

North Leith Parish Church

Sunday 1 November 2020

All Saints Day



Welcome

A very warm welcome to worship with the congregation of North Leith Parish Church. It is good to be with you in spirit.

Call to Worship

From Psalm 34

Seek the Lord in times of trouble,
The Lord answers us and delivers us from our fears.
Cry out to the Lord and he will hear us,
The Lord saves us from every trouble.
Look to the Lord and be radiant in hope,
The Lord is to be trusted and praised.
The angel of the Lord encircles his people,
We take refuge in the Lord.

Hymn 522: [The Church is wherever God's people are praising](#)

Prayer of Approach - written by Mark Cooper

Lord God, we come before you to remember,
We remember the beauty of the world around us and today we remember those who have
died in the past year,
Be with us today as we seek comfort from your word and from being in your presence,
We seek forgiveness for past wrongs and your help to put them right,
As the nights get darker help us to see your glory through the light of the world, your son
Jesus Christ,
By doing so on earth, we can glorify you in heaven and hope one day we can join you in the
company of the saints and those who have gone before us.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
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.**

Scriptures: [1 John 3: 1-3 and St Matthew 5: 1-12](#) - Reader Kenneth McAlpine



Reflection - Katherine Taylor

Coping with Separation



Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Loving God,

We give thanks for the blessings in our lives. Thank you for our life as your children and that you watch over us and keep us. Thank you for the gift of Jesus and his teaching and for the life of the Holy Spirit in us. Thank you for the life of this church, the community of your people at North Leith, through the years.

Thank you for the people who have blessed and inspired us, in small ways and big ways. Thank you for what they have shared with us and for their generosity of spirit. Thank you for all those who care for us and encourage us today.

Thank you for the beauty of the world and the things which bring us happiness.

We pray for the world today Lord, knowing especially at this time that we are one people on earth. We pray for change; in the way we live together and treat each other. We turn to you to guide us and heal us.

We pray for the church, your people on earth. In this time, help us to work together in new ways as one. Help us to hear you and to speak with your voice. Guide us in mission and keep us faithful. May your protection and strength surround your children who are persecuted for their faith in you. We pray for the families and congregation of those killed in Nice in France for their faith. May they know your blessing.

We pray for the leaders, the powerful, in the world. May they lean on your strength and goodness. We pray for those who reach out and build community in world, the United Nations and the World Health Organisation. We pray for all who work for peace, peace in politics, in places of war and conflict, in communities and in relationships. We pray for agreement in the negotiations surrounding Brexit and for clarity of decision in the American elections.

We pray for the powerless, who are known and loved by you, the hungry, poor, refugees, and homeless. We pray for those who are refugees in our own land, may they find welcome and peace here.

Lord, we bring our trouble in the pandemic to you. Help us to hear your voice. Support us with your strength. We pray for those who suffering from the virus and all those who care for them. Give wisdom to those with weighty decisions to make. Give perseverance to those who seek a vaccine and treatments. Help us to live with courage and patience for the common good.

Lord, we pray for those who are grieving the loss of someone they love. May they know your presence with them, your comfort and your hope. May they know your blessing of new life.

Loving God, we pray for young and old people who are finding life difficult, for the lonely and those isolated from the people they love, those having to wait for medical treatment and those whose relationships are strained and broken. We pray for those without work and for those with too much work. On this day, we pray also that you will keep us close to the saints of all ages, whose memories and examples, bless us and inspire us still.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer,

Amen

Hymn 740: [For all the saints](#)

[Blessing](#)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and
may the Blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us all, now and for
evermore.

Amen

Closing Voluntary: [Ralph Vaughan Williams - O taste and see](#)

Intimations

Next Sunday, Remembrance Sunday, our service will begin at 10:50.

All are very welcome. If you are going to attend, it would be helpful if you could contact the church office by the Friday before to give us an idea of numbers.

Katherine Taylor, our Locum Minister, can be contacted by e-mail

KTaylor@churchofscotland.org.uk.

Christmas Gift Bags for Seafarers

This year with the current restrictions, the way we do the Christmas Gift bags will change. We must ensure we provide some great treats for the crew, some of which will have had a very difficult year. Many will have been on board for 10 months to more than a year. It could also be their 2nd Christmas away from home and family.

We are reducing the overall number of bags to 40/50 and will create a "Ship Bag" which will accompany an individual prewrapped gift for each seafarer (supplied by the Sailors' Society). To make it easier for folks to donate this year we're asking only for donations of monies. This will enable bulk buying and make it simpler for folks to contribute towards a bag. I've estimated the cost of the bag contents to be around £15 pounds.

This will include: wrapped chocolates, shortbread, fudge/ tablet, mixed sweets, nuts. It will be accompanied by a Christmas card.

At North Leith, money donations will be collected on the first three Sundays in November. There is a box for these on the table on the way out of the church.

You can also make a cash donation via South Leith Parish Church Hall, Henderson St, addressed FAO of Pauline Robertson Port Chaplain.

Thank you, Pauline

Christmas Hampers for Refugees

Central Church, Edinburgh City Mission is organising Christmas hampers for refugees and asylum seekers living in Edinburgh. The churches in Leith Churches Together are being encouraged to support this. Each family hamper costs £40. This is a wonderful opportunity to put faith into action, to welcome and care for the stranger in our midst.

It has been agreed to pay for 8 hampers from the Husband Bequest Fund for People and Projects as a contribution from our congregation at North Leith.

If anyone would like to add to this you can make a donation by putting it in an envelope marked 'Refugees Christmas Hampers' and adding it to the offering plate at the front door next Sunday or posting it to the Church Office.

If you would be interested in helping to deliver hampers, please speak to Katherine.

Christian Aid Christmas Cards

As in previous years Christian Aid jointly with Traidcraft, Sciaf and Cafod have produced Christmas cards. If anyone is interested in buying these I have some small catalogues you can look at and order from. They also include some ethical gifts.

I'm happy to get any orders through the One World Shop as before and our funds will benefit by 10% of the total spent. The orders can be collected on a Sunday or delivered to your home as arranged. Speak to me (socially distanced of course!!) any Sunday.

Thanks, Margot

Church Open for Prayer

The church building continues to be open for us all on Tuesday and Friday mornings from 10am until 12 noon.

Bible Study

Bible Study is continuing at 730pm on Zoom on Monday evenings. All are welcome and if you would like a Zoom invitation or a paper copy of the material to follow at home please let Katherine or Anne know.

Thank you

To Mark Cooper, Ken McAlpine and to our organist Iain Mackinnon for his choice of voluntary.



Blessed are they yat heir ye word of God and keip it

Photo of St Ninian's Church, Leith, taken by Tim Bell

Pictures

[Blessed are the pure in heart](#)

[Blessed are the peacemakers](#)