

Ardoch Parish Church

Sunday 25th October 2020

Rev Mairi Perkins welcomes everyone to **Bible Sunday**, a day on which churches celebrate the continuing impact the Bible has on individuals and communities in Scotland and throughout the world. **Bible Sunday** is celebrated annually, with churches across Scotland



The Bible has transformed many lives all over the world not just here in Scotland and today the Bible Society sets aside this Sunday as Bible Sunday. It is a time to stop and re-evaluate what the Bible means to you, what the Bible has done in transforming individual lives, transforming your lives.

Our first hymn is “A mighty fortress is our God” Written by Martin Luther

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.
our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.

Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.

The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours, thru him who with us sideth.

Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill; God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever.

**Let us say together the Lord's Prayer
During our Zoom recorded service this is
signed in Makaton by Becky George.**

Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy
name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it
is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen

Sally Young reads from

2 Timothy Chapter 3 v 14-17

New International Version

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it,¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Sally introduces the next hymn which is
“Every Promise”

Words & Music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

From the breaking of the dawn to the setting of the sun,
I will stand on every promise of Your word.
Words of power, strong to save, that will never pass away,
I will stand on every promise of Your word.
For Your covenant is sure, and on this I am secure,
I can stand on every promise of Your word.
When I stumble and I sin, condemnation pressing in,
I will stand on every promise of Your word.
You are faithful to forgive, that in freedom I might live,
So I stand on every promise of Your word.

Guilt to innocence restored: You remember sins no more!

So I'll stand on every promise of Your word.

When I'm faced with anguished choice, I will listen for Your voice,

And I'll stand on every promise of Your word.

Through this dark and troubled land You will guide me with your
hand

As I stand on every promise of Your word.

And you've promised to complete Every work begun in me,

So I'll stand on every promise of Your word.

Hope that lifts me from despair, love that casts out every fear,

As I stand on every promise of Your word.

Not forsaken, not alone, for the Comforter has come,

And I stand on every promise of Your word.

Grace sufficient, grace for me, grace for all who will believe,

We will stand on every promise of Your word.

Words & Music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend
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The title of Mairi's sermon is Life transformed through the Bible

When we look at the Bible, we should see one big book, from first page to last page, one story not two different stories. It is the very same story from beginning to ...well it has not ended yet has it, we still await that final section.

Did you know that there are 5 different genres in the Bible, 5 very distinctive types of writing depending on whom has written it. Some of the Bible is ancient, over 4,000 years old and other parts are relatively new having only been written

some 40 years after Jesus was crucified. When we look through our bible and see verses and chapters clearly defined, this is to help us read and understand it. It was never written like that. You might also ask about all the different translations and which is right, and we have to remember it was never written in English but in Hebrew originally and so much gets changed and lost in translation.

What we do know however is that all scripture is inspired by God. All scriptures come with the authority of God and all scriptures are the word of God.

The Bible remains relevant, important, and current today and it has an end purpose, that through diligent study we will be fully equipped to be active in God's work.

But the Bible is not a coaching manual or a tool for living good lives and doing good works, the bible points us to Jesus on whom our salvation depends. It is not about how well we know and can recite our bibles, the Bible is not the prize, it is how well we know Jesus and have faith in him for our salvation.

The Bible is only the menu, telling us what we can expect. If we left a restaurant without tasting anything no matter how well the menu had been written, we would be very disappointed. Jesus is that meal that we leave wanting seconds.

In the words of psalm 34 v8

“taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the one who takes refuge in him”

Amen

Let us pray

Lord you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.’ PSALM 90:1-2

Eternal God we thank you that before the world was made you were there, as we live our lives today you are there. From everlasting to everlasting, you are our never changing God. Father we thank you for your faithfulness that has been shown to us from generation to generation.

Thank you that you are the same yesterday, today and forever.

Heavenly Father day by day you demonstrate your unfailing love to us.

As we reflect on the love, compassion, grace and mercy given to us new every morning we bow down before you and worship.

Teach us Lord to number our days and grant us hearts of wisdom and understanding.

Help us to mature in our faith, grow in grace and come to a deeper understanding of the Lord Jesus Christ.

May the favour of the Lord our God rest upon us,
establishing the work that He has given us to do.

Amen

Our closing hymn is “Lord for the Years”

1 Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

2 Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive Your people's praise.

3 Lord, for our land in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care:
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

4 Lord, for our world when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him:
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

5 Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us -
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us, for the future take us:
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Words & Music: Timothy Dudley-Smith © 1976 Dudley-Smith,
Timothy (Admin. by Oxford University Press)

Benediction

***Now go, with the word of God in your hearts.
In the name of the Father, Son and the Holy
Spirit. Amen.***

Intimations

There will be a virtual Kirk Session Meeting via Zoom on Wednesday 28th October at 7pm.

The Sunday Service on 1st November will be pre recorded on Zoom as usual.

Also on the 1st November there will be a **Joint live Zoom Communion Service** with Blackford at 7.00pm. Further details and the link will be posted on the Ardoch web site at the beginning of the week.

The local British Legion Branch is organising a Remembrance event at the War Memorial on Wednesday 11th November at 11am. There will be a wreath and poppy cross laying ceremony at the memorial. Every name on the memorial will have a cross laid in their memory.

To conform with COVID19 rules, there will be yellow chalk marks for maintaining social distancing or you may stand on the grass in Gentlecroft.

As there is no door to door collection this year, you can donate to the Poppy Scotland through their website. www.poppyscotland.org.uk

There are also poppies on sale in the Braco Shop and Braco Coffee.

Ardoch Parish Church Scottish Charity Number SC000139
ardochparishchurch.org

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