



Sunday between September 18 and September 24 inclusive

YEAR A

## Proper 20 (25)



The Church of Scotland

# WELCOME



Minister of our linked charge

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# The Church of Scotland

Auditoire de Calvin, September 20 2026

*Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost*

## **Prelude** *Rêverie*

Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

## **Introit** *We are your people, Spirit of grace*

(Brian Wren)

## **Welcome and notices**

**Scene setting** - slides of our final bridge –  
from the Forth to ... Fourth

## **Call to worship** *Acts 2:42–47*

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

## **CH4 198** *Let us build a house*

(verse 3 sung by women & girls –verse 4 by men & boys)

## **Opening prayer and The Lord's prayer**

### **Collect for the day** (together):

*Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we gather and with one voice we pray 'Lord, build your church, unite your church, reform your church and re-envision your church in our day and in your way and all for your glory! Amen.*

## **All Ages talk** *Ever have a dream?*

## **CH4 259** *Beauty for brokenness*

## **Offering** Lord Jesus Christ, be present now

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

## **Doxology (CH4 808)**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow*

*Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God, the Trinity of love  
Before, beneath, around, above. Amen*

## **Prayers for the world and all its people**

**Hymn** *Speak, O Lord, as we come to you*

- 1.** Speak, O Lord, as we come to you  
to receive the food of your holy word.  
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;  
shape and fashion us in your likeness,  
that the light of Christ might be seen today  
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us  
all your purposes for your glory.
- 2.** Teach us, Lord, full obedience,  
holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
in the radiance of your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see  
your majestic love and authority.  
Words of power that can never fail,  
let their truth prevail over unbelief.
- 3.** Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time  
that will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on your promises,  
and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, till your church is built  
and the earth is filled with your glory.

**Old Testament** *Nehemiah 6:1–9 & 14–15*

Now when it was reported to Sanballat and Tobiah and to Geshem the Arab and to the rest of our enemies that I had built the wall and that there was no gap left in it (though up to that time I had not set up the doors in the gates), Sanballat and Geshem sent to me, saying, “Come and let us meet together in one of the villages in the plain of Ono.” But they intended to do me harm. So I sent messengers to them, saying, “I am doing a great work, and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it to come down to you?” They sent to me four times in this way, and I answered them in the same manner. In the same way Sanballat for the fifth time sent his servant to me with an open letter in his hand. In it was written, “It is reported among the nations—and Geshem also says it—that you and the Jews intend to rebel; that is why you are building the wall; and according to this

report you wish to become their king. You have also set up prophets to proclaim in Jerusalem concerning you, ‘There is a king in Judah!’ And now it will be reported to the king according to these words. So come, therefore, and let us confer together.” Then I sent to him, saying, “No such things as you say have been done; you are inventing them out of your own mind,” for they all wanted to frighten us, thinking, “Their hands will drop from the work, and it will not be done.” But now, strengthen my hands... Remember Tobiah and Sanballat, O my God, according to these things that they did, and also Noadiah the prophetess and the rest of the prophets who wanted to make me afraid. So the wall was finished on the twenty-fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty-two days.

### **New Testament** *Acts 6:1–7*

Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Therefore, brothers and sisters, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word.” What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

### **Gospel** *Luke 4:14–21*

Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region.

He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on

the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to set free those who are oppressed,

to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

**CH4 710** *“I have a dream,” a man once said*

**Sermon** *Celebrating the wonders and workings of God’s Plan A*

**CH4 465** *Be thou my vision*

**Benediction and threefold Amen**

**Postlude** Prelude and Fugue in e minor  
Johann Sebastian Bach

*Worship leader* Rev. David Cameron

*Welcoming elder* Laurent Djamen

*Usher* Edith Takem

*Readers* Kérshia Cavele, Jean Murray

*Organ* Dirks MacDonald

*Choir* Paraic Reamonn

*Coffee* Lyndsey Bochaton, Kérshia Cavele



**Saturday September 26** – Joint congregational awayday. Salle communal, Dullier

**Saturday October 3** 9h to 17h – Journey into joy (Ignatia Way), Château de Bossey

Contact Patricia Laurie, [vervel10@gmail.com](mailto:vervel10@gmail.com)

**Monday October 5** 14h30 – Book Club in the Salle to discuss *Orbital* by Samantha Harvey

Contact [gillianfriedli@bluewin.ch](mailto:gillianfriedli@bluewin.ch)

**Saturday November 7** – St Andrew's Fair & Cèilidh, Salle communale des Délices, Grand-Saconnex

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