



The Church of Scotland

WELCOME



Minister of our linked charge

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The Church of Scotland

Auditoire de Calvin, July 12 2026

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude *My soul doth magnify the Lord*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Introit *Through the city flows the stream*

Welcome

Call to worship (Psalm 95)

O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the LORD is a great God
and a great King above all gods.

**In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry
land, which his hands have formed.**

O come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

**For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.**

CH4 124 *Praise to the Lord, the almighty,
the king of creation*

Prayer

Collect (together)

*O Almighty God, whom truly to know is
everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know thy
Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the
life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in
the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the
same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth
and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Old Testament *Isaiah 55.6–11*

Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake their way
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have
mercy on them, and to our God, for he will
abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.
For as the rain and the snow come down from
heaven and do not return there until they have
watered the earth, making it bring forth and
sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to
the eater, so shall my word be that goes out
from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

CH4 187 *There's a wideness in God's mercy*

New Testament *Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16*

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,
the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by
faith our ancestors received approval. By faith
we understand that the worlds were prepared
by the word of God, so that what is seen was
made from things that are not visible. By faith
Abraham obeyed when he was called to set
out for a place that he was to receive as an
inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where
he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in
the land he had been promised, as in a foreign
land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob,
who were heirs with him of the same promise.
For he looked forward to the city that has
foundations, whose architect and builder is
God. By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he
received power of procreation, even though he
was too old, because he considered him
faithful who had promised. Therefore from one
person, and this one as good as dead,
descendants were born, "as many as the stars
of heaven and as the innumerable grains of
sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having
received the promises, but from a distance
they saw and greeted them. They confessed
that they were strangers and foreigners on the
earth, for people who speak in this way make it
clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they
had been thinking of the land that they had left
behind, they would have had opportunity to
return. But as it is, they desire a better
homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore
God is not ashamed to be called their God;
indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Gospel *Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23*

That same day Jesus went out of the house
and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds

gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen!

A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. If you have ears, hear!” ... “Hear, then, the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.’ As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

CH4 598 *Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire*

Sermon

Offering Music

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684–1748)

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.

Prayers of Intercession and Lord’s Prayer

Hymn *I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship* William Young Fullerton (1857–1932)

Tune: *Londonderry Air* (CH4 729)

1. I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship,
should set his love upon the sons of men,
or why, as shepherd, he should seek the
wanderers,
to bring them back, they know not how or when.
but this I know, that he was born of Mary,
when Bethlehem's manger was his only home,
and that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,
and so the saviour, saviour of the world, is
come.

2. I cannot tell how silently he suffered,
as with his peace he graced this place of tears,
or how his heart upon the cross was broken,
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted,
and stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,
and lifts the burden from the heavy laden,
for yet the saviour, saviour of the world, is here.

3. I cannot tell how he will win the nations,
how he will claim his earthly heritage,
how satisfy the needs and aspirations
of east and west, of sinner and of sage.

But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,
and he shall reap the harvest he has sown,
and some glad day his sun shall shine in
splendour

when he the saviour, saviour of the world, is
known.

4. I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
when, at his bidding, every storm is stilled,
or who can say how great the jubilation
when all the hearts of men with love are filled.

But this I know, the skies will thrill with
rapture,

and myriad, myriad human voices sing,
and earth to heaven, and heaven to earth, will
answer:

at last the saviour, saviour of the world, is king.

Benediction and threefold Amen

Postlude *Choral No. 3 in A minor*

César Franck (1822–1890)

*Please join us for refreshments upstairs in the
Salle Theodore de Beze after the service.*

*If you are visiting, please sign the visitors' book
at the back of the church. If you leave us your
contact details, we'll put you on the emailing
list for our congregational newsletter.*

Leader Dr S Wesley Ariarajah
Welcoming elder Makoto Ikeda
Ushers Lucy Akomea, Vivien Liu
Readers Jane McKenzie, Makoto Ikeda
Organ Rebecca Dirks MacDonald
Choir Páraic Réamonn
Coffee Kérshia Cavele, Jean Murray

Memorial Service for Margaret Ross

Margaret, a former member of our congregation, will be remembered at a memorial service on Monday at 12h30 (Swiss time), which will be available on Zoom. If you have not received the Zoom link in the church email, please see Christine Colliar after the service.

26 September Joint congregational awayday, Salle communale, Duillier

7 November St Andrew's Fair (date and venue to be confirmed)

The Church of Scotland Geneva is linked with the [Scots Kirk Lausanne](#)



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