



**Broomhill Hyndland
Parish Church**

"Lighting the Way"

for **Sunday 7 March 2021**

Dear friends,
welcome to another Sunday service.

This year, with Junior Church meeting by Zoom for most of the time, we decided our usual fundraiser would have been very different: coffee after the church service will not work on Zoom!

We have teamed up with Tearfund's 21 for 21 challenge, where the children (and leaders) will exercise every day for 21 days.

We start this Sunday, so we should be finished in time for Easter.

We have a team page on the justgiving website, so people can support us by making donations online. Tearfund have provided the exercise schedule and videos for the different exercises, so we have no excuses. (well perhaps we can come up with some).

Some of the leaders will have a slightly more sedate exercise programme, but we all intend to exercise every day. So sweatbands ready, off we go. We will keep you up to date with progress.

If anyone wants to support us, donations can be made on the team site:

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/BroomhillHyndlandJuniorChurch> or cash or cheques can be sent or delivered to our treasurer: Lillian Murray
102 Randolph Road, Broomhill G11 7EE.

There is also a challenge for the youngsters in our congregation from the Moderator of the General Assembly. It is a photography competition, encouraging the youngsters to look for the cross shape around the world we live in - for example, on a window pane. The competition is called 'The Cross: Hidden in Plain Sight'. If you want more information, contact the Minister or check the Church of Scotland webpage under 'News and Events.'

<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/connect/moderators-photo-competition>. The Moderator is also making available a series of daily reflections, running from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. These will be available through the Church of Scotland social media channels and will be released each morning at 8am. They will also be available to download and place on your own digital platforms. Further, text versions will be available for local printing if desired and non-digital folk will be able to access them via phone: 0333 340 9200.

To be approved by the Kirk Session our Holy Week services, based on the current situation, will probably be on Zoom, Monday to Friday at 7pm but will also be sent out like last year. The theme for this year is, 'Game of Thrones.'

Last Monday, and on every Monday now, I will post the following Sunday's readings on our Facebook page. The readings are there for your contemplation but it is hoped, if you have an opportunity to look at the passages, you might want to share on the Facebook page what comes to mind when you read them, thus developing a little worship discussion page.

It is with sadness I have to intimate two more deaths - Catherine Cuthbertson of Fifth Avenue and Elizabeth MacDonald. Please remember the families in your prayers.

Next Sunday is Mother's Day but today is our Communion Sunday. Whenever you sit down to read and reflect, have some bread and wine at the ready and join the company in heaven and on earth in the breaking of bread and the sipping of wine, doing these things in remembrance of our Lord.

Every Blessing, George

Sunday 7 March - Lent 3 (Year B)

For those who like to follow all the lectionary readings for the Sunday and dip into the Old Testament and Epistles, the readings for this Sunday are: Exodus 20: 1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25; John 2: 13-22

Sunday's hymns are: 200 Christ is made the sure foundation; 360 Jesus Christ is waiting; 19 Ye gates; CH3: 4 How lovely is thy dwelling place.

In the Zoom services you'll find the words on the screen – so, in the safety of your own home, sing along!

Our Sunday reflection will be based on John but please read and ponder the suggested Scripture and see how it connects and what it says to you.

Rest in His arms read, reflect, rejoice...

CALL

(Our call has your response in bold)

Through the creation of the universe

You love us, Lord

Through guidance, call and commandment

You love us, Lord

Through the gift of Your son, Jesus

You love us, Lord

Through our worship and our response to Your word

We love You, Lord.

MUSIC FROM RAZVAN

Let us turn to God's Word. Our Scripture reading today is from John's Gospel, chapter 2: 13-22.

'This is the Word of God. Thanks be to Him.'



PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

O God, in whom we live and move and grow, keep us rooted in you. Help us each day in the company of family and friends to find our home in you. Stretch out in us the potential you see and help us embrace the gifts you have given us.
AMEN

REFLECTION

It was time for a plate of pasta!

Tonight, on the menu, pasta arrabbiata: the key of course to the simple ingredients, the chillies, to make your face go red. 'Angry pasta' – what makes me angry, I asked myself as I made it?

Well, you know what happens when I ask myself a question, I'm liable to get numerous answers – the box junction at the bottom of Abbey Drive; chewing gum; bad drivers; cyclists on the pavement;

cold callers from abroad... wait a minute, the list was growing, so I asked myself, when was the last time I was angry? 'This morning,' said Pamela, who had got into my head! I know I was angry last Saturday because the bank had stopped a direct debit; I know I was angry the night before because Hearts were woeful in Inverness; I know I was angry listening to Piers Morgan (but then most people are) when discussing Megan and Harry, or joggers who breathe their sweaty fumes on pedestrians as they pass; I know I was angry listening to the Salmond enquiry..... and don't get me started on the National Church's plans to cut 20 percent in Ministry...

Am I always angry, annoyed, frustrated?

Anger is a tornado in the human soul. It is a volcano waiting to erupt. Within us, like moist air, are memories of past mistakes, a host of personal beliefs and biases. On the outside, from the imagined thoughts or real, flows the cool air and then all of a sudden... an explosion.

