



First Sunday in Lent YEAR C

# The Church of Scotland

# WELCOME



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Auditoire de Calvin, March 9 2025 First Sunday in Lent Theme Power and Protection

**Prelude** Adagio, Samuel Barber (1910–1981) Introit Lord, through these forty days Claudia Frances Hernaman (1838–1898) Welcome

#### Call to worship

Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honour them. With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

(from Psalm 91)

**CH4 124** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation

#### **Opening prayers**

#### **Reflection on Covid–19**

#### CH4 334 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

## Old Testament Deuteronomy 26:1–11

"When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess and you possess it and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.' When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, we cried to the

Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house."

#### Gospel Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,'

and

'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' " When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

#### Sermon

CH4 553 Just as I am, without one plea

**Offering Music** *Christ, you Lamb of God* Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

**CH4 807** (as the offering is brought forward) *Praise God from whom all blessings flow* **Prayer of dedication** 

**Prayers** Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer** 

CH4 449 Rejoice, the Lord is King

#### **Blessing & threefold Amen**

May the Lord bless you and keep you, May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you May the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you And give you peace This day, and always.

**Postlude** *Prelude in A minor* Johann Sebastian Bach

Our minister is away at a meeting of the International Presbytery today. Our prayers are with their deliberations.

Our preacher today is Mark Jeffrey, an elder of this congregation, who previously trained as a Methodist local (lay) preacher in the UK and is authorized to preach by the International Presbytery of the Church of Scotland.

# Join us upstairs in the Salle Théodore de Bèze for refreshments!

Worship Leader Mark Jeffrey Welcoming elder Jenny Rietbergen Ushers David Hogg, Ellen Walker Reader Jane McKenzie Organ Rebecca Dirks MacDonald Choir Peter Tulloch

#### Notices

Flower rota If you would like to donate flowers on a particular date (or dates!), please email Rosemary Hill (*hillrosemary@yahoo.co.uk*) or fill in your name on the sheet in the Salle. Partage

Collection on the first Sunday of each month. A list of suitable items can be found at the back of the church. Crates are available in the Salle for your donations. Thank you!

March 7-9, International Presbytery, Paris March 13, 14h, Book Club, in the Salle Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus March 22, 19h30, Congregational Committee, on Zoom

**May 8-11**, Cursillo weekend, Le Cénacle, Promenade Charles-Martin 17, Geneva 1208. See *bit.ly/3F6URDy* and (to apply) *bit.ly/3Xt5IOl* 

#### June 1, Annual Congregational Meeting



### *Bank Account:* Church of Scotland, GE *Account No*. 279-C7114389.0 *IBAN:* CH13 0027 9279 C711 4389 0



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