



St Nicholas Church, Sighthill
17th January 2021

Will You Come and Follow Me?

Opening Song: Will come and follow me?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o469PRLdbHU>

Prayer of Approach

Leader: Loving God, Threefold One;
You have gathered us in,
Welcomed us and made Yourself present
among us. We come to worship

All: We come to worship the Threefold One

Leader: Giving God, Creator; Our source, our goal, our
life, create in us a new heart. Open to all that
is good and that brings life.
We come to worship

All: We come to worship our Creator

Leader: Saving God, Redeemer;
We entrust to You the unresolved issues we
leave behind for a time. And trust them to Your
care as we dwell with You in this place
We come to worship

All: We come to worship our Redeemer

Lead: Abiding God, Sustainer;
Inspire us, refresh us, renew us and revive us
as we look to You, to guide and console – move
among us. We come to worship

All: We come to worship our Sustainer

Lead: Enfolding God, Trinity of love, let us be open to
the richness and miracle in meeting. Let us be
open to the blessings found in surprising
places, as You have opened Your deep heart of
love to us, Your blessed children. We come to
worship

**All: We come to worship in the presence of the
trinity of love. Amen.**

A responsive prayer based on the Lord's Prayer

All: God in heaven, sacred is Your Name.

Leader: Source of all that is and ever shall be, God of all
people. Living one, God revealed yet Mystery,

God unlimited Creator and Healer, Loving Parent
in whom we discern heaven

**All: Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth
as in heaven.**

Lead: May knowledge of Your Holiness inspire all
peoples, and may Your Kingdom of peace and
freedom flourish on earth, wherever there is
violence and hatred – Your Kingdom come.
Wherever there is oppression and injustice –
Your Kingdom come. Wherever there is
segregation and alienation– Your Kingdom come.

All: Give us today our daily bread.

Lead: Bread of life, feed us with all that nourishes our
souls. Help us to be gracious in our giving and
humble in our receiving. May we find the bread
that we need for today and when we can be
tempted to want for more and more, help us to
know what enough is.

**All: Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin
against us.**

Lead: Forgive us when we cause division acting
without compassion or care. Forgive us when we
choose to ignore the way of love. Forgive us for
the hurts we cause one another. May we be
forgiven in the same measure that we forgive.

**All: Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us
from evil.**

Lead: In times of trial and temptation, help us to be
strong; when life seems overwhelming, help us
to endure. Comfort all who are suffering in their
hearts, in their minds, in their souls and in their
bodies; give them health, hope and peace.

**All: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are
Yours, now and forever. AMEN**

Bible Reading: John 1: 43-51 (GNB)

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip
and said to him, "Come with me!" (Philip was from
Bethsaida, the town where Andrew and Peter lived.) Philip
found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one
whom Moses wrote about in the book of the Law and

whom the prophets also wrote about. He is Jesus son of Joseph, from Nazareth."

"Can anything good come from Nazareth?" Nathanael asked. "Come and see," answered Philip. When Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, he said about him, "Here is a real Israelite; there is nothing false in him!" Nathanael asked him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you when you were under the fig tree before Philip called you."

"Teacher," answered Nathanael, "you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus said, "Do you believe just because I told you I saw you when you were under the fig tree? You will see much greater things than this!" And he said to them, "I am telling you the truth: you will see heaven open and God's angels going up and coming down on the Son of Man."

Hymn: Jesus Calls us o'er the tumult

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ns6SHd24vAU>

*Jesus calls us o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild, restless, sea;
Day by day His sweet voice soundeth,
Saying, "Christian, follow Me!"*

All Age Talk (by Sue Thomson, Aberdeen, St. Columba's)

In the Bible, we meet a man called Nathaniel. When Nathaniel meets Jesus, Jesus gives him just two clues, and Nathaniel knows exactly who Jesus is. With just two clues Nathaniel's got it. He's figured out who Jesus is. You see, when Nathaniel meets Jesus, the first thing Jesus says to him is, you are an Israelite and a good Israelite.

