

St Nicholas Church, Sighthill

21st February 2021



Sunday Morning Service with a difference.

Live Service relayed in a relaxed and friendly environment

Holy Trinity Wester Hailes Play Café

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WN-vtHWZqzk&feature=youtu.be>

Opening Song: We are one in the Spirit

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGD_BFSf9oc

Opening Prayer

All: One thing I have asked of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life; to behold the beauty of the Lord and to seek Him in His temple.

Leader: Who is it that you seek?

All: We seek the Lord our God.

Leader: Do you seek Him with all your heart?

All: Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Do you seek Him with all your soul?

All: Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Do you seek Him with all your mind?

All: Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Do you seek Him with all your strength?

All: Amen. Christ, have mercy.

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done in earth,
as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever. Amen.*



Matthew 10: 40 - 42

“Anyone who receives you receives me, and anyone who receives me receives the Father who sent me. If you receive a prophet as one who speaks for God, you will be given the same reward as a prophet. And if you receive righteous people because of their righteousness, you will be given a reward like theirs. **And if you give even a cup of cold water to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be rewarded.**”

New board games cafe for the homeless established by Edinburgh church.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JE5_pzEXuH4&feature=emb_logo

Speedy Bible Quiz

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=np_hFXu-OXaI

A cup of cold water...

Jesus says, if you give even a cup of cold water to the least of His followers, you will be rewarded. There are no limits to this promise. All you and I need to do to qualify for His reward is simply to give a cup of cold water to the people the world refuses to see – like the hurting, forgotten, marginalized, poor, homeless, abused, prisoner, Somali immigrant, woman trapped in sex trafficking and all who grieve loss of their loved ones.

Jesus asked his friends to give food to the people who had followed Him (John 6:1-15). He asks us to give

‘a cup of cold water’ to people around us in need. This is called spiritual compassion and involves teaming up with Jesus in the places where we live, worship and work, with an intension of feeling their suffering and helping them in all ways possible.

Notice that Jesus asks us to do what we can, that is, a simple and inexpensive act of caring concern (agape). Also, this act requires very little preparation, but has a marked effect on the life of the giver and the receiver. Charles Spurgeon called, ‘a cup of cold water containing a sea of warm love’.

For most of us, a cup of cold water is no big deal. If we’re thirsty, we go to the kitchen sink and fill a glass with water. If we want it cold, we get some ice from the fridge. But in many parts of the world, clean water is a rare treat. On a hot day, nothing refreshes like a cup of cold water. It’s not much to us. We don’t even think about it. It’s no big deal to us. We may think nothing of it when we give it to one who is thirsty, but Jesus remembers it forever.

In Matthew 25:34-39, Jesus says this in a different way: ‘Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink...’ “Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink?... Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me’”

This means that when we give a ‘cup of cold water’ to thirsty man or woman, we give it to Jesus. When we comfort others or offer a word of hope or give a friend; a bag of chips, a quick phone call, a hug, a pat on the back, a prayer over the phone, a word of encouragement or a visit – when we support or help others - We are serving Jesus and with Jesus. He sees what we have done and He marks it down as if we have done it to him personally. He will not forget. ‘He is not unjust; He will not forget [our] work and the love [we] have shown Him as [we] have helped His people and continue to help them’ (Hebrews 6:10). Amen.

Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession (Written by The Right Rev Dr Martin Fair, Moderator of the General Assembly)

‘Pride of man and earthly glory, sword and crown betray His trust; all that human toil can fashion, tower and temple, fall to dust. But Gods power, hour by hour, is my temple and my tower.’

Though much of the country is now in the grip of winter, we know that spring will come by your command, and new life with it. So we have every

confidence in turning to you in prayer – in bringing to you our heartfelt longings, our deepest concerns. Hear us then, Loving Lord

- as we pray for our loved ones
- as we pray for our churches - especially through this pandemic - that you would show us new ways to be
- and as we pray for our communities, folks who are hurting, broken, folks who are anxious, folks who are lost, folks who are burdened with guilt from what was done in days gone by. Come we pray, free the captives.

And we pray too for those who have been bereaved, directly as a result of Covid or otherwise, in these days. For your peace we pray. Yes, all things come and go. Much is reduced to rubble and ruin. But you, Lord, are forever. We trust you now and for all the days to come. Amen.

"There Once Was A Man" Sea Shanty with Virtual Choir (Wellerman tune)

A group of Church of Scotland ministers, elders and members have taken inspiration from the recent maritime musical trend sweeping the nation and swapped sermons for sea shanties - with their own nautical number telling the story of Noah. The catchy song is based on the traditional tune 'Wellerman', which was made famous by former postman Nathan Evans performing it on the social media platform TikTok.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=26AU7QqR8c&feature=emb_logo

Final blessings

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with us, wherever He may send us. May He guide us through the wilderness, protect us through the storm. May He bring us home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown us. May He bring us home rejoicing once again into our doors.

