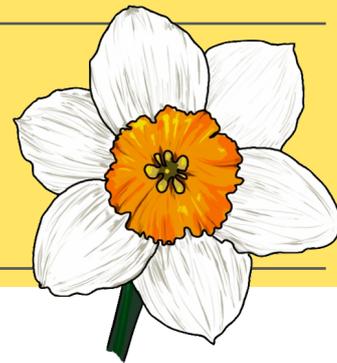


Peterculter Parish Church Newsletter



FROM THE MANSE

Dear Friends

The announcement by the First Minister that faith groups can resume holding in person worship from March 26th was something of a surprise. At the time of writing, it is still subject to final confirmation. However, we have decided to go ahead on the assumption that it will be confirmed by the Government and therefore propose to resume worship on March 28th at 10.30 am, Palm Sunday.

It's hard to believe that this will be our first Sunday back in church in 2021! As before, we are limited to 50 people and so booking is essential. If you wish to attend, please email secretary@culterkirk.co.uk or phone the Church Office on (01224) 735845. It is likely that you will get the answering machine, but this will be checked and so please leave a message giving your name, contact phone number and which Sunday you wish to book. **The deadline for this is Fridays at 12 noon.**

Worship will be the same as last year, i.e., it will be a slightly shorter service, with no singing and you will need to wear a mask, use hand sanitiser on entry and exit and duty elders will direct you to a specific seat.

The Church of Scotland is also asking that after the service, people should not congregate in the car park to chat.

Online worship from the Aberdeen West churches will of course continue. I'm aware that many members have chosen not to attend in person worship since the pandemic began and that is totally understandable.

Daily Reflections are continuing on the Aberdeen West Facebook page. There will be a short service on the Aberdeen West YouTube channel available during Holy Week, with each minister conducting one every day. In addition, there will be a live stream of 'Words from the Cross' on Good Friday from 12 noon to 3 pm on the Aberdeen West Facebook page and you can also watch via Zoom.

The link is <https://zoom.us/j/96255799029?pwd=dFpEVzIRcmtiWE9OdUVJQWw0V2N0QT09>

We can but hope and pray that this is another positive step in the slow return to normality after what has been a long and difficult winter. For many people, the present lockdown has seemed never ending, but the fact that the vaccination programme has been rolled out so successfully gives us all hope.

I think it is good that we should be returning to worship at Easter, a time of resurrection hope. This is a time to celebrate the fact that the light of a resurrection morning overcame the darkness of death and suffering and gives humanity hope through Christ. I hope and pray that the darkness we have all been experiencing during this pandemic will be overcome in the months ahead.

Can I wish you all a very Happy Easter.

John Ferguson



ABERDEEN WEST SERVICES

The joint Aberdeen West Services can be watched via Facebook every Sunday at 10.30 am or at www.youtube.com/c/AberdeenWestChurches/videos

SELFIE FOR PALM SUNDAY

Would you be willing to send in a selfie for inclusion in a virtual Palm Sunday parade organised by the Aberdeen West churches? If so, please email it to Rev Shuna Dicks at SDicks@churchofscotland.org.uk

INSTANT NEIGHBOUR

Drop offs for Instant Neighbour can be made on Mondays from 11 am - 12 noon



LIFE AND WORK

Life and Work magazine is available every month and during lockdown, our Life and Work Organiser, Shona Stewart, has been kindly delivering the magazine to subscribers. If you wish to subscribe to it, the cost is just £3 a month and you should phone Shona on 01224 739369.

Also see:

<https://www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe/>



GIVING TO THE CHURCH

A straightforward way to give to the church is by bank transfer via the following:

Sort Code 83-49-40

Account No- 00628410

Name – Peterculter Parish Church.

Alternatively, you can take out a Standing Order and to do so please contact William Anderson at 01224 732505 or 1445wda@gmail.com

GIFT DAY: ADVANCE NOTICE

It will not be possible to hold a Summer Fayre this year and we therefore plan to have a Gift Day again, following the huge success of the one last year. It will take place on Saturday June 26th, 10.00 am - 2.00 pm. As with the previous one, an envelope to allow you to give an extra donation to the church will be made available nearer the time.

CHURCH ACCOUNTS

The Kirk Session will be approving the church accounts on March 18th. After that, a summary of the accounts will be available on the web site and distributed via the next Newsletter. There will not be a Stated Annual Meeting of the congregation this year.

Easter Prayer

Stop!

did you hear it:

the stone roll

the grave clothes being

folded

the body rise

it was like a whispered

alleluia in the stillness of the

dawn

but it was real

Did you hear it:

the angels muffled laughter

as the women reached the

tomb

the dawn break over the

garden revealing footprints



in the dew
the mountains bow in slow
grandeur just out the corner
of your eye
it was like something shifting
at the edge of your sight
but it was real

Did you hear it:
The world hold it's breath
the stars hesitate
the sun linger
creation fill it's lungs
the air swell
so that the whole
earth can proclaim:
Christ is risen!
This is resurrection



CHURCH OFFICE

Please note that the church office remains closed to church members and the public.

CHURCH DIRECTORY: FUNERAL

8th March 2021: Anne Clements, St Ronan's Crescent

KIDNEY CARE UK

Please remember that used postage stamps are gratefully received by Miss Dayer Colburn who sends them off to the charity Kidney Care UK. If you can help, please pop them through Dayer's door at 163B North Deeside Road or through the church office letterbox.

EMAIL CONTACT

If you wish to receive future newsletters via email and have not already supplied us with an email address, can you please email secretary@culterkirk.co.uk

CONTACT US

Minister:

- Rev Dr John Ferguson
- 01224 735041
- JFerguson@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk:

- Donald Muir
- 07476 821813
- sessionclerk@culterkirk.co.uk

Newsletter Editor:

- Val Muir
- 07766 740878
- editor@culterkirk.co.uk

Church Office:

- 01224 735845
- secretary@culterkirk.co.uk