

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 19 Jun 22 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

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 20 Jun Fillan

Tue 21 Jun

Wed 22 Jun Alban

Thurs 23 Jun

Fri 24 Jun BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

Sat 25 Jun Moluag of Lismore

Scottish Episcopal Church Calendar and Lectionary.

Sunday Year C Weekdays Year 2

Week of: Proper 12 Daily Prayer: Week C

Collect

O Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers: and as you give us the desire to pray, grant us your help and protection; 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 Isaiah 65: 1 – 9

The word of the Lord through the prophet: I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, 'Here I am, here I am,' to a nation that did not call on my name. I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; who say, 'Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.' These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the LORD; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. Thus says the LORD: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, 'Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,' so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

Psalm Ps 22: 19 – 28

Response: *All the ends of the earth shall bow before him*

Be not far away, O, Lord; You are my strength; hasten to help me. Save me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog. Save me from the lion's mouth, my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls. **R**

I will declare your name to my people; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you. Praise the Lord, you that fear him; stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory. **R**

For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; but when they cry to him he hears them. My praise is of him in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him. **R**

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: 'May your heart live for ever!' All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him. For kingship belongs to the Lord; he rules over the nations. **R**

Second Reading Galatians 3: 23 – 29

Before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ; There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

GOSPEL Luke 8: 26 – 39

Jesus and his disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me.' – for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was

drowned. When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, 'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

Reflection (*Philip*)

It almost reads as a good piece of fiction, the story of Jesus arriving via boat to the shores of Gerasenes. [Said with a deep, slow voice, as if promoting a movie] A man arrives on the shore. He is not known to the people. Who is this stranger? He is met by a man from the city, who was possessed, and who collapses at his feet. [dun dun dun] Coming to a cinema near you, or new to Netflix etc [stop with the voice].

Just the presence of Jesus in this situation, changes the behaviour of the man possessed. The man and the demons begged not to be tormented and were afraid in the presence of Jesus. Note that it is one of the few accounts of Jesus not saying, "do not be afraid". Jesus was not known to this man or people, but prior to this encounter he was travelling through the area. Chapter 8 of Luke starts by telling us that, "Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, as well as some women". With these travellers, Jesus was sharing parables while teaching the people, which included the Parable of the Sower and the Lamp under a Jar. Jesus had joined the disciples on the boat to get away from the crowd, he was exhausted and had fallen asleep. Luke then gives us the account of Jesus calming the storm. His followers were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?" (Luke 8v25). Back to the Gospel reading, he arrives ashore and is confronted with this mad man, naked, wild and shouting at him. It appears

that with complete calmness Jesus is talking to the demons and He gives them permission to enter the swine, who proceeded to run down the hill into the sea and drown. This would not have impressed the farmer! In fact the swineherds ran back to tell the others, who came back to see for themselves. The last paragraph highlights the fear in the people and how they asked Jesus to leave them as they were afraid. It mentions it twice in verse 35 and again in 37. Great fear! Jesus then left them, returning with the disciples and leaving the man there to return to his home, and declare how much God has done for him. He went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

A couple of things strike me here. One being the calmness of Jesus in the face of everything that was going on, remembering that he had been woken during the night from his sleep and he then calmed the storm. He faced the attention of the mad man, with the crowds asking him to leave. The antithesis here was fear. The fear in the mad man, the fear in the demons, the fear in the swineherds and the fear of the people. There does not seem to be any account of Jesus trying to calm their fears, but only that he talks to the man and then departs. There was no account of the man whom Jesus had rescued being fearful. In fact he understood what Jesus had done for him and he was happy to follow Jesus' commands. Those closest to Jesus were calm and knew where they were safest – close to Jesus. For us, knowing what Jesus did for us, how he rescued us, should mean that we follow his command without question or excuse. Spend some time reflecting on your journey to this point with Jesus and what are your next steps?

Intercessions *(Panny)*

Sing to the Lord all the earth

Bless his holy name

Most High God, all creation knows you and is alive with your presence. Join our worship with the praises of birdsong and nature's beauty that surrounds us...

