

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 11 Apr 21 Second Sunday of Easter

There are in-person services at both Holy Trinity and St Margaret's, though in a limited way, with strict precautions and limits on numbers. There is be a booking system for those wishing to attend.

The pew leaflet will continue to be produced, containing prayers, readings and reflections that we can all share in. We will continue to be a worshipping community from our homes, supporting each other and sharing our love, though at a distance. An online service will be available each week on our YouTube channel, in addition to the Provincial services. (Links on page 7)

This leaflet comes out each week. It can be downloaded from the website, will be emailed to you if we have your email address, or posted to you if we do not.

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

Mon 12 Apr William Forbes

Tues 13 Apr
George Augustus Selwyn (11 Apr)

Wed 14 Apr

Thurs 15 Apr

Fri 16 Apr Magnus of Orkney

Sat 17 Apr Donnan

Scottish Episcopal Church Calendar and Lectionary.

Sunday Year B Weekdays Year 1

Week of Easter 2 Daily Prayer: New Life: The Lord

Collect

Almighty God: in your great goodness, grant that we, as pilgrims through the Easter mysteries, may hold them fast in our lives; 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 4: 32 – 35

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Psalm Ps 133

Response *How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity.*

O how good and pleasant it is, when a family lives together in unity! It is like fine oil upon the head that runs down upon the beard, Upon the beard of Aaron, and runs down upon the collar of his robe. **R**

It is like the dew of Hermon that falls upon the hills of Zion. For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: life for evermore. **R**

Second Reading 1 John 1: 1 – 2: 2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life – this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us – we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his

Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

GOSPEL John 20: 19 – 31

It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Reflection

Some years ago, on the Sunday after Easter the children came into Holy Trinity church after their session in the hall, carrying a huge banner. They lined up in front of the choir and held it up for us to see. With sad faces,

quietly and slowly they read out the words:

GOD IS NOWHERE!

They explained that is how the disciples felt after Jesus' crucifixion..... miserable, confused, devastated, blinded by their tears and very worried about the future.

Then two of the children moved slightly apart, and together they joyfully shouted out the new words:

GOD IS NOW HERE!

And so it must have been for Mary on Easter morning when she encountered the risen Jesus outside the tomb and he said her name. And for the disciples in the locked room when Jesus appeared to them, and later for Thomas when he saw Jesus himself, and for the disciples on the road to Emmaus, and for the others who we shall hear about Sunday by Sunday over the next few weeks, as we re-read those familiar stories about the risen Christ appearing again and again.

We may not have seen the risen Christ with our own eyes, or heard his voice with our own ears, or touched the wounds in his side with our hands, but we have some powerful testimonies to help us believe that God has not abandoned us and to give us a living hope.

We may not be as utterly miserable as the disciples were after the crucifixion, but perhaps we may be feeling a bit low after all these weeks of lockdown. The Good News is that if we open our eyes and our hearts we can see and feel and know God's Resurrection and Renewal and Regeneration and Forgiveness and Healing and Light all around us. As Albert Einstein said: *It is not one thing that is a miracle; the whole thing is a miracle.*

We heard today Jesus's first words to his disciples: Peace be with you. In his address at the Chrism Mass from the Cathedral on Maundy Thursday, Bishop Mark urged us to be "*prayerful, pastoral and peaceful*". That's quite a challenge. And it will only be possible because of the miracle of the Resurrection:

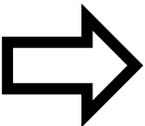
GOD IS NOW HERE!

Intercessions

Lord of Life and Love, we rejoice with the disciples, to whom Christ revealed himself,
Know, like them, that he is alive and with us still.
May we, like them be transformed and strengthened in knowing that you are with us.
Forgive us when we are full of doubts and fears;
Help us to overcome our doubts and strengthen our beliefs.
May your light and life and love be abroad today
In all the dark corners of the world,
Wherever sin defies and destroys
Wherever hopelessness deadens and dulls.
Wherever men and women are prisoners of shame and fear.
Of oppression and injustice; of decease, sickness or injury.
May this world be free of war and violence.
Of racial and religious hatred and of greed and tyranny.
Let the triumph of Easter echo through all our lives
That your kingdom be established here on earth.
In the name of Christ our Lord
Amen

Thanks to Catherine for these prayers

Please pray for the sick, especially Andy Roberson, Ian and Ann Bartholomew, Carol Wetherell and Kay McGloan.



