

Holy Trinity, Elgin with St Margaret's, Lossiemouth

Welcome to the Scottish Episcopal Church.

This parish welcomes members of other denominations to share in its worship

Sunday 1 May 22 Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday services are at 9.30 am in St Margaret's, Lossiemouth and at 11.15 am in Holy Trinity, Elgin. The requirement to wear face coverings at services has now lifted. If you would prefer to continue wearing one, please feel very welcome to do so. The person distributing communion will continue to wear a face covering. As cases in our area are still quite high, please be kind and give each other space.

This leaflet comes out weekly, by e-mail or post and on our website. Please make sure your friends receive theirs.

A recorded digital Service of the Word is usually available each Sunday on our YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSYhBaWnrmXOvc1HgDzlm_g

You'll also find a weekly Scottish Episcopal Church service at:

<http://www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship/>

For any contact, questions or queries please get in touch with Tembu
01343 547505 or rector@trinityelgin.org

Mon 2 May PHILIP AND JAMES

Tue 3 May Athanasius

Wed 4 May

Thurs 5 May

Fri 6 May

Sat 7 May

Scottish Episcopal Church Calendar and Lectionary.

Sunday Year C Weekdays Year 2

Week of: Easter 3 Daily Prayer: New Life: The Lord

Collect

O God, who, in the death and resurrection of your Son, have raised up this fallen world: may we and all your people, whom you have saved from the gates of everlasting death, rejoice in your eternal presence; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

First Reading Acts 9: 1 – 6

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.'

Psalm Ps 30

Response *I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up.*

I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me. O Lord my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health. You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave. **R**

Sing to the Lord, you servants of his; give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness. For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, his favour for a lifetime. Weeping may spend the night, but joy comes in the morning. **R**

While I felt secure, I said, 'I shall never be disturbed. You, Lord, with your favour, made me as strong as the mountains.' Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear. **R**

I cried to you, O Lord; I pleaded with the Lord, saying, 'What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit? will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness? Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me; O Lord, be my helper.'
R

You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy; Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever. R

Second Reading Revelation 5: 11 – 14

I, John, looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!' Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, 'To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever!' And the four living creatures said, 'Amen!' And the elders fell down and worshipped.

GOSPEL John 21: 1 – 19

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did

the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’ A second time he said to him, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Tend my sheep.’ He said to him the third time, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, ‘Do you love me?’ And he said to him, ‘Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.’ He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God. After this he said to him, ‘Follow me.’

Reflection (*Tembu*)

A meeting with Jesus never fails to transform and change us. In the first reading from Acts we see the zealot, Saul, start his journey from persecuting the church to being one of its greatest supporters and builders. That journey from Saul to Paul, persecutor to church founder and letter writer extraordinaire, only happened because of one very significant meeting with Jesus on the Damascus road.

When Jesus meets the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, it is (at least) the fourth time he has appeared to them. They do not recognise him at first, but he helps them, after a fruitless night of catching nothing, to drag in an enormous catch of fish—153 of them (and large ones at that—this isn’t just a sack of sprats!)

Jesus shows himself to his disciples again to continue their journey of belief. Encouraging them to believe more, letting them realise completely he is alive, and so they can live again, breathe again and have purpose again.

This time, Jesus also needs to speak with Simon Peter.

Simon Peter is still himself—when John tells him ‘it is the Lord’ he jumps into the lake in his eagerness to get to Jesus (the rest of the disciples stay with the boat and bring in the catch!). And yet, I wonder how Peter was inside.

How much had his denial of Jesus stuck with him? That memory of failure,

had it even tarnished the joy of Jesus' resurrection for Peter? His master was alive again, but would it be the same. Could Peter look him in the eyes again, now that, when it mattered most, it was proved that Peter couldn't be trusted to stick with his master through thick and thin...

I think that is why Jesus asks him three times 'do you love me'. Three times of love, to completely wipe away three denials. Jesus did not want Peter to go through life incomplete, with broken bits inside. Jesus wanted Peter to be whole. The first time Jesus asks, Peter gives the obvious answer 'yes you know I love you.' The second time he asks, Peter is beginning to be puzzled, maybe even a little exasperated, 'yes Lord you know that I love you'. But when Jesus asks a third time, Peter knows. Peter knows what this is about, and in this translation it says 'Peter felt hurt'. In other translations it says 'Peter felt sad'. Both work. Peter realises. He isn't going to escape facing up to his denial. But neither is it left to fester and poison him, undealt with. Jesus deals with Simon Peter directly and lovingly. Do you love me? Then follow me.

And that is still Jesus' question to us. Do you love me? No matter our feelings of guilt or failure for promises broken. No matter the hurt or the worries of the world. Jesus still looks into our eyes today, and asks us do you love me, and when we say yes, he says to us, 'follow me'.

Intercessions (*Panny*)

Give thanks to the Lord

Rejoice and praise his name.

At breakfast by the seashore, Lord Jesus, you recommissioned your disciples.

