



Sunday between October 30 and November 5 inclusive

YEAR C

Proper 26 (31)



The Church of Scotland

WELCOME



Interim Moderator: Rev Graham Austin
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Locum minister: Rev Christine Colliar
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Clerks
Christine Buhler, Jane Broere
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The Church of Scotland

Auditoire de Calvin, November 2 2025

Twenty-First 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 *Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen*

Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

Introit *Let all mortal flesh keep silence*

(CH4 666, verses 1, 2, 4)

Welcome

Call to worship

We come to worship the Lord, who hears our prayers and knows our hearts.

God listens when we cry out and stays close in every trouble.

How can we ever repay the Lord for all the goodness we have received?

We will give thanks with grateful hearts and call on the name of the Lord.

Come, let us worship the Lord with gratitude and joy.

We will walk in God's presence, trusting in God's goodness.

(from *Psalms* 116)

CH4 111 *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!*

Prayer of approach

Collect

*God of life and love,
your mercy restores and renews.
Keep us steadfast in faith,
grateful in heart,
and open to your Spirit's leading,
that our lives may praise you
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Children's talk - Walking together

CH4 674 *Halleluya! We sing your praises*

Old Testament *Ruth 1:1-22*

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's

name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.

Now Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

When Naomi heard in Moab that the Lord had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, she and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there. With her two daughters-in-law she left the place where she had been living and set out on the road that would take them back to the land of Judah.

Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, 'Go back, each of you, to your mother's home. May the Lord show you kindness, as you have shown kindness to your dead husbands and to me. May the Lord grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another husband.'

Then she kissed them goodbye and they wept aloud and said to her, 'We will go back with you to your people.'

But Naomi said, 'Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me – even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons – would you wait until they grew up?

Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the Lord's hand has turned against me!'

At this they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

'Look,' said Naomi, 'your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her.'

But Ruth replied, 'Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.

Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and

me.’ When Naomi realised that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

So the two women went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they arrived in Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them, and the women exclaimed, ‘Can this be Naomi?’

‘Don’t call me Naomi,’ she told them. ‘Call me Mara, because the Almighty has made my life very bitter. I went away full, but the Lord has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi? The Lord has afflicted me; the Almighty has brought misfortune upon me.’

So Naomi returned from Moab accompanied by Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, arriving in Bethlehem as the barley harvest was beginning.

CH4 75 *I love the Lord, because he heard*
(Psalm 116)

Sermon – *From famine to feast*

Music for reflection: *Mache dich, mein Herze, rein* from Bach’s Matthew Passion
Jonas Schaefer

Prayers for the world and its people

Offering music “God of Heaven and of Earth”
Karg Elert:

Doxology

*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 thanksgiving and dedication

The Lord’s Supper

CH4 664i *Here, O my lord, I see thee face to face* (verses 1-4)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, who carries our brokenness,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, who frees us and makes us whole,
grant us peace.

Music during communion: *Ave Verum
Corpus*, K. 618, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart –
Mak Ikeda (Clarinet)

CH4 500 *Lord of creation, to you be all praise!*

Benediction and threefold Amen (CH4 819)

Postlude *Adagio*. Frank Bridge (1879-1941)

Thought for the week

‘Love is not affectionate feeling, but a steady wish for the loved person's ultimate good as far as it can be obtained.’

God in the Dock: Essays on Theology and Ethics, CS Lewis

Prayer pointers

For those who grieve, that God's steadfast love will hold them through their sorrow.

For faithfulness in love, that we may walk with one another as Ruth walked with Naomi.

For renewal at the table, that Christ's love will feed and strengthen us to share his kindness.

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

Worship leader Rev Christine Colliar

Welcoming elder Rosaleen Walker

Ushers Pamela King, Sherree Atkinson

Reader Mak Ikeda

Intercessor: Ian Colliar

Organ Peter Billington

Sunday School Cornis Van der Lugt, Nicola Hollyman

Coffee Chris Sutton, Sandy Cunningham

Notices

November 9 Remembrance Sunday

November 9 12h00 Election of Nominating Committee for associate minister, Geneva

November 16 Harvest Thanksgiving

November 22:

9h30 to 15h St Andrew's Fair

19h to 22h Cèilidh. Adults CHF35, children under 12 free. Salle communale des Delices, rte de Colovrex 20, 1218 Le Grand-Saconnex
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