

The Lord be with you. **And also with you!**

For our back page this week, I thought I might take one of the hymns we are singing today, and think about what it might mean to really live out the words every day. To do this, I have simply selected a few words and phrases from the hymn to write about and reflect on. You can find the entire hymn at CH4 198 – “Let us build a house where love can dwell.”

“Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live.”

This phrase reminds us that the Church ought to be a place which is marked by love. As a people, we who are the Church ought also to be marked by love. Now, this love is not some kind of warm and sentimental feeling which is usually only directed to those closest to us. It is a love which has no restrictions, and which as the second part of the sentence reminds us, embraces all.

Now, I have found Polwarth to be a very welcoming congregation, and in our work with the homeless through the Bethany Night Shelter, and our Inter Faith events, we do open our doors to all who would enter. So let me encourage you – keep going!

“Let us build a house...where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.”

These words encourage us to dream dreams! It is a daring thing to believe that God wants to reign in each of our lives, and in the life of the world. What dreams do we dream today for the Church? Do we simply dream that our sanctuary will be full one day, and that there might be some kind of restoration of how things once were? Or do we dream that in the here-and-now, God will inspire us to do a new thing in his service?

If it feels as though we are fighting a losing battle, then think again. We are God's children, so we are already on the winning side! He wants us to think big – to dream dreams, and to believe that a renewed Church in Polwarth can be a reality. So celebrate the best of what is, but dare to dream of what could be.

“Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone”

Here, we are challenged to look beyond our walls to our place in the wider community. As a congregation, we see ourselves as “the Kirk on the Canal”. Our location is a very special one indeed, in the context of the city. As I walk to Church on a Sunday morning, I frequently pass people walking their dogs. On the surface they look content with their lot, but they will be facing many issues in their lives. Do they know that the Church is there for them? Would they even think about the Church as comprising of people they could turn to? Are we re-invigorated by our worship, to go back into the world and share the love of God with those around us?

I hope that if you read these words before our service begins, you will sing this hymn with a new perspective, and that as you leave this house today, you will take up the challenges these words pose. For if you do that, then God will be glorified.

Until next week... **The Lord bless you and keep you.**



Learning
in
the
light
of
knowledge
Moving in the Love of God



INTIMATIONS Sunday 30th October 2016

POLWARTH PARISH CHURCH

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Tuesday 9am–1pm

Friday 2pm–6pm

Saturday 10am–1pm

PRS Licence no.939321 CCL Licence no.494330

MRL Licence no.494347 PPL Licence no.1629764 CVL Licence no. 2313031

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Welcome

A warm welcome is extended to all, especially those who are worshipping at Polwarth as a visitor or returning after an absence. We thank you for choosing to join us today and trust you will be comfortable in our midst and with our style of worship.

Today's Service

The service will be conducted by our minister, **Jack Holt**, and Probationer Minister, **Allan Morton** and members of the congregation. It is the Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time. The theme will be: **Living by Faith**. The readers are: **Norma Bonner** and **Sandra Holt**. The Prayers of Concern will be led by **Lynda Tulloch**. **The service will also include the celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.**

Musical Accompaniment

Dr Lance Whitehead, our Director of Music, will provide the accompaniment to our praise as well as enhance our worship with his choices of music:

Organ Prelude: Johann Krebs: Praeambulum supra 'Jesu, meine freude'; **Choir anthem:** Guidetti, arr. Henry G. Ley: 'The eternal gifts of Christ the King'; **Music while the elements are shared:** Georg Phillip Telemann: 'O Lamm Gottes unschuldig'; **Postlude:** Henry Heron: voluntary no. 2 in G major.

Invitation to Tea

After the service the congregation is invited to the Hall to share in the hospitality provided by our Tea Teams. Please do join us and enhance our fellowship and our enjoyment. *Donations can be given to offset the costs involved.*

Murray Aisle (to your right at the front as you sit) The chapel area is set aside for quiet and personal prayer and reflection at any time.

Large print versions of the Order of Service and Intimation sheets are available. Please ask someone on welcome duty if you require one.

Visual Presentation: The service is presented visually on the screen, but some written Orders of Service are in the Vestry for those who wish to take them to our household members.

Next Sunday: The service at 11am will be conducted by our minister, **Jack** and Probationer Minister, **Allan Morton**. It will be the Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time. The theme will be: **Promise of Prosperity**.

Daily Readings for the week beginning 31 October.

Mon: Philippians 2:1-4; Psalm 131:1-3; Luke 14:12-14.

***Tues:** Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14; Psalm 24:1-6; Matthew 5:1-12.

Wed: Philippians 2:5-18; Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14; Luke 14:25-33.

Thurs: Philippians 3:3-8; Psalm 105:2-7; Luke 15:1-10.

Fri: Philippians 3:17-4:1; Psalm 122:1-5; Luke 16:1-8.

Sat: Philippians 4:10-19; Psalm 112:1-2, 5-6, 8-9; Luke 16:9-15.

