



**Highland  
International  
Church  
Inverness**

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021**

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# Highland International Church

## *Welcome & Notices*

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- **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May (today)**

**12 noon** – **Morning Service** – Face-to-face in the Craigmorie Hotel. Usual Covid-19 restrictions apply.

*This is our first morning service back together in the hotel since Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020.*

**5.00pm** – Zoom meeting on the New City Catechism  
**Q & A 33 & 34**

**7.00pm** – HIC Youth meet together by Zoom

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- **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

**7.30pm** – We meet as a church family by Zoom for  
**Bible study** and **prayer**.

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- **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May**

**10.00am** – Church Council meeting

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## Order of today's 12 noon service

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### Call to Worship

*“Give thanks to the LORD,  
for he is good;  
his love endures forever.”*  
**[Psalm 118 v 1]**

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#### 1. O PRAISE OUR MIGHTY LORD,

and to his glory sing.

Let all God's gathered people bless  
their great Creator-King!

With energy and skill  
our anthem let us raise!

For he delights in all his saints,  
and crowns the meek with grace.

#### 2. Your truth our sharpest sword,

to warn of judgement near,

brings down the mighty from their thrones,  
their destiny makes clear.

The nations shall submit,  
their glory brought to dust.

Let all God's saints rejoice in this –  
Our King, the Lord, is just!

**1. SUCH LOVE, PURE AS THE WHITEST SNOW;**

such love weeps for the shame I know;  
such love, paying the debt I owe;  
O Jesus, such love.

**2. Such love, stilling my restlessness;**

such love, filling my emptiness;  
such love, showing me holiness;  
O Jesus, such love.

**3. Such love, springs from eternity;**

such love streaming through history;  
such love, fountain of life to me;  
O Jesus, such love.

GRAHAM KENDRICK © MAKEWAY MUSIC  
[PRAISE 803]

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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.*

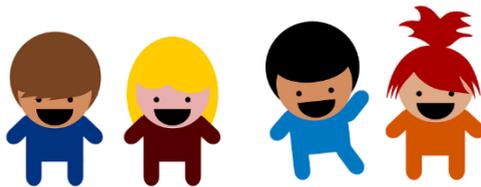
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# Bible reading 1 (New International Version)

## James 1:22-25

<sup>22</sup> Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. <sup>23</sup> Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup> and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. <sup>25</sup> But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom and continues in it – not forgetting what they have heard but doing it – they will be blessed in what they do.

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### Chat with the children

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- 1. GIVE ME A SIGHT, O SAVIOUR,**  
of your great love to me –  
the love that brought you down from heaven  
to die on Calvary.

***O make me understand it,  
help me to take it in –  
what it meant for you, the holy One,  
to bear away my sin.***

2. Was it the nails, O Saviour,  
that bound you to the tree?  
No, but your everlasting love –  
your love for me, for me.

***O make me understand it ...***

3. O wonder of all wonders,  
that, through your death for me,  
my open sins, my secret sins,  
can all forgiven be!

***O make me understand it ...***

4. Then melt my heart, O Saviour,  
bend me, yes, break me down,  
until I name you Conqueror,  
and Lord and Sovereign crown.

***O make me understand it,  
help me to take it in –  
what it meant for you, the holy One,  
to bear away my sin.***

KATHERINE A M KELLY

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[PRAISE 417]

# Bible reading 2 (New International Version)

## 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 3:9-13

<sup>9</sup> How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? <sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. <sup>12</sup> May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. <sup>13</sup> May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

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## Bible Message (a)

***Gearing for Growth:  
praying for God's people God's way***

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## **1. AS THE LIGHT UPON THE RIVER**

at the rising of the sun,  
shine, O Lord, upon our city;  
here on earth, your will be done:  
here we meet in glad thanksgiving,  
worship, praise and prayer we bring,  
grief for sin and joy for mercy –  
all for you, O Christ our King.

**2.** Crucified and risen Saviour,  
God incarnate, First and Last,  
yours the city of the future,  
yours the pilgrims of the past.  
Lord, revive your weary people!  
Let your voice again be heard;  
rid your church of all excuses  
for our deafness to your word.

**3.** From our failure and our blindness,  
bound by debts we cannot pay,  
God of Jubilee, release us –  
O renew us all, we pray!  
In a world exhausted, restless,  
still oppressing and oppressed,  
Lord of Sabbath, bring us freedom,  
resurrection, life and rest.

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***Prayer for others ...***

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## Bible Message (b)

### ***Gearing for Growth: praying for God's people God's way***

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4. Strengthen us to love our neighbours –  
welcome strangers at our door,  
find the lost and reach the lonely  
so that they shall weep no more;  
in our homes, our crowded journeys,  
work or leisure, calm or noise,  
come to satisfy our longings,  
Christ the joy of all our joys!
5. As the rain upon the garden  
as the water from the spring,  
pour on us your Holy Spirit,  
gifts to use and songs to sing:  
as the light upon the river  
at the rising of the sun,  
shine, O Lord, upon our city –  
as in heaven, your will be done.

CHRISTOPHER IDLE  
© AUTHOR / JUBILATE HYMNS  
[PRAISE 920]

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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

**Romans 1 v 11, 12:** I long to see you so that... you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith.

**Romans 8 v 28, 29:** We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

**Matthew 16 v 18:** I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

**Romans 5 v 5:** God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us

## Quotations

**John Stott:** *"Prayer... was vital. Letters too can encourage and establish people in their faith. But there is no substitute for the stimulus of face-to-face fellowship, when we are 'mutually encouraged by each other's faith', Romans 1 v 12."*

**John Calvin:** *“When God stretches out his hand, every attempt of Satan to turn us from our course is in vain.”*

**Don Carson:** *“There are many protestations of affection, many forms of pseudo-love, whether in ancient Greco-Roman civilisation or in our own. But Christian love, mature, deep and unqualified, is a rare commodity. When it is displayed, it speaks volumes to a society that gorges itself in self-interest, lust, mutual-admiration pacts, even while it knows very little of love.”*

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## **HIGHLAND FOOD BANK**

Here are the latest requests from the Inverness-based **Highland Food Bank**:

- **Tins of potatoes – medium or small**
- **Bags of sugar**

**David and Emm Warmbath** are willing to collect any donations (01463 710110), but it is also possible to *leave donations at the door of the Food Bank premises itself, provided it is open* – 1 Glebe Street, Inverness IV1 1RF

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