Re-energise your Church to proclaim your resurrection and your truth...

Turn our empty net into a teeming body of praise.

In the company of friends, Lord Jesus, you restored Simon Peter in your service.

Forgive our faltering steps, our blunders and our denials of your ways when we are under pressure...

Give us grace and courage to follow you in our everyday life.

On the road to Damascus, Lord Jesus, you confronted Saul with his zealous hatred of your way.

Turn the hearts of all who oppress through distortions of self-image and identity;

Restore troubled hearts and minds with your peace.

With the embrace of charity, Lord Jesus, you sent Ananias to restore Saul's sight.

Send your liberating and transforming Spirit on all who suffer restrictions of mind, body and spirit... we hold before you the victims of war and oppression in the Ukraine; refugees and immigrants seeking safety and employment; and all who are in abusive relationships.

From the darkness of death, Lord Jesus, you were raised to life.

Shine your light on all who have died, and those who mourn their passing... Give us faith to trust in your salvation.

Merciful Father, Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Please pray for: Andy Roberson, Ian and Ann Bartholomew, and Carol Wetherell.

Brew and blether after the service – in HT small hall or at the back of St M
Many thanks to our servers. New volunteers welcome.



Volunteers needed. St Margaret's coffee/tea rota for after morning service needs filling up. Please speak to John Black or Diane Saywack for information.

*Circle me Lord, Keep hope near, And evil afar.”
Circle me Lord, Keep light near, And darkness afar.”
Circle me Lord, Keep peace within, Keep fear out.”
Circle me Lord, Keep hope within, Keep doubt without.*

*This we pray for ourselves and all who face evil,
darkness, fear and doubt*

Readings for next Sunday 8 May 22 Easter 4

Acts 9: 36 – 43

Psalm 23

Revelation 7: 9 – 17

John 10: 22 – 30

Activities and Future Events

www.trinityelgin.org

Baptisms, weddings and funerals – please contact 01343 547505.

Tembu's normal days off are Friday and Saturday.

The Youth Fellowship If you are S1–S6 and would like to join us please get in touch with Tembu at rector@trinityelgin.org

Choir practice in church, Wed 5 pm. New singers welcome.

Mothers' Union 3rd Wed of the month, 2 pm in HT hall

Men's group Open to all. Monthly outings. Contact Graham 830250

HT Gardeners 2nd Tue of month (not winter) at back. Front – any time.

Prayer group Contact Jenny (07950 830017)

Youth Fellowship

Please contact Tembu for info on weekly Tuesday meetings.

Gardening at HT The next working party is THIS TUE 3 MAY, meeting at 10am. Everyone welcome to join us.

50+ Club monthly draw Thank you for your continued support. Last year we were able to donate £500 to church funds. Our new year starts in June. It is still £12 per number per year. Members can have as many numbers as they like. Please pay by cash or cheque (made out to the 50+ club) to either Lyne Taylor or Maureen Collie.

Gordonstoun Chapels Thurs 19 May, 4 pm at St Christopher's Chapel. Tea and a talk on Christianity in and international school from Christian Collet, chaplain. Followed by Compline in the Michael Kirk, led by The Rector. For info contact Graham on 830250

Date change. Our Summer Songs of Praise service has moved to Sunday 12 Jun, 3 pm at HT. I can't give too much away just yet, if you start thinking about what hymns are your favourites, that might come in handy.

Diary

Sun 15 May Easter Evensong

Thurs 19 May Men's group – Gordonstoun chapels Contact Graham 830250

Thurs 16 Jun Men's group & MU – Gordon Castle garden & Gordon chapel

Sun 12 Jun Summer Songs of Praise 3 pm at HT

Nearly done! This week a big thank you goes to Jill at St M and Lynne B at HT for their meticulous record keeping and for spending the week answering questions and providing me with all the paperwork I need to put together the tax refund claim. All that remains is to get online with HMRC and send in the claim document. Of course none of this would be possible if it wasn't for our committed band of regular givers and Gift Aiders. Thank you all! Kate.

835133 or GiftAid@trinityelgin.org

For legacies please speak to Gordon Barron. 547188

News from the sunflower nursery. Ukraine's national flower is the sunflower so last week I offered plants in return for a donation to the DEC appeal for Ukraine. I'm quite humbled to report that £80 went to that appeal from a couple of my friends and some very generous near neighbours. I had already sown a second batch so there are 18 more almost ready for new homes. If you'd like some please get in touch. 835133 or buthillbounty@btinternet.com Please do it soon though, as I plan to offer them to the rest of the Roseisle community. Sunflowers are such cheerful flowers and if they can bring even a wee a bit of help for Ukraine that can only be a good thing. And the birds will love the seed heads!

And finally

The whole problem with the world is that fools and fanatics are always so certain of themselves, and wiser people so full of doubts.

Bertrand Russell

Priest in Charge: The Revd Tembu Rongong
01343 547505
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Items for next week's leaflet should be with Kate by Wednesday evening
pewleaflet@trinityelgin.org or 01343 835133