



CROWN COURT
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
COVENT GARDEN

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday 1st September 2024 at 11.15am
Holy Communion

Minister: The Rev Scott Rennie MA BD STM FRSA
The lessons are read by Ron Sanderson

Blessed are those whose hearts are pure, they shall see God.

St Matthew 5: 8

God of unclean hands, touching those rejected by the world, despised by the religious: guide us from false purity which hides misshapen hearts; lead us to the joyful feast in which all are renewed; through Jesus Christ, the beauty of God's face. Amen.

* *Indicates where those who are able should stand*

VOLUNTARY

WELCOME

A warm welcome to worship at Crown Court Church of Scotland – ‘*The Kirk of the Crown of Scotland.*’ Whether you are visiting for the first time or are with us occasionally or often - we are delighted to be able to welcome you today in person or online.

We regularly stream our services. The camera will mainly be focused on the minister and the front of the sanctuary. However, should you wish to ensure you are not included in the livestream, please may we ask that you sit to the rear of the sanctuary by the stained-glass windows.

CALL TO WORSHIP

M: Who may abide in the presence of God?

P: Who may live on God’s holy mountain?

M: All those who walk blamelessly and do what is right.

P: All those who speak truth from their heart.

* **HYMN 18₍₁₎ The earth belongs to God alone**

ST MATTHEW

CALL TO CONFESSION

With sincere hearts and minds,
Let us confess our sins before God and the world,
Trusting in God’s mercy to forgive.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of light,
we confess that we live in the shadows of hypocrisy
and self-righteousness.
We honour you with our lips, but we have not
served you in our hearts.
We are satisfied with human traditions and norms
and avoid your liberating truth.
We have confused meekness with weakness,
holiness with social conformity,
and anger with righteousness.
Forgive us, we pray.
By the power of your word
save us from the prison of our conceit
so that we may serve you with sincere hearts;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, do not despair:
God renews us by the word of truth,
that we might become the first fruits of God's creation.
in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ
you have shown us the truth of your commandments.
Give us sincere hearts
that we may serve you with joy,
obey you with love,
and manifest your wisdom to the world;
through Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 (p. 182)

ORGAN INTERLUDE

SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 (p. 1010)

SERMON

OFFERING AND DEDICATION

As the Offering is brought forward the congregation stand and sing the doxology:

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below;
praise God, the Trinity of love,
before, beneath, around, above.**

THE APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*** HYMN 685 For everyone born a place at the table**

A PLACE AT THE TABLE

THE INVITATION

M: This is the Lord's table.

The Lord Jesus invites us to share in this joyful feast.

From east and west, from north and south,

People will come and take their places at the banquet in the kingdom of God. This table is the Lord's table, and not the table of any church or institution. It is the Lord himself who invites us to feast with him.

NARRATIVE OF THE INSTITUTION

M: Hear the words of the institution of the Lord's Supper, according to St Paul:

The tradition which I handed on to you came to me from the Lord himself: that on the night of his arrest the Lord Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to God broke it and said: 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in memory of me.'

In the same way, he took the cup after supper, and said:

'This cup is the new covenant sealed by my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this in memory of me.' For every time you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord, until he comes.

As the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread, I take these elements of bread and wine, to be set apart for all common uses to this holy use and mystery; and as he gave thanks and blessed, let us draw near to God and offer him our prayers and thanksgiving.

M: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to you, Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to praise you, Lord.

THE GREAT PRAYER

The Minister makes prayers on the congregation's behalf during which the congregation sing:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho -
san - na in the high - est.

God of incarnation, in Jesus you made an earthly tent
In which to dwell among us;
You raised him from the dead
That we tabernacle with you for ever.
Make yourself known among us today
In this tent of meeting you set up with us.
Through your Holy Spirit
make the crucified and risen Lord present to us.

