

Sunday between July 24 and July 30 inclusive

YEAR C

Proper 12 (17)



The Church of Scotland

WELCOME



Interim Moderator: Rev Graham Austin

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Locum minister (July to September)

Rev Páraic Réamonn

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The Church of Scotland

Auditoire de Calvin, July 27 2025

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

We stand to sing. After the doxology, we remain standing for the prayer of dedication. After the final hymn, we remain standing for the benediction and threefold Amen.

Prelude *Our Father who art in Heaven*

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562–1621)

Introit *Let all who pray the prayer Christ taught*

Thomas H Troeger (1945–2022)

Welcome

Call to worship

Ask, and it will be given to you;

seek, and you will find;

knock, and the door will be opened for you.

Everyone who asks receives, and everyone who seeks finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

When we cry, “*Abba! Father!*” it is the Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

(Luke 11:9, 10; Romans 8:15-16)

CH4 112 *God, whose almighty word*

Opening prayer

Collect (together)

Gracious God,

you have placed within our hearts

a longing for your kingdom and a hunger for your truth.

As your Son taught us to persist in prayer, give us courage and patience never to lose hope and a lasting impatience with injustice, but always to bring our prayers before you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Genesis 18: 17–21, 23–32

The LORD said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, seeing that Abraham shall become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? No, for I have chosen him, that he may charge his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring about for Abraham what he has promised him.” Then the LORD said, “How great

is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know.” ...

Then Abraham came near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.”

Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” Again he spoke to him, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” Then he said, “Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” He said, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” Then he said, “Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

CH4 95 *I shall praise you, O Lord, from my soul*
(Psalm 138)

Luke 11: 1–13

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” So he said to them, “When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy.
May your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say

to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Sermon – Ask, seek, knock

Let all who pray the prayer Christ taught

1 Let all who pray the prayer Christ taught
First clear their cluttered heart.

Make room to breathe the living thought
Those well-worn words impart.

2 Dismiss the fear that this world drifts
With no one in command.

Your pulse and breath are signs and gifts
From God's attentive hand.

3 Refine and test each passing aim
Against this final one:

Has your life hallowed heaven's name
And has God's will been done?

4 Discard each vengeful hope that's fed
The dreams of wars you'll win,

Then freely ask for daily bread
And pardon from your sin.

5 Examine how temptation breeds
Inside the mind's dark maze,

Acknowledging that your life needs
Deliverance from its ways.

6 By faithful discipline prepare
An inward holy space

That when you offer Jesus' prayer
Your heart may fill with grace.

Thomas H Troeger (1945-2022)

Offering

Music *Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice!*

Hieronymus Florentinus Quehl (1694–1739)

Doxology (as the offering is brought forward)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Prayer of dedication

CH4 501 *Take this moment, sign, and space*

Prayers for the world and Lord's Prayer

O God of earth and space

1 O God of earth and space,
of sea and fire and air,
your providence surrounds us here
and everywhere.

In fruit and grain and tree,
in shelter from the cold,
in cooling breezes, flowing wells,
now as of old.

2 Where faithfulness is shown,
where love and truth abound,
where beauty graces human life,
there you are found.

Inspirer of all thought!

Creative force of art!

The melody on every tongue,
in every heart!

3 Wherever freedom reigns,
where sin is overthrown
where justice fused with mercy rules,
there you are known.

Give us the courage clear
to make the earth a home
for all to live in harmony
in Christ's *shalom*.

4 Your word commands response
and summons us to life.

We follow, strengthened by your grace,
in calm or strife.

Our ever-present help,
our challenge and our prod,
we praise you now and to life's end,
eternal God.

Jane Parker Huber (1926–2008)

Benediction and threefold Amen

Postlude *Allegro* (from 1st Trio Sonata)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Save the Date!

Saturday 27 September, 9h to 17h, in Arzier
First ever congregational Away Day
for the Church of Scotland, Geneva
and the Scots Kirk, Lausanne



The Scots Kirk

- Time to get to know our sister congregation – and each other
- Fun and fellowship
- Bring a picnic for lunch
- Carpool
- Lifts provided from the station

Sign up and information:

ccolliar@churchofscotland.org.uk

Dramatis personae

Worship leader Rev Páraic Réamonn

Welcoming elder Lyndsey Bochaton

Ushers Arthur Griffith, Hazel Griffith

Readers Arthur Askew, Jean Murray

Prayers Jane McKenzie

Organ Rebecca Dirks MacDonald

Partage, the Geneva foodbank

Collection on the first Sunday of each month, but *not* in July or August. A list of suitable items can be found at the back of the church or on our website. See bit.ly/47Ln0sT

Congregational lunch No lunch today (the labourers deserve a break!). Normal service will resume at the end of August.

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.

September 22, 7h30 Kirk session, in the manse, with the interim moderator

October 10-12 International Presbytery, Amsterdam

November 22 St Andrew's Fair & Cèilidh



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CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
GENEVA



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Join us for refreshments after the service in the
Salle Théodore de Bèze upstairs