

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 24 Apr 22 Second 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 25 Apr MARK

Tue 26 Apr Albert Ernest Laurie

Wed 27 Apr

Thurs 28 Apr

Fri 29 Apr Catherine of Siena

Sat 30 Apr

Scottish Episcopal Church Calendar and Lectionary.

Sunday Year C Weekdays Year 2

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 5: 27 - 32

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they made them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

Psalm Ps 150 *(At HT this psalm forms the anthem, so it will not be read)*

Response *Praise God in his holy temple.*

Alleluia! Praise God in his holy temple; Praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts; praise him for his excellent greatness.

R

Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; praise him with lyre and harp. Praise him with timbrel and dance; praise him with strings and pipe. **R**

Praise him with resounding cymbals; praise him with loud-clanging cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Alleluia! **R**

Second Reading Revelation 1: 4 - 8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever.

Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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 (*Tembu*)

From fear to wonder! The doors are locked. You are expecting and fearing being found out by the authorities — friends of a criminal! Suddenly Jesus is amongst them. Cutting through all the consternation and shock he says to them 'Peace be with you'. Then he shows them the evidence. It is him. It is not a ghost, not a spectre or phantom, but really him. He shows them his hands and side. Then the disciples rejoice.

Is it so bad then, that Thomas wants the same? He has been called 'doubting Thomas' so long and yet is that fair? They have all seen Jesus. They have seen his hands and side, but Thomas has not. He wants to see. In fact he wants even more. He wants to touch the wounds.

When Jesus comes back is he cross with Thomas? No. He says well here you are. Here are my wounds, my hands and side. Does Thomas touch him? No! Seeing is enough. He says 'My Lord and my God!', going perhaps further than any of the other disciples in acknowledging who Jesus is.

Then Jesus speaks for all who come after the disciples and says, 'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' That includes us by the way!

How did you come to faith? Were you brought up in it, perhaps even always believing, or did you come to faith later in life? Who were the people that helped you? Are you someone that needs to see to believe? Are you someone who needs to see and touch (or experience) to believe? Or are you someone who believes without looking for proof? We are all different, and God, rather than getting angry that we are all different, instead reaches out to us and meets our individual needs, as Jesus reached out to Thomas. To know God is to have life. To know God is to have peace. That is why of all the greetings Jesus could have used he said, 'Peace be with you'.

Finally Jesus, after giving his disciples peace, sends them out. So we too are sent out. To bring peace, to bring forgiveness, and to live in the power of the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God, and peace be with you too.

Intercessions *(Jill)*

Heavenly Father, we bow our heads to pray mindful that you are with us, guarding and guiding and pouring out your blessings upon us. We are truly grateful. Fill all our moments with the joy of your resurrection this Eastertide. And enable us to share this joy with others and to see your reflection in all who we meet.

We remember all the hardships that many people in our world are facing, war, violence, poverty, hunger, homelessness, loneliness and sickness. We earnestly ask for your help to bring comfort and peace. We especially remember the citizens of Ukraine and of Russia.

We pray for our governments, local and national that honesty and integrity may mark all their dealings. We pray for better governance throughout the world.

We pray for our church, remembering Tembu and his family, Jenny and her family and Philip and our Bishop and Primus, Mark and his family. We pray for all your disciples.

We pray for those who have died and those who mourn. May your presence bring comfort and courage. We pray for those who are ill both in mind and body, may they feel your healing hands. We remember especially those on the prayer list and others known to us. We give thanks for the skills of all our medical professionals and carers.

We pray for young people and those who care for them. Keep them safe and help them have a fulfilling summer term. May they come to know you.

Finally we pray for ourselves, thanking you for your presence in our lives. Please help us to do and say the right things and plant our footsteps in the direction you have chosen for us. May we lose our doubts and fears and put all our trust in you.

Loving Lord, accept our prayers. 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.

Need contact details? If ever you're wanting to speak to someone in our churches and can't find their details – please contact the leaflet (*bottom of p8*) and we'll do our best to put you in touch.