Nathaniel's never met Jesus before. That's his first clue that Jesus knows all about him, even though he's never met him. Jesus knows all about him. And then the second clue is Jesus says, I saw you at the fig tree before you met your friend. And Nathaniel knows Jesus wasn't there. So, he knows that Jesus is saying even when I'm not there, I know where you are, and I know what you're doing. That's the second clue. Well, Nathaniel is amazed, but straightaway after just those two clues, he's got the answer. And he's excited about it. He shouts it out, he says, 'Jesus, you are Rabbi.' That means teacher. **I've got a whiteboard, and a marker like a teacher would have.**

Nathaniel says, 'teacher', he knows Jesus is a teacher. But it doesn't stop there. He knows Jesus isn't just a teacher. He says, 'You are the Son of God'. **I've got a cross, and a stone like the stone that was rolled away from Jesus' tomb, to remind us that Jesus is the Son of God. He had the power to die, but then come alive again.**

Nathaniel knows that Jesus is a teacher, and the son of God, but he doesn't stop there. Then he says, 'You are the king of Israel'. **I've got a crown.** With only two clues. Nathaniel knows exactly who Jesus is. He knows He is a teacher, Rabbi, he calls him, he knows He is the Son of God. There's my pebble. And he knows He is a king. And that's what I would like you all to remember today, just who Jesus is that He is a teacher. We can learn from Him. He's going to teach us about God, and the world and how to live. But He's more than just a teacher. He's also the Son of God. He was with God, when God made the world. He's with God, seated at His right hand in the heavenly places (Ephesians 1:20-23). He's got God's power - remember, He could do all

those miracles, and He came alive again, so that we could be friends with God. And finally, He's a King and we should let him be king of our lives. We should worship Him, and we should listen to Him and obey Him.

Jesus, let me see if I can get all these in my hands; is a teacher, the Son of God, and our king. Isn't those great things to remember about who Jesus is? One of my other favourite things about Jesus, though, is that He listens to us. We can talk to Him anytime. So that's what we're going to do now. We're going to pray.

Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession

Adapted from a prayer written by Rev Derek Hughes, Minister, Easterhouse Parish Church of Scotland

Let's bring to God our prayers of thanks and for other people. Loving Lord, you call us to follow in the way of Christ. Accompany us as we seek to live out this call. Give us strength and enthusiasm to live a life of obedience, trust and service.

Help us to value and to fan into flame the creative spark in all Your people, to bring to fulfilment the gifts You have given. May we respect one another, recognising that the differences, which exist between us are far from a weakness, but are actually a strength. The approval this past week in the United Kingdom of a third vaccine against Covid-19 gives huge hope to so many. We are thankful for the dedication and perseverance of researchers, as well as those who stepped forward to try these potentially life-saving drugs.

At the same time, we remember all those families for whom these advances in science have come just too late. The death or long-term harm done to loved ones weighs heavy on the hearts of so many. In their grief and pain, we pray comfort and healing from Your life-giving Holy Spirit.

Later this week, the United States of America will welcome a new President and Vice President. Amidst the controversy and pain, we pray for unity and peace. In that same vein, we continue to pray for our own country and leaders. Help them to lead us well and draw near to all who struggle with heavy loads, and help them. With grateful hearts, we recognise the mammoth efforts of so many in Your church across the course of this pandemic.

In harnessing technology, in reaching out with food parcels, in speaking a word of encouragement through various means, good work has been done to alleviate the sadness and isolation felt by so many, may these acts of kindness be like seeds, which bring a harvest of good things to the glory of Your name. In Jesus name, Amen.

Song: I the Lord of See and Sky

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mgLwH5RdtPk>

Final blessings

The Creator who brought order out of chaos, give peace to you today. The Saviour who stilled the raging storm, give peace to you today. The Spirit who broods over the deep, give peace to you today. And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you know, and remain with you forevermore. Amen