**These are the readings for November 1 - All Saints Day.*

BB Company: Junior Section - Sadly, no boys attended the first proposed session. It is expected that this was partly due to the length of time between informing the school and the start date, and that the start date fell on the last day of the October holidays.

So it has been planned to contact the school again and restart on Monday, 7 November at 5.30pm.

New Website: Do check out the new website and share it with your contacts through social media. Let's spread the word of who we are and what we do. Last week's sermon is there to be heard again, as is news about our next Inter-Faith event.

The next choir rehearsal will take place in the church on Sunday 6 November, 0930-1030.



Christmas Coffee Morning

Saturday 5th November, 10am - 12 noon
Tickets £2.50 (includes coffee/tea, mince pie/shortbread)

Home Baking, Books, Christmas Gifts and children's pocket money stalls. Proceeds to Edinburgh Direct Aid and Church Funds. Tickets available from the table at the back of the church or from a member of the Global Concerns Team. Raffle tickets for the Christmas Hamper also available at £1 per ticket (not strip). Donations of Home Baking and Christmas items will be gratefully received and they can be dropped off at the Church on Friday 4th November between 2-4 pm or handed in on the day. – The Global Concerns Team.



The Guild meets again TOMORROW night in the Small Hall when we will be hearing about Christian Aid's Project in Bolivia entitled "Caring for Mother Earth" with Duncan Macniven. This is one of six projects being supported by The Church of Scotland Guilds. All welcome.

Burns Supper, 2017 on Friday 20 January at 6.30pm. Please put this date into your diaries NOW. Places for this event are limited so don't delay in buying your tickets. **Tickets** (£15.00, BYOB) available from Audrey Currie or Margaret Anderson.

The Probationer Minister, Allan Morton, will be leading a series of Advent Bible Studies on the theme of Promises. These studies will give us the opportunity to reflect together in an informal way on traditional advent themes. The studies will make use of a book by Nick Fawcett, and copies will be made available to participants. The structure of the weeks is as follows:

Week 1 – A Disturbing Promise: The Return of Christ

Week 2 – A Sure and Certain Promise: The Word Made Flesh

Week 3 – An Incredible Promise: The Birth and Role of John the Baptist

Week 4 – A Demanding Promise: The Anunciation

The studies will take place in the Small Hall on **four consecutive Thursday evenings at 7pm - 17th November, 24th November, 1st December, 8th December**. The aim will be that the 'study' part of the evening will last no longer than one hour, and there will be time for refreshments at the end. The early start is to allow anyone who might be away nearer Christmas to participate. If you are at all interested, please speak to Allan today, or add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Drennan Hall.

Fairtrade: Please visit the Christmas Table and the usual Honesty Table to see what is on offer. New stock added each week. Your contribution will make a difference to the lives of those producing our goods. Thank you.

Christmas Soup Lunch Sunday 11th December: Please can we invite the congregation to the Polwarth Christmas Lunch on Sunday 11th December. To help us plan please could we ask you to sign up at the back of the church. Donations will be taken on the day to cover costs and to raise funds for the following: £100 to provide Caroline and the children in Zambia with a Christmas Lunch, Catering costs for when we cook for Bethany and church funds. (May we suggest a minimum of £5) -The Global Concerns Team

'SISTERS, SOLDIERS and SURGEONS on the SOMME' illustrated talk given by **Dr Yvonne McEwen on WEDNESDAY 9th NOVEMBER at 7.30 pm in the Sanctuary**. Dr McEwen is a WW1 historian at the University of Edinburgh, and she is also the Project Director of Scotland's War, the largest WW1 public programme in Britain. In this illustrated talk Dr McEwen will address the casualty care arrangements for the treatment and transportation of the Somme casualties. Everyone is welcomed to attend this event. Refreshments are available afterwards. *This is part of our Remembrance commemorations.*

'WW1 Roadshow' at POLWARTH PARISH CHURCH on SATURDAY 12th NOVEMBER 10 am – 1 pm in the DRENNAN HALL. Everyone is invited to attend this WW1 Roadshow. Bring along any WW1 family letters, documents, post cards, medals etc. and find out a bit more about their history. Also, the team at Scotland's War can assist with finding family members who served in WW1. All needed is some basic information such as a family name and address, siblings, trade or occupation. We hope you can join our event and find out more about your ancestry. Refreshments are available. *This is part of our Remembrance commemorations.*

Inter-Faith Pot Luck Supper: On Friday 11 November Polwarth is hosting this event as part of the Edinburgh Inter-faith Week. It's always a very good evening with people of different faiths sharing a meal together, sharing their stories and expressing their hopes their concerns. The theme of the evening is 'What Challenges Us?' Please do try to come along to this and meet people from other faiths and backgrounds. It is an enriching experience. Offers of help to set up for this event would really be appreciated. Please speak to Margaret Anderson, Christine Skinner, Lynda Tulloch for more details.