



# The Church of Scotland

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## The Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale

**Service to mark the Union of  
Airth Parish Church of Scotland  
Larbert East Church of Scotland  
Larbert West Parish Church of Scotland  
Stenhouse & Carron Parish Church of Scotland, Stenhousemuir  
as  
Larbert Tryst Parish Church of Scotland  
Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2025**



### **ORDER OF SERVICE**

Rev F. Derek Gunn BD  
*Moderator of Presbytery*

Opening music before service: Martin on organ

Choir introit: 'Come ye faithful, raise the strain' by R.S Thatcher  
Unannounced and sung as  
Minister and elders come into  
church. Conducting: Harry.  
Organ: Martin

## Welcome

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Moderator:* People of God, who do you come to worship?

*Congregation:* ***We come to worship the one true God.***

*Moderator:* How will you worship?

*Congregation:* ***Not with words alone, but by living lives of justice and love.***

*Moderator:* Come, you who belong to God.

*Congregation:* ***Come and abide in God's heart, now and forever. Amen***

**Hymn CH4 198: Let us build a house** Organ: Martin

[Tune: Two Oaks]

Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children  
tell how hearts learn to forgive;  
built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions;

*All are welcome,  
all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
and as symbol of God's grace;  
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus;

*All are welcome...*

Let us build a house where love is found,  
in water, wine and wheat;  
a banquet hall on holy ground,  
where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space,  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

*All are welcome...*

Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone;  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear  
the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger;

*All are welcome...*

Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace.  
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter;

*All are welcome...*

Opening Prayer includes Dedication of Offering

### **PRAYER**

**ALL AGE TALK (after which Young Church leave for Halls)**

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Psalm 118, verses 21 to 23    Read by Linda Donaldson

1 Kings 8, verses 22 to 26    Read by Margaret Tooth

1 Kings 8, verses 27 to 30    Read by Carol Sergeant

John 17, verses 20 to 23    Read by Morag Patterson

The Offering is  
brought forward  
by a member of  
The Welcome  
Team during  
the singing of  
the first hymn

## Hymn CH4 465: Be thou my vision Organ: Harry

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought by day and by night;  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

The words here are very slightly different in several places compared to the words at CH4 465, in ALL verses

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my great Father, I thy dear child;  
Thou in me dwelling, with thee reconciled.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;  
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight.  
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r;  
Raise thou me Heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always.  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'ns Sun!  
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

### SERMON

#### *"The Cornerstone"*

## A STATEMENT OF CHRISTIAN FAITH

*(All standing if able; Moderator says words in plain print, Congregation say words in bold)*

We believe in one God:  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

***God is love.***

We praise God the Father:  
who created the universe and keeps it in being.

***He made us his sons and daughters to share his joy,  
living together in justice and peace,  
caring for his world and for each other.***

We proclaim Jesus Christ, God the Son:  
born of Mary,  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
he became one of us,  
sharing our life and our death.

***He made known God's compassion and mercy,  
giving hope and declaring forgiveness of sin,  
offering healing and wholeness to all.  
By his death on the cross and by his resurrection  
he has triumphed over evil.  
Jesus is Lord of life and of all creation.***

We trust God the Holy Spirit:  
who unites us to Christ  
and gives life to the Church;  
who brings us to repentance  
and assures us of forgiveness.

***The Spirit guides us in our understanding of the Bible,  
renews us in the sacraments,  
and calls us to serve God in the world.***

We rejoice in the gift of eternal life:  
we have sure and certain hope  
of resurrection through Christ,  
and we look for his coming again to judge the world.

***Then all things will be made new;  
and creation will rejoice  
in worshipping the Father,  
through the Son,  
in the power of the Spirit,  
one God, blessed for ever. Amen.***

**Hymn CH4 510 Jesus calls us here to meet him** Organ: Harry

Will you come and follow me  
If I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
And never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown?  
Will you let my name be known  
Will you let my life be grown in you  
And you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind  
If I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
And never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
Should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer in you  
And you in me?

The words are actually CH4 533 ('Will you come and follow me'). And verses 4 and 5 at CH4 533 are omitted (i.e. we're only singing verses 1, 2 and 3 from CH4).

Will you let the blinded see  
If I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free  
And never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean  
And do such as this unseen  
And admit to what I mean in you  
And you in me?

## PRAYERS

### THE UNION OF THE CONGREGATIONS

*During which the Congregation will be invited to say:*

***In the unity of faith:  
in the communion of saints:  
in love and goodwill towards all:  
we dedicate ourselves to the worship of God  
and the service of the Kingdom.***

## PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**Hymn CH4 664 (vv 1 to 4): Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face**

**Slightly  
different  
from CH4  
664 v.1**

Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;  
Here faith can touch and handle things unseen;  
Here would I grasp with firmer hand Thy grace,  
And all my weariness upon Thee lean.

**Organ: Harry**

**Singing to the  
tune 'Song 22' at  
CH4 495**

**This is  
verse 3 of  
CH4 664**

Here would I feed upon the Bread of God;  
Here drink with Thee the royal wine of heav'n;  
Here would I lay aside each earthly load;  
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv'n.

This is  
verse 6 of  
CH4 664.  
'save' in  
second  
line is 'but'  
in CH4

I have no help but Thine; nor do I need  
Another arm save Thine to lean upon;  
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;  
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.

This is  
verse 4 of  
CH4 664.  
'brief bright'  
in last line is  
'hallowed' in  
CH4

This is the hour of banquet and of song;  
This is the heav'nly table spread for me;  
Here let me feast, and, feasting, still prolong  
The brief bright hour of fellowship with Thee.

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### The Great Prayer

Minister: The Lord be with you.

**All:** *And also with you.*

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

**All:** *We lift them to the Lord.*

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** *It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

### Sanctus

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord  
God of power and might;  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one  
Who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

Choir anthem: 'New Beginnings'. Words and music by Harry Sergeant.

*The Peace*

Unannounced and sung as bread is being distributed to the congregation. Conducting: Martin. Piano: Harry

### CLOSING WORDS

Music during distribution of wine: Martin on organ



**Hymn CH4 237 Look forward in faith**    Organ: Martin

Look forward in faith  
all time is in God's hand.  
Walk humbly with Him  
and trust His future plan. God has wisely led  
His people by His power.  
Look forward in hope,  
He gives us each new hour.

Look forward in faith  
the world is in God's care.  
His purpose of love  
He calls on us to share.  
In our neighbour's need,  
the Lord is present still.  
He blesses the meek!  
The earth will know God's will.

Look forward in faith,  
God gives us life each day.  
Go onward with Christ,  
his Spirit guides our way.  
Now God lets us live  
within the sphere of grace.  
Trust ever in him,  
he rules o'er earth and space.

**BENEDICTION and THREE-FOLD AMEN**

Organ postlude: Martin