

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 12 Jun 22 Trinity Sunday

Sunday services are at 9.30 am in St Margaret's, Lossiemouth and at 11.15 am in Holy Trinity, Elgin. Face coverings aren't required but please feel welcome to wear one if you prefer. The person distributing communion will continue to wear a face covering. 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 available the first Sunday of the month 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 13 Jun

John Skinner (from 12 Jun)

Tue 14 Jun Basil of Caesarea,
Gregory of Nazianzus, Gregory of
Nyssa

Wed 15 Jun

Thurs 16 Jun

Fri 17 Jun

Sat 18 Jun Bernard Mizeki

Scottish Episcopal Church Calendar and Lectionary.

Sunday Year C Weekdays Year 2

Week of: Trinity Sunday/ Proper 11 Daily Prayer: Week B

Collect

Almighty and Everlasting God, you have given us grace in the profession of true faith to recognise the glory of the eternal Trinity: keep us steadfast in this faith and bring us to see you in your perfect and eternal unity; 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 Proverbs 8: 1 – 4, 22 – 31

Thus says the wisdom of God: Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? On the heights, beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries out: 'To you, O people, I call, and my cry is to all that live. The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.'

Psalm Ps 8

Response *How exalted is your name in all the world*

Lord our governor, how exalted is your name in all the world! Out of the mouths of infants and children your majesty is praised above the heavens. You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, to quell the enemy and the avenger. **R**

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses, What are mortals, that you should be mindful of them? mere human beings, that you should seek them out? You have made them little lower than the angels; you adorn them with glory and honour. **R**

You give them mastery over the works of your hands; and put all things under their feet, All sheep and oxen, even the wild beasts of the field, The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea. O Lord our governor, how exalted is your name in all the world! **R**

Second Reading Romans 5: 1 – 5

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

GOSPEL John 16: 12 – 15

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.'

Reflection (*Tembu*)

Trinity Sunday is often given to curates to preach as it is considered a 'difficult' Sunday! It is considered difficult because it has to do with doctrine – that is, right teaching. Many people switch right off at this point, my task is to try and keep you engaged!

So... the doctrine of the Trinity – what is it about? Why does it matter?

If you look back at the collect you will see, 'you have given us grace in the profession of true faith to recognise the glory of the eternal Trinity: keep us steadfast in this faith and bring us to see you in your perfect and eternal unity'

Already we have then two words to unpack, Trinity and Unity. There is one God, not three. However, though all sharing the one being as God, there are three persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit who we know as the Trinity and with whom we can have a relationship. Each of them are also in continual relationship with each other, a relationship of shared love. We celebrate God

as love, as in God's very being that love is constantly shared between Father, Son and Holy Spirit or indeed between Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier. The Trinity is not about convincing you to accept substandard church mathematics – we know three cannot equal one. The persons of the Trinity happen to be three, but it is not the number that is important, but about them being persons who are distinct but still all God. And the Trinity is about equality. None of them are more important than the other. This is perhaps the most relevant part of the doctrine for us, and I think the main reason the doctrine exists.

In many peoples thinking we have God (the Father) somewhere in the sky (heaven), Jesus who was sent to earth and returned to heaven – a mix of secret agent and servant – and finally we have the Holy Spirit who I think we don't always remember as having a personality or qualities of their own. The Trinity re-establishes the fact that all three are equal. Jesus, though he came to earth amongst us, was no less God than the Father. As in last week's Gospel we heard – 'those who have seen me have seen the Father' Jesus the Son and the Father are one. Both God. And so is the Spirit. The Holy Spirit can come across as just power (like electricity) or somehow less person because they do not speak. But for non-verbal people everywhere who can take inspiration from a person of the Trinity who does not verbalise but instead communicates through emotion, signs, sounds, nudges, excitement and inspiration, that person of the Trinity is also God. In God's fullness. Not just a part of God, not just an extension. Fully God. Like Jesus.

So... why is the doctrine of the Trinity important? It gives equality for Jesus and the Holy Spirit with the Father. It establishes at the core of God, that equality that is manifest in love and relationship. It reminds us that God, though close to us, is also stranger and more wonderful than we can imagine. It allows us when we pray, to pray to whom we feel a connection. Maybe we feel the need of a Father's love sometimes. Other times someone who knows what it is like to be human like us. Or maybe we have no words left, or in fact we often we love to pray through emotion and feeling and sensing. All of that is right, all of that is allowed, in fact celebrated by God. At the end of the day. the doctrine of the Trinity is what we humans have come up with to try to understand something of the vastness of God. We cannot explain God in completeness, but by trying in our limited way, it is

another reaching out to our God of love, to worship with our minds and understanding as well as our hearts and spirit.

