

Worship 4th April – Easter Sunday

Communion

Aberlour Parish Church

Rev Andrew Kimmitt

Welcome to our Easter Sunday Communion – it is so very good that you are here.

Because we are still under Covid-19 restrictions, we are still unable to sing, and should remain seated and with face coverings on whenever possible. It will be strange to celebrate both Easter and Holy Communion this way, yet we will celebrate!

Throughout the service you are invited to join with the responses printed here. This is the worship of the whole people of God, even if it involves rather more of the minister's voice than might be ideal.

At the end of the service, please leave in a way that keeps a 2metre distance and leave plenty of space at the doors.

Call to Worship

Reading – Luke 24:1-12

¹But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” ⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹²But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Reflection

Communion

Affirmation of Faith

Leader: We believe in God;
ALL: **WHO IS OLDER THAN ETERNITY
AND YOUNGER THAN OUR NEXT BREATH;
WHO IS BEYOND DESCRIBING
YET KNOWS US ALL BY NAME;
WHO INSPIRES FAITH
YET CANNOT BE CONTAINED BY RELIGION.**

Leader: We believe in Jesus Christ,
flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone;
ALL: **HE CAME IN THE BODY
TO GIVE WORTH TO EVERY HUMAN LIFE.
HE TOUCHED THE UNTOUCHABLE,
LOVED THE UNLOVABLE,
FORGAVE THE UNFORGIVABLE
AND ENDURED SLANDER,
PERSECUTION AND DEATH
IN ORDER THAT THROUGH SUFFERING LOVE
GOD'S KINGDOM MIGHT COME ON EARTH.

HE ROSE FROM THE GRAVE AS LIVING PROOF
THAT WHAT IS LAID DOWN IN FAITH
WILL BE RAISED IN GLORY.
HE ASCENDED TO HEAVEN
THAT HE MIGHT BE PRESENT
AT ALL TIMES
TO ALL PEOPLE.**

Leader: We believe in the Holy Spirit,
ALL: **WHO LEADS US INTO TRUTH AND FREEDOM,
WHO GIVES GOOD GIFTS
TO ALL GOD'S CHILDREN,
WHO INSPIRES RESEARCH, ENABLES PRAYER,
AND WILLS
THAT HUMAN ECONOMICS AND POLITICS
SHOULD PRIORITISE JUSTICE,
CARE OF THE EARTH
AND THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS.**

Leader: We celebrate the potential of the Church,
ALL: **THE LIFE IN OUR BODIES,
THE YEARNING IN OUR SOULS,**

**THE PROMISE OF GOOD THINGS IN OUR STORE
FOR THOSE WHO LOVE THE LORD.**

Invitation

The Story

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(Including the 'Sanctus')*:

Leader: So now, in gratitude,
we join our voices
to those of the Church on earth and in heaven:

***ALL:* HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD,
GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT,
HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY.
HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!

BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES
IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.
HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!**

Prayers for the world

Leader: Lord God,
as we come to share the richness of your table,
we cannot forget the rawness of the earth.

We cannot take bread
and forget those who are hungry.
Your world is one world
and we are stewards of its nourishment.

***ALL:* LORD, PUT OUT PROSPERITY
AT THE SERVICE OF THE POOR.**

Leader: We cannot take wine
and forget those who are thirsty.
The ground down and the rootless
the earth and its weary people cry out for justice.

***ALL:* LORD, PUT OUR FULLNESS
AT THE SERVICE OF THE EMPTY.**

Leader: We cannot hear your words of peace
and forget the world at war
or, if not at war, then preparing for it.

***ALL:* SHOW US QUICKLY, LORD,
HOW TO TURN WEAPONS
INTO WELCOME SIGNS
AND THE LUST FOR POWER
INTO A DESIRE FOR PEACE.**

Leader: We cannot celebrate the feast of your family
and forget our divisions.
WE are one in spirit, but not in fact.
History and hurt still dismember us.

**ALL: LORD, HEAL YOUR CHURCH
IN EVERY BROKENNES.**

Consecration

'Kyrie Eleison' ('Lord have mercy')

We say together:

**ALL: LAMB OF GOD,
YOU TAKE AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD,
HAVE MERCY UPON US.**

**LAMB OF GOD,
YOU TAKE AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD,
HAVE MERCY UPON US.**

**LAMB OF GOD,
YOU TAKE AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD,
GRANT US YOUR PEACE**

The Holy Feast

[We take communion together]

The Peace

Leader: Not an easy peace,
not an insignificant peace,
not a half-hearted peace,
but the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ
is with us now.

The peace of Christ which passes all understanding,
and which transcends all barriers and social distancing,
the peace of Christ be with you now.

ALL: (to each other) PEACE BE WITH YOU

Sending and Blessing

Please remember to take an Easter stone with you, and feel free to take another from the pile at the door for anybody else who you think would like one.