



**Highland  
International  
Church  
Inverness**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

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# Highland International Church

## *Welcome & Notices*

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Welcome to our YouTube live-stream service:

<https://youtu.be/PiQkaBEBPbA>

**HIC 10.00 am YouTube service (direct link):**

[CLICK HERE](#)

**HIC YouTube Channel:**

[CLICK HERE](#)

**HIC Website:**

[CLICK HERE](#)

**HIC Facebook page:**

[CLICK HERE](#)

**HIC Sunday sermons (2016-2020):**

[CLICK HERE](#)

- **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December** (today)

10.00am – **Morning Service** – YouTube live link

5.00pm – There will be **no New City Catechism** Zoom meeting tonight.

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- **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December** at 7.30pm

We meet as a church family by Zoom for **Bible study** and **prayer**.

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## **HIGHLAND INTERNATIONAL CHURCH REGATHERING**

**On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm in Smithton Church,  
Murray Road, Smithton, IV2 7YU**

James has already sent round a detailed letter explaining that, thanks to the generosity and kindness of the elders at Smithton Church, we have been offered the 7.00pm slot on Sunday evenings to meet up again for worship and fellowship.

All necessary COVID-19 safety measures and restrictions will be observed and we have been given *exclusive* use of the Coffee Lounge/Hall. However, we will need to know who is coming before each Sunday so that seats can be allocated for Track & Trace requirements.

If you are able to attend our first regathering since 15<sup>th</sup> March then please phone / text / email Peter Humphris by this coming **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December** (01463 791782 or 07796 593 950 or peter@humphris.co.uk). Thank you!

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## Order of today's 10.00 am service

### SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

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### Call to worship

Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God.

### Psalm 146 v 5

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1. **O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL**

And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear  
***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel***

2. O come, O come, thou Lord of might  
Who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height  
In ancient times did'st give the Law  
In cloud, and majesty and awe  
***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel***

3. O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny  
From depths of hell thy people save  
And give them victory o'er the grave  
***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel***

4. O come, thou Day-Spring  
Come and cheer  
Our spirits by thine advent here  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadows put to flight  
***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel***

5. O come, thou Key of David, come  
And open wide our heavenly home  
Make safe the way that leads on high  
And close the path to misery  
***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel***

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## Prayer and the Lord's Prayer (said together)

[MATTHEW CH.6, V.9-13, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION © 2011]

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us today our daily bread.*

*And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

*And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.*

*For yours is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory forever.*

*Amen.*

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## Bible readings (New International Version)

### Genesis 49 v 29 – 50 v 14; 50 v 22 – 26

<sup>29</sup> Then he gave them these instructions: *'I am about to be gathered to my people. Bury me with my fathers in the cave in the field of Ephron the Hittite, <sup>30</sup> the cave in the field of Machpelah, near Mamre in Canaan, which Abraham bought along with the field as a burial place from Ephron the Hittite. <sup>31</sup> There Abraham and his wife Sarah were buried,*

*there Isaac and his wife Rebekah were buried, and there I buried Leah.*

*<sup>32</sup>The field and the cave in it were bought from the Hittites.'*

<sup>33</sup> When Jacob had finished giving instructions to his sons, he drew his feet up into the bed, breathed his last and was gathered to his people.

<sup>1</sup> Joseph threw himself on his father and wept over him and kissed him.

<sup>2</sup> Then Joseph directed the physicians in his service to embalm his father Israel. So the physicians embalmed him, <sup>3</sup> taking a full forty days, for that was the time required for embalming. And the Egyptians mourned for him seventy days.

<sup>4</sup> When the days of mourning had passed, Joseph said to Pharaoh's court, 'If I have found favour in your eyes, speak to Pharaoh for me. Tell him,

<sup>5</sup> "My father made me swear an oath and said, 'I am about to die; bury me in the tomb I dug for myself in the land of Canaan.' Now let me go up and bury my father; then I will return.'"'

<sup>6</sup> Pharaoh said, 'Go up and bury your father, as he made you swear to do.'

<sup>7</sup> So Joseph went up to bury his father. All Pharaoh's officials accompanied him – the dignitaries of his court and all the dignitaries of Egypt – <sup>8</sup> besides all the members of Joseph's household and his brothers and those belonging to his father's household. Only their children and their flocks and herds were left in Goshen. <sup>9</sup> Chariots and horsemen<sup>[b]</sup> also went up with him. It was a very large company.

<sup>10</sup> When they reached the threshing-floor of Atad, near the Jordan, they lamented loudly and bitterly; and there Joseph observed a seven-day period of mourning for his father. <sup>11</sup> When the Canaanites who lived there saw the mourning at the threshing-floor of Atad, they said, 'The Egyptians are holding a solemn ceremony of mourning.' That is why that place near the Jordan is called Abel Mizraim.<sup>[c]</sup>

<sup>12</sup> So Jacob's sons did as he had commanded them: <sup>13</sup> they carried him to the land of Canaan and buried him in the cave in the field of Machpelah, near Mamre, which Abraham had bought along with the field as a burial

place from Ephron the Hittite. <sup>14</sup> After burying his father, Joseph returned to Egypt, together with his brothers and all the others who had gone with him to bury his father.

...