With humble and contrite hearts we adore your name.

Most High God, your authority is over all. Give governments and rulers your wisdom for the awesome responsibility they bear...

As fellow heirs of your promise, help us to remove false barriers and distinctions between all people.

Most High God, you test the hearts of all your people. Stand with all facing upheaval, whether it is the horror of war, seeking a new life in safety, or the challenge of a life-changing diagnosis...

Most High God, your compassion sees beyond fear. Hold with your mercy all whose mental state is diminished or damaged...

Embrace them in your love that we may yet give you thanks...

Most High God, you reveal yourself in the depth of sheer silence. Teach us to know you and trust in your eternity as with faith we remember those who have died....

Bring us with them and all the saints to rejoice in the fulfilment of your promise.

Most High God, you have given us a job description that doesn't change: to go in peace, to love and serve the Lord. When we go out this week to a bewildered world, vulnerable ourselves but hopeful, help us to lead God-shaped lives that speak peace and hope into the lives of others.

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

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

Brew and bletcher after the service – in HT small hall or at the back of St M

Many thanks to our servers. New volunteers welcome.

St Margaret's Congregational Meeting NEXT SUNDAY, 26TH JUNE after 9.30am service. A chance to contribute your ideas to the running of St Margaret's

Points from latest vestry meeting.

- We are making plans to restart the Chalice for those who wish after the summer. Tembu reminds us that Communion in one kind is still full Communion.
- We are planning "Vision days" to look at the future and togetherness of our communities. Look out for the sheets with possible dates to choose.
- We are planning a "Church day out" perhaps a picnic.
- We have set the date for the AGM, 20th November after the service at HT.

Readings for next Sunday 26 Jun 22 Pentecost 3

1 Kings 19: 15 – 16, 19 – 21 Psalm 16

Galatians 5: 1, 13 – 25 Luke 9: 51 – 62

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 Weekly Tuesday meetings will continue to the end of June then there's a break for the summer holidays.

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

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.

Christian Aid. A talk about ongoing work by speakers from the Edinburgh Office. Thurs 23 Jun, 7 pm at Elgin High Church Hall.

Message from Lynne T. A big thank you to all who helped in any way with refreshments for the Songs of Praise & also to the garden working party as always. Watch this space for the next date.

Thank you to all who came along to help get St Margaret's looking good at the first big clean for 3 years. Everyone worked SO hard. Things were moved; long poles reached high windows and corners; spiders ran for their lives. There were even 3 Hoovers on the go for a while! Lots of appreciation to those who clean week by week and to Diane and Anne for the cuppa.

Diary

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

Thurs 23 Jun Christian Aid talk. 7 pm at Elgin High Church Hall.

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

Cost of living. Ouch! Everything's going up in price, it seems. I feel so lucky to be "comfortably off", but do worry about other people and, of course, about keeping church going. So please – don't worry about reducing your giving if you need to, but if you're able, please think about putting in a wee bit more to help with increased costs. Thank you!

Kate 835133 or GiftAid@trinityelgin.org

For legacies please speak to Gordon Barron. 547188

News from numerous small holes around the garden. It's been all go in the garden and I've been conscious of skittering noises in the trees on the other side of the fence. Meanwhile my man has turned the compost and caught sight of a tiny shrew scrambling away from his fork. We're pretty certain it was adult enough not to suffer too much from the upheaval at its nest. It seems like the mice and voles are doing well, too. They move so fast! They're not unwelcome in the garden – except in the veg plot, where given half a chance they'll eat the seed peas. Now, though, it's the sparrows we have to watch out for – they do enjoy a succulent pea shoot! We arrange chicken wire so that it not only supports the peas, but keeps out the birds. But – back to those skittering noises. I've been accompanied all week by red squirrels. It's just lovely to see them chasing up the trees, raiding the bird feeders (they have their own one, too) dashing about the lawn caching nuts, or drinking at the bird bath. They're really quite unafraid of this gardener!

And finally

ASAP = Always say a Prayer

Sent in by Lynne Taylor

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