

Peterculter Parish Church Newsletter

Comfort for God's People

Isaiah 40, 28 - 31

Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.

²⁹ He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.

³⁰ Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;

³¹ but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake.

God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light; through him who suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



From the Manse

Dear Friends

It has been good to be able to contact some of you by phone in these past days and it's wonderful to hear of the way in which our community have rallied round and supported one another in this time of crisis.

This coming Sunday is Palm Sunday, when we would normally have been coming together for a Family Service. The events of Holy Week centred on a time of tension, uncertainty and threat for Jesus. This culminated in the crucifixion of Jesus on Good Friday. It was a time of darkness and fear. At the moment, our nation and the world are experiencing darkness and fear and deep uncertainty. We are all struggling to cope with our society effectively being tuned upside down, just as the lives of the first disciples were turned upside down when Jesus died.

But of course, Easter culminated not on Good Friday but on Easter Day, when the light of a resurrection morning took away the darkness, fear and uncertainty. Ultimately, that is what will happen during this difficult time. We will come through it. It will be hard, but ultimately we will see the light again.

With every blessing,

John Ferguson.



The minister, John Ferguson, recording his contribution for the joint worship service.



Practical Matters

- Although the church building is closed, online worship continues via the Aberdeen West Churches and you can watch the services on YouTube via our own website at <http://www.culterkirk.co.uk/worship>
- The church office is closed, but emails are still being checked and you can also phone or email the minister.
- Church finances will suffer considerably due to the closure of the building and if you wish to switch your method of giving to a Standing Order, please email the church office or the minister.