Intercessions *(Maureen)*

God of all creation, we come before you now with thanksgiving, seeking guidance and wisdom; help us listen and understand Your Word. For in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

As we join with the light of the world, we are one body in Jesus Christ, through our hands in which he blesses all the world, through our feet he walks to do good; with our eyes, he looks with care and compassion on all the world, through our ears he listens. With his breath, he enables us to find many ways of communicating, not one better than the other, so we can share the love that your Son, offered to all the world; we come in faith to serve you.

We pray for the churches and the communities locally and throughout the world. You pour down your grace Lord, on each of us to strengthen and guide us as we seek knowledge and truth so that we can grow with open minds, deepening our sense of love in your mystery, as we stand in hope as we are called to share in your continued works which are enabled through the gifts poured on us by the power of the Holy Spirit.

In a moment of quietness, remember all who are struggling, suffering, and lost, in body, in mind or in Spirit, help them Lord, to be filled with your peace and strength. May all be comforted and filled with God's mercies through God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit as your light shines bright in the hope, they find peace.

We remember those who have died this week, those whose anniversaries fall at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

God, Father of all creation we praise you for revealing to us the mysteries of your inner life. As you hear our prayers may we always listen and grow closer in faithfulness to you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Please pray for: Jim Taylor, 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.

Trinity Sunday

In the beginning, not in time or space,
But in the quick before both space and time,
In Life, in Love, in co-inherent Grace,
In three in one and one in three in rhyme,
In music, in the whole creation story,
In his own image, his imagination,
The Triune Poet makes us for his glory,
And makes us each the other's inspiration.
He calls us out of darkness, chaos, chance,
To improvise a music of our own,
To sing the chord that calls us to the dance,
Three notes resounding from a single tone,
To sing the End in whom we all begin;
Our God beyond, beside us, and within.

Malcolm Guite

St Margaret's Congregational Meeting Sunday, 26th June after 9.30am service.

A chance to contribute your ideas to the running of St Margaret's

Readings for next Sunday 19 Jun 22 Pentecost 2

Isaiah 65: 1 – 9 Psalm 22: 19 – 28

Galatians 3: 23 – 29 Luke 8: 26 – 39

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.

Men's Group and Mother's Union. THIS THURS, 16 JUN

Joint visit to the Walled Garden and Gordon Chapel, Fochabers.

2.00 pm Walled Garden, Gordon Castle

Special rates to visit garden: Over 60 £4.00 under 60 £6.00. Please pay when you order your tea. Tea in the Café – buy your own

4.00 pm Gordon Chapel, Fochabers

Talk by Professor Peter Reid who has written the guide to the chapel and is an expert on Gordon Castle. The chapel has beautiful stained-glass windows by Edward Burne-Jones. Followed by Compline led by the Revd Michael Last, Priest in charge.

If you are coming, please let Graham (01343 830250) or Lynne (01343 835861) know by TOMORROW, MON 13 JUN

Volunteers for Flower Rota in Holy Trinity Helpers are urgently needed to keep the flowers in church fresh and inspiring! If you feel you could help please put your name on the flower rota list, which is on the notice board at the back of church. If help is needed please speak to Glenda.

Tube Fund January – June now being collected. Please give tubes or donations to Ann D before 1st July.

Diary

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

Sun 12 Jun Summer Songs of Praise 3 pm at HT

Sun 19 Jun "Choir on tour" Choral Evensong at Aberlour. All welcome.

Sun 26 Jun St Margaret's Congregational meeting after 9.30 am service

Thank you! Thanks to everyone who contributes to our churches by standing order, bank transfer or the envelope scheme. And for those who pay tax – don't forget to keep me updated with any changes to your Gift Aid details.

For information about regular giving and Gift Aid please contact Kate.

835133 or GiftAid@trinityelgin.org

For legacies please speak to Gordon Barron. 547188

News from elsewhere. Going to a niece's wedding in Yorkshire meant we didn't need to carry much stuff so we took our sports car. The roof was mostly down as we revisited some of the tiny back roads that used to make up my (1983) "straight line route" from my flat in Pocklington to our family homes in NE England. Also – I rode a rocking horse.

We made a quick pitstop at home and changed to our "big" car – the electric one. We can't fit golf clubs and my swimming trug into a sports car and charging up in Orkney is easy. So, we don't worry about the cost of driving hither and thither seeing friends and visiting favourite spots. We went to the Orkney Folk Festival, too. It was extra good to be back after such a long break. As usual we met lots of new people. We shared a table at the festival club with a gentleman who'd lived not far from my parents; then it turned out he's also the brother in law of someone at HT! Small world indeed.

And finally

Almost all our faults are more pardonable than the methods we resort to to hide them.

Francois de La Rochefoucauld

Priest in Charge: The Revd Tembu Rongong

01343 547505

Rector@trinityelgin.org

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