



Sunday between October 9 and October 15 inclusive

YEAR A

Proper 23 (28)



The Church of Scotland

WELCOME



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The Church of Scotland

Auditoire de Calvin, October 11 2026

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude *Echo Fantasia No. 3*

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562–1621)

Introit *Come, great God of all the ages*

Welcome

Call to worship

Together our voices rise to bring praises to God.

Hallelujah! God Almighty! Creator of us all.

Our hearts sing to Christ the Son, Saviour of the world.

Hallelujah! Jesus is Lord. And our brother, friend and example.

Our spirits rise to greet God's Spirit, who moves among us still.

Hallelujah! Help, heal and inspire us as we worship here.

CH4 160 *Praise my soul, the king of heaven*

Prayer of adoration and confession

Collect (said together):

Create in us a clean heart, O Lord,

and renew a right spirit within us.

Draw us closer to you and don't hold back.

Restore in us all joy in being yours. Amen.

All-age preamble

CH4 175 *Praise, I will praise you, Lord*

Psalm 23 *(Contemporary English Version)*

You, Lord, are my shepherd.

I will never be in need.

You let me rest in fields
of green grass.

You lead me to streams
of peaceful water,
and you refresh my life.

You are true to your name,
and you lead me
along the right paths.

I may walk through valleys
as dark as death,
but I won't be afraid.

You are with me,
and your shepherd's rod
makes me feel safe.

You treat me to a feast,
while my enemies watch.
You honour me as your guest,
and you fill my cup
until it overflows.
Your kindness and love
will always be with me
each day of my life,
and I will live forever
in your house, Lord.

A pause for thought...

Gospel *Matthew 22:1-14 (CEV)*

Once again Jesus used stories to teach the people:

The kingdom of heaven is like what happened when a king gave a wedding banquet for his son. The king sent some servants to tell the invited guests to come to the banquet, but the guests refused. He sent other servants to say to the guests, “The banquet is ready! My cattle and prize calves have all been prepared.

Everything is ready. Come to the banquet!”

But the guests did not pay any attention. Some of them left for their farms, and some went to their places of business. Others grabbed the servants, then beat them up and killed them. This made the king so furious that he sent an army to kill those murderers and burn down their city. Then he said to the servants, “It is time for the wedding banquet, and the invited guests don't deserve to come. Go out to the street corners and tell everyone you meet to come to the banquet.” They went out on the streets and brought in everyone they could find, good and bad alike. And the banquet room was filled with guests.

When the king went in to meet the guests, he found that one of them wasn't wearing the right kind of clothes for the wedding. The king asked, “Friend, why didn't you wear proper clothes for the wedding?” But the guest had no excuse. So the king gave orders for this person to be tied hand and foot and to be thrown outside into the dark. That's where people will cry and grit their teeth in pain. Many are invited, but only a few are chosen.

CH4 449 *Rejoice, the Lord is King*

Reflection

Song *Joyful, joyful, we adore you*

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore you,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before You,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!
2. All your works with joy surround you,
Earth and heaven reflect your rays,
Stars and angels sing around you,
Centre of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Praising you eternally!
3. Always giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Loving Father, Christ our brother,
Let your light upon us shine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.
4. Mortals, join the mighty chorus,
Which the morning stars began;
God's own love is reigning o'er us,
Joining people hand in hand.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.

Henry van Dyke (1852–1933)

Tune CH4 120i *Ode to Joy*

Offering *If thou but suffer God to guide thee*

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. The Lord's Prayer

CH4 182 *Now thank we all our God*

Blessing and Threefold Amen

Postlude *Toccata in d minor*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Worship leader Very Rev Susan Brown
Welcoming elder Jane McKenzie
Usher Christine Buhler
Readers Antonia Chapman Nyaho,
Jane McKenzie
Organist Rebecca Dirks MacDonald
Choir Páraic Réamonn
Coffee Christina Passini, Lyndsey Bochaton

Wednesday worship on Zoom 12h–13h.

Contact Christine Colliar for the link or to add yourself to the email list:

ccolliar@churchofscotland.org.uk

November 1 10h, *Reformation Sunday*. We join the service in the Cathédrale de Saint-Pierre

November 8–11 *Cursillo* weekend, Le Cénacle, Promenade Charles–Martin 17, 1208 Genève. Contact paraic.reamonn@gmail.com for further information

Saturday November 7 St Andrew's Fair & Cèilidh. Salle des Délices, Grand–Saconnex
Cèilidh tickets (adults CHF 35, children under 12 free) must be booked in advance: email ceilidhchurchofscotlandgeneva@gmail.com



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