return in church.

Services in Church:

As numbers are very limited, booking is required to attend.

**You will receive an email or telephone call
to confirm your place at a service.**

If you are not booked in, you will be unable to attend.

St Cuthbert's will re-open for worship from Wednesday 2 September. There will be two services, Wednesday at 10.30am and Sunday at 10.30am, and both services will be the same. It is hoped that Wednesday's service will be recorded and put onto YouTube. A letter has been sent regarding the re-opening and booking details. If you have not received a copy, please email: [stcuthbertscolinton@gmail](mailto:stcuthbertscolinton@gmail.com) or Telephone: 07305 911986.

YouTube:

Join the full service each week online, including readings, intercessions, and the hymns played by Philip using this link to our YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3iPQOkQiVERjeHZbj2OnBQ>

Weekly Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for the gift of education in every form. As our children have begun another school year, may confidence be their foundation, may grace be their guide and may hope be their compass toward a bright future. We pray that they have eyes to see the needs of those around them and a heart to love well. May they face each day with positivity knowing that no matter what comes their way, they don't have to do it alone. In Jesus name. Amen.

Coronavirus Emergency Appeal

responding to outbreaks in Africa, Asia and
Latin America and the Caribbean



August 2020

We're easing out of Lockdown with

'Little Gatherings Everywhere'

Enjoy connecting again

Invite a small group of family, friends, neighbours
Gather in your garden, or anywhere outside
Share tea, coffee, cake, wine, whatever you fancy

Donations to Christian Aid

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Colinton-Christian-Aid-Committee-Edinburgh1>

or

envelopes through the door at 9 Thorburn Road

Please adhere to current Scottish Government Covid 19 Safety Rules