Online congregation.

Please note there isn't a digital service from Holy Trinity and St Margaret's for this Sunday (Easter 2) as Tembu is taking a post-Easter break. You will find a service for this Sunday on the provincial website. (Link on p7)

*Cheer up, friends and neighbours,
Now it's Eastertide,
Stop from endless labours,
Worries put aside:
Men should rise from sadness,
Evil, folly, strife,
When God's mighty gladness
Brings the earth to life*

*Out from snowdrifts chilly,
Roused from drowsy hours,
Bluebell wakes, and lily;
God calls up the flowers!
Into life he raises
All the sleeping buds,
Meadows weave his praises,
And the spangled woods.*

*Ours the more and less is,
But, changeless all the days,
God revives and blesses,
Like the sunlight rays.
'All mankind is risen,'
The Easter bells do ring,
While from out their prison
Creep the flowers of spring!*

NST The Oxford Book of Carols

The Prayer Group is using Zoom to keep up the work of praying for local and worldwide concerns. Please ask via the pew leaflet if you'd like to be put in touch with a member of the prayer group who will make sure that everyone's privacy is respected.

Readings for next Sunday 18 Apr 21 Easter 3

Acts 3: 12 – 19

Psalm 4

1 John 3: 1 – 7

Luke 24: 36b – 48

Activities and Future Events
www.trinityelgin.org

Activities currently suspended due to Covid-19 precautions.

Baptisms, weddings and funerals – please contact 01343 547505.
Tembu's normal day off is Saturday.

“Not in the pews” leaflet. Please check if your friends have received a copy by e-mail or post and encourage folk to get in touch if they'd like a copy. It's also on our website: <http://www.trinityelgin.org/>

You'll also find a weekly SEC service at:

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

or listen on the telephone. (Details from Jenny on 07950 830017)

Our own psalms, readings and weekly services are available at

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

KEEP IN TOUCH!

Please remember, Tembu is really happy to hear from you. He's not too busy to take your phone call or read your e-mail.

Pattern of services

Digital	In-person (<i>limited numbers</i>)
Recorded digital service of the Word – with psalm & virtual singers hymn (Usually available from 9 am on Sundays)	Thursdays 10 am HT Sundays 9.30 am St Margaret's Sundays 11.15 am HT

The Youth Fellowship If you are S1-S6 and would like to join us please get in touch with Tembu at rector@trinityelgin.org On Tuesday evenings (apart from the first week of the month) we have Bible study. Once a month, we have a themed evening.



Due to the holidays we will meet TONIGHT, 11th April.

Glen 21 Nothing can stop the Provincial youth week! 1 – 7 August 2021

Have a look at www.glen21.online

Regular giving. If you normally use regular giving envelopes, you should have received your set for the new financial year. Of course, you may not be able to use them yet, but let's hope it won't be too long. Thank you to everyone who is keeping up their giving by whatever method. Please do get in touch if you need more info about Gift Aid, or giving by envelope scheme, bank transfers and standing orders.

Kate. 01343 835133 or GiftAid@trinityelgin.org

Traidcraft stall. Let's keep supporting the producers of our favourite luxuries and keep our stall going. If you would like tea, coffee, sugar, rice, pasta, chocolate, sweets or any other of Traidcraft's huge and varied range, please let me know by 26th April so that I can put in our order at the end of April. Thanks, Judith. fairtradestall@trinityelgin.org

50+ CLUB Now we are back in church we have decided to re-start the 50+ club with the first draw in June. We would like to welcome old & new members to give your subs before June. You can give cash or cheque made out to HT 50+ Club, to Catherine Green at Lossiemouth, Lynne Taylor at HT or by post to Maureen. (Please call the pew leaflet number for her address.) The subs haven't changed – £12 a year for one number & you can have as many numbers as you like. At the moment this is our only way of fund raising over and above your regular giving. There will still be a monthly draw. Thanks to those who have already sent their money. Thank you in anticipation.

And finally

The sun, with all those planets revolving around it and dependent on it, can still ripen a bunch of grapes as if it had nothing else in the universe to do.

Galileo Galilei

Priest in Charge: The Revd Tembu Rongong
01343 547505
Rector@trinityelgin.org

Items for next Sunday's leaflet should be with Kate by Wednesday evening.
pewleaflet@trinityelgin.org or 01343 835133