<sup>22</sup> Joseph stayed in Egypt, along with all his father's family. He lived a hundred and ten years <sup>23</sup> and saw the third generation of Ephraim's children. Also the children of Makir son of Manasseh were placed at birth on Joseph's knees. <sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>24</sup> Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am about to die. But God will surely come to your aid and take you up out of this land to the land he promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.' <sup>25</sup> And Joseph made the Israelites swear an oath and said, 'God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up from this place.'

<sup>26</sup> So Joseph died at the age of a hundred and ten. And after they embalmed him, he was placed in a coffin in Egypt.

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*Chat with  
the children*



*God always keeps his promises*

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### 1. A LONG, LONG TIME AGO

When Adam and Eve had sinned  
The Lord God made a promise  
That sin would never win

2. He would send a serpent crusher  
Who would beat sin and death  
So we could live in the garden  
And have eternal rest

***That was his promise  
Long ago  
Would he keep his promise?  
The people really hoped so***

***Many years passed  
But the King didn't show-oh  
You know he didn't show-oh  
So they hung on to  
The only thing they ever knew***

***God always keeps his promises  
God always does what he says  
God always keeps his promises  
So we can trust in him  
Yeah, we can trust in him.***

3. A long, long time ago  
The prophet Malachi did say  
The Lord God makes a promise  
That he will win the day

4. He will come and bring great justice  
And make a people for his own  
He will send a special prophet  
Who will change hearts of stone

***That was his promise  
Long ago  
Would he keep his promise?  
The people really hoped so***

***Many years passed  
But the King didn't show-oh  
You know he didn't show-oh  
So they hung on to  
The only thing they ever knew***

***God always keeps his promises  
God always does what he says  
God always keeps his promises  
So we can trust in him  
[repeat]***

***Yeah, we can trust in him.***

5. A long, long time ago  
When Jesus was going home  
The Lord God made a promise  
That one day he'd return  
He'll keep his promise ...

PERFORMED & WRITTEN BY MICHAEL J TINKER  
MAKATON BY BECKY GEORGE

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## Prayers for Others

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*[INTRO]*

***LORD, FROM THE DEPTHS I CALL TO YOU  
LORD, HEAR ME FROM ON HIGH  
AND GIVE ATTENTION TO MY VOICE  
WHEN I FOR MERCY CRY***

1. Out of the depths I cry to you  
In darkest places I will call  
Incline Your ear to me anew  
And hear my cry for mercy, Lord
2. Were you to count my sinful ways  
How could I come before your throne  
Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze  
I stand redeemed by grace alone

***I will wait for you  
I will wait for you  
On your word, I will rely  
I will wait for you  
Surely wait for you  
Till my soul is satisfied***

3. So put your hope in God alone  
Take courage in His power to save  
Completely and forever won  
By Christ emerging from the grave

***I will wait for you  
I will wait for you  
On your word, I will rely  
I will wait for you  
Surely wait for you  
Till my soul is satisfied***

4. Now He has come to make a way  
And God Himself has paid the price  
That all who trust in Him today  
Find healing in His sacrifice

***I will wait for you  
I will wait for you  
Through the storm and through the night  
I will wait for you  
Surely wait for you  
For your love is my delight***

[OUTRO]

***I PRAY MY SOUL WAITS FOR THE LORD  
MY HOPE IS IN HIS WORD  
MORE THAN THE WATCHMAN WAITS FOR DAWN  
MY SOUL WAITS FOR THE LORD***

BASED ON PSALM 130

WORDS AND MUSIC BY KEITH GETTY, JORDAN KAUFLIN,  
MATT MERKER AND STUART TOWNEND

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MATTHEW MERKER MUSIC / TOWNEND SONGS

## Bible Message



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### 1. **THERE IS A HOPE THAT BURNS WITHIN MY HEART,**

That gives me strength for every passing day;  
A glimpse of glory now revealed in meagre part,  
Yet drives all doubt away:

I stand in Christ, with sins forgiven;  
And Christ in me, the hope of heaven!  
My highest calling and my deepest joy,  
To make His will my home.

2. There is a hope that lifts my weary head,  
A consolation strong against despair,  
That when the world has plunged me in its deepest pit,  
I find the Saviour there!

Through present sufferings, future's fear,  
He whispers 'courage' in my ear.  
For I am safe in everlasting arms,  
And they will lead me home.

3. There is a hope that stands the test of time,  
That lifts my eyes beyond the beckoning grave,  
To see the matchless beauty of a day divine  
    When I behold His face!  
When sufferings cease and sorrows die,  
    And every longing satisfied.  
Then joy unspeakable will flood my soul,  
    For I am truly home.

STUART TOWNEND & MARK EDWARDS  
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## Closing Benediction

*The grace of the **Lord Jesus Christ**  
and the love of **God**  
and the fellowship of the **Holy Spirit**  
be with us all.  
Amen.*

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## Bible verses

**Psalm 146 v 3 – 5:** Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save. When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing. Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God.

**Genesis 15 v 13, 14:** Then the LORD said to [Abram], *‘Know for certain that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and that they will be enslaved and ill-treated there. But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterwards they will come out with great possessions.’*

**Luke 1 v 68 – 79:** Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us – to show mercy to our ancestors and to remember his holy covenant, the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.

**Psalms 130 v 5 – 8:** I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope... Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

**Romans 4 v 18 – 21:** Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him... he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.