St Thomas the Apostle.

We do not know... how can we know the way?"
Courageous master of the awkward question,
You spoke the words the others dared not say
And cut through their evasion and abstraction.
Oh doubting Thomas, father of my faith,
You put your finger on the nub of things
We cannot love some disembodied wraith,
But flesh and blood must be our king of kings.
Your teaching is to touch, embrace, anoint,
Feel after Him and find Him in the flesh.
Because He loved your awkward counter-point
The Word has heard and granted you your wish.
Oh place my hands with yours, help me divine
The wounded God whose wounds are healing mine.

Malcolm Guite, poet and priest

Bishops Lent Appeal. A huge thank you to all who donated to the Lent Appeal. The total raised by members of Holy Trinity and St Margaret's was an amazing £3,040. This will be added to donations from the rest of the diocese and forwarded to UNICEF to support their work in Ukraine. I will let you know the total collected once all the donations have been received.

Lynne B, treasurer

Message from Ann D.

A very BIG 'thank you' to all who supported St Margaret's 'Chippy & Fundraiser' It was lovely to get back socializing and have a laugh. And a good sing!!! The amount raised was £311.64!! Absolutely brilliant! Also a big thank you to Tesco for donating the prizes.

Readings for next Sunday 1 May 22 Easter 3

Acts 9: 1 – 6, (7 – 20)

Psalm 30

Revelation 5: 11 – 14

John 21: 1 – 19

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

Tuesday meetings are weekly not monthly! ("*My bad*", Ed.) Info from Tembu

Brodie Daffodils and Garden The Men's Group is planning a trip to see the Brodie daffodils and gardens, *with expert insider knowledge from Jamie Barron*. No charge apart from parking. This trip is open to everyone (not just men). Wed 27 Apr, meeting at 2 pm at Brodie Castle car park. Further information and names to Graham Broad, 830250.

Gardening at HT The next working party is Tue 3 May, meeting at 10am. Everyone welcome to join us.

50+ club April Draw

1st Ruth Tait, 2nd Lynne Burgess, 3rd Jenny Sclater

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.

Sunflowers for Ukraine. The Sunflower is the national flower of Ukraine. I have seedlings for sale in aid of the DEC Ukraine appeal. The variety is Giant Single – great for anyone who wants to get competitive over height, but also beloved by birds when the flowers have gone to seed. 01343 835133 or buthillbounty@btinternet.com

Diary

Wed 27 Apr Brodie daffodils and garden. 2 pm. Contact Graham 830250

Sun 15 May Easter Evensong

Thurs 19 May Men's group – Gordonstoun chapels

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

Sun 19 Jun Summer Songs of Praise

Oh dear! Progress on the tax claim has been slow, mainly due to perfect gardening weather and the need to sit on my bench drinking tea and eating Easter chocolate. I did stir myself to respond to a request for standing order information and I promise I'll do the same if you have any questions about regular giving or Gift Aid. Kate. 835133 or GiftAid@trinityelgin.org
For legacies please speak to Gordon Barron. 547188

Frugal news. The soil in our veg plot is mostly fed on garden compost, but now and then a wee top of organic fertilizer helps. I used to get discount on seaweed meal, but not any more. So, last autumn as I slithered over plenty of seaweed on my way to swim, I thought I ought to try making my own. We gathered a trug load of mostly bladderwrack from the strand line. (Next time I'll cover it better – there were flies in the car for weeks!) We gave it a good hosing down then left it to dry out. Earlier this year we put the dried seaweed through the shredder and this week I raked it into the soil ready for sowing. I already used some for my onions and they're looking healthy so here's hoping I've found a good replacement for pricey fertilizer. Do please let us know if you've found a way of replacing something expensive with a practical alternative.

And finally

Grudges seldom hurt anyone except the one bearing them.

Sherrilyn Kenyon

| |
|--|
| 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 |
|--|