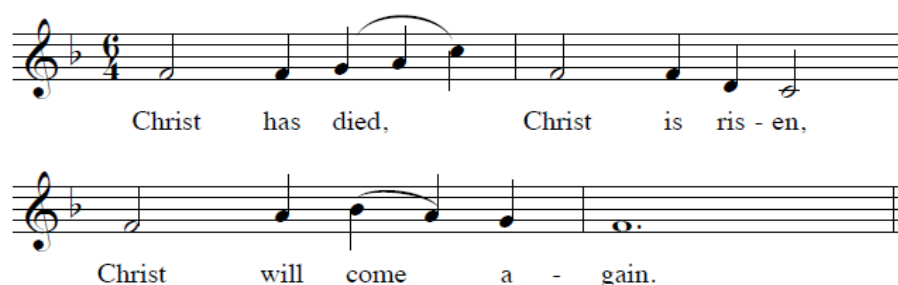
Make us holy through him that we might behold your glory.
By that same spirit sanctify this bread and wine,
that they may be for us
the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,

‘Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.’

After supper he took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it do his disciples saying,
‘Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you, and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’
Great is the mystery of faith.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION I



Christ has died, Christ is ris - en,
Christ will come a - gain.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for 'Christ has died, Christ is ris - en,' with a slur over the words 'ris - en,'. The second staff contains the melody for 'Christ will come a - gain.' with a slur over the words 'a - gain.'.

The Minister makes intercessions on behalf of the congregation after which we pray together:

**Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory, for ever.
Amen.**

THE TRADITION OF THE MEAL

M: We do this in obedience to Christ's example and appointment.

On the night on which he was handed over to his enemies he took bread and after giving thanks to God, he broke it and said,

'This is my body which is broken for you; do this in memory of me.'

In the same way he took the cup saying, 'This cup is the new covenant sealed by my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this in memory of me.'

M: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

P: have mercy on us.

M: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

P: have mercy on us.

M: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

P: grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

SHARING THE PEACE

We share the peace by saying to our neighbours,

'Peace be with you' and exchanging a handshake or a hug.

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

***HYMN 674 Halleluya! We sing your praises**

HALLELUYA! PELOTSA RONA

*** THE BLESSING & SENDING**

*** SUNG AMEN (Hymn 819)**

POSTLUDE

Please stand as the elements are processed from the sanctuary.

All are welcome to join us for tea and coffee in the Hall downstairs after the service.

Please take your Order of Service with you to stay up to date with all the events taking place at Crown Court Church.

INTIMATIONS:

Wednesday 4 September

Choir meets for practice at 7.15pm in the hall.

Sunday 8 September

Sunday morning service at 11.15am.

Gaelic Service at 3.00pm.

Wednesday 11 September

Choir meets for practice at 7.15pm in the hall.

Sunday 15 September

Sunday morning service at 11.15am.

Sunday 29 September

Friends of Crown Court Annual Service at
11.15am.

Book Launch at 7pm in the church.

Gaelic service

The next Gaelic service at Crown Court will take place on Sunday 8 September at 3 pm. The service will be led by The Very Reverend Angus Morrison QHC, Former Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland 2015-16. All are welcome. See www.londongaelicsservices.com

Open Church

Thank you to everyone who volunteered or attended the Open Church days during July and August.

Book Launch

You are invited to a book launch for the newly published 'Oh all right then: Stories from a Varied Ministry' by The Rev Dr Marjory MacLean. Marjory is a well-known and respected figure in the Church of Scotland, currently serving as a Parish Minister in Orkney, and formerly in various parishes as well as Depute Principal Clerk to the General Assembly.

Her newly published book draws upon a wealth of experience in ministry to reflect on the call to ministry within the Church of Scotland. Of interest to any considering a call to the Ordained Ministry, but also to members of the Kirk at large, Marjory reflects on parish ministry with her trademark light-hearted humour, as well as serious and important reflection.

Crown Court Church is delighted to host the London launch of her book on Sunday 29 September at 7 pm.

Please let us know if you are able to come by RSVPing to Laura Daniels our Church Administrator office@crowncourtchurch.org.uk

Weekly Church Email

If you would like to receive our weekly church email, please contact the church administrator at office@crowncourtchurch.org.uk

Donations under the Gift Aid Scheme

Visitors