

## Second Sunday after Pentecost – 14 June 2020

### From Church of Scotland website

*The Mission and Discipleship Council would like to thank Rev Allan McCafferty,  
Minister of St Andrews Hope Park and Martyrs with Strathkinnes*

#### **Prayer of approach**

God, You created the world. Shaping tall mountains and deep valleys, flat moors and calm lochs, creatures that fly high or swim deep.

Variety that astounds us, a complexity beyond our comprehension. Your creation amazes us always and at times makes us laugh with joy.

#### **Sing CH4 764 verse 1**

God, You created each one of us and know us through and through.

You know our names, the number of hairs on our heads, the words on our lips before we even speak them.

God, Your understanding of each individual astounds us, its reach is beyond our imagining.

Your comprehensive recognition surprises us, at times it makes us laugh with astonishment.

#### **Sing CH4 764 verse 1**

So gracious God, who allows us to laugh, as we contemplate the world around us and the precious life of every human being, let us not doubt that everything is possible for You.

This morning we gather to worship You and offer our joyful praise. Amen

#### **Prayer of confession**

Gracious God, in Your good time You appeared to Abraham by his tent, and life was transformed.

In Your good time You appeared on earth as Jesus, and life was transformed.

In Your good time You brought our life into being, and it is now our opportunity to be disciples in the world today.

The direction of our lives has brought us to this place at this time. As we reflect on the long history of the People of God and the ministry of Jesus Christ we are aware that millennium after millennium, people have attempted to follow You faithfully.

We are painfully aware that we stray from the path Jesus invites us to follow.

So where we have neglected You or neglected others,

Where we have prioritised our desires and pushed down the agenda of the needs of those close to us,

Where we have boasted not in You but selfishly in our own individual achievements...

Forgive us we pray... (Silence)

Whether we seek forgiveness often, or hardly ever, faithfully and repeatedly God forgives.

Know the depth of that forgiveness and be at peace... (Silence)

In Your good time, and through the encouragement of the Holy Spirit, breathe new life into us that our daily actions may tell the world that we are pilgrims of the One whom death could not hold down, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **Prayer of thanksgiving and intercession**

In long summer evenings when light lingers and sunsets have time to deepen from light pink to deep red – we offer You our thanks and praise.

We remember and hold before You, people in your world where the fading of the light brings not only darkness but sadness and discomfort. May they know Your light.

When we gather and share food and laughter with friends, relatives, and those whom we love and also when we are content to eat alone – we offer You our thanks and praise.

We remember and hold before You those who today will share meals tainted with sadness,

those who through no choice of their own eat alone,  
those who are hungry and have little food.

May they soon know joy and plenty.

When we have been offered hospitality that was generous or unexpected – we have been blessed and we offer You our thanks and praise.

We remember and hold before You refugees and those who are strangers in a foreign land, those for whom exceptional warmth and hospitality would mean so much. May they know a rich welcome and ongoing support.

When someone who knows us a little, but not well, remembers our names – we offer You our thanks for their care and attentiveness.

We remember and hold before You those who have been forced to change names or those who forget their names – the overseas student in a culture that feels alien,  
those who have been trafficked,  
those living with dementia.

May they know liberation and freedom.

And hear us too as we take time to remember and hold before You those caught up in the pandemic; those mourning the death of loved ones and who cannot grieve as they would wish; the political unrest in many places across the world ....

Minister to their needs we pray.

Ever creating, ever loving, ever encouraging God, we offer You our deep thanks.

Use our gifts, talents and skills in the world so that our lives may tell out Your praise and where possible aid those whom we have remembered before You today.

Hear our prayers, through Jesus Christ our loving Saviour Amen