When Bill Hewitt, the former Presbytery Clerk stepped down, his valedictory speech was very short but contained within his comments were that we were living in an angry, dissatisfied and complaining generation. Haven't we found that the only way to get something done or moved forward is to complain about it?

You are not happy with the speed of the NHS - make a noise about it.

You are disgruntled about Jordanhill's teaching styles and the sudden push for exams again – you send an e-mail.

And in the Temple, he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and the moneychangers at their tables... 'You are making my Father's House a den of thieves'..... and he overturned the tables.

Jesus, bearing the burden of the world, steeped in God's compassion and concerns, sees, feels and acts out against those who desecrate the temple. We rarely experience Jesus with these types of emotions in the Gospels. His enraged words and actions against the money changers was not Jesus the storyteller or the one supporting grieving parents and isolated lepers. And yet how could he not be angry?

Angry is our friend and it is also our enemy.



Should we not be angry at various situations and happenings that make our blood boil? Should we not be angry about the war in Yemen? Should we not be angry about the cut in aid abroad? Should we not be angry about Myanmar and the violence on the protestors against military rule?

It was Dietrich Bonhoeffer who wrote: 'Silence in the face of evil, is evil itself. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act.'

It is the Lenten season and over the past few Sundays I've asked you about temptations and the promises we make and God makes, and here, in a story we will touch on in Holy Week, I'm asking you to think about anger – your anger.

In some ways Bill Hewitt was right, we live in an angry world. So perhaps it is correct, in reflection, to be angry about anger, that everyone seems angry all the time: it's Mount Vesuvius every day. We attack with words and accusations, denying this and that and the other between colleagues who used to be friends; we attack with phone calls, with e-mails and, further afield, we attack with fists and bullets.

And as we approach Mothering Sunday, in a pandemic and in a lockdown, women in particular are attacked, such is the boiling pot pressure of remaining at home.

Jesus overturns tables, snaps a whip, bellows about serving God and money...

A different type of anger perhaps, a righteous anger to overturn the world.

This Lenten time help us be calm when we need to be calm and to seek out the source that triggers us. What makes us act the way we do or the way we don't?

Not to speak is to speak, not to act is to act, wrote the great German Pastor during the Second World War, jailed for his opinions.

Lord, give us all the anger that heals wounds and spurs us on to make this world a better place, showing true signs of your Kingdom.

... the pasta?

Hot. Angry. Righteous Anger as it should be.

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN

HYMN

PRAYER

Jesus, cleanser of temples and souls,
at this mid-point in the Lenten journey
look deep within our hearts and our lives,
and clear away all that holds us back.

May our minds, spirits and bodies
be a Temple that is open to Your presence:
and may our words and our actions
be transparent to Your love and truth.

We pray that this church community,
will be purified in its life and mission,
so that all that we do in and from here
may reveal Your Gospel to others.

In a moment of silence we sit before You,
and name those things for which
we seek Your cleansing and healing,
so that we may be more faithful disciples.

(Silence)

Lord Jesus, it was your will that your Father's House
would be a place of prayer for all people.

Grant us the strength and wisdom to be a people
consumed with prayer and zeal for you, this day and always. AMEN

INVITATION

What do you bring to Christ's table?

We bring bread made by many people's work,
from an unjust world where some have plenty
and most go hungry.

At this table, all are fed and no one turned away.
Thanks be to God

What do you bring to Christ's table?

We bring wine, made by many people's work,
from an unjust world where some have leisure
and most struggle to survive.

At this table, all share the cup of pain and celebration
and no one is denied.
Thanks be to God.

These gifts shall be for us the body and blood of Christ,
our witness against hunger, our cry against injustice,
and our hope for a world where God is fully known
and every child is fed.

Thanks be to God, so come and know these gifts.

FRACTION

We share bread and wine together
remembering the words of that ancient meal...
Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it,
and gave it to his friends.
Eat and Remember.

He poured the wine, offered thanks for it,
and shared it with his friends.
Drink and Remember.

Ancient symbols,
Common acts.

PEACE

The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of the Cross,
in losing our lives we find them in you.
In sharing our resources we enter more fully into the kingdom.
May these small sacrifices we have made be multiplied
and used for your glory to enact your Good News. AMEN

MEDITATIVE PRAYER

I am a catcher of pigeons, a lucky one
on this morning of upturned tables and feathers.
I do not steal coins,
even though they roll to my toes,
even though I was praying in this house of prayer
that somehow I would not need always to be so poor.
And yet I was raised never to make an offering
of anything that I did not earn.
It tumbles the world upside down
that someone like me should be given
what I have not deserved,
even a serendipitous bundle of wings,
hollow bones, bright eyes –
a fitting sacrifice for my newborn child.
Someone said there was anger
on both sides.
I don't remember that – only how I felt
when I opened my fingers
to let the bird fly.

HYMN

BENEDICTION

Trusting that we are cared for and not controlled,
loved and not law-shackled,
blessed and not bound,
let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
And may the blessing of God Almighty
Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you,
those who you love,
and those you struggle to love now and forever AMEN
..AND MUSIC FROM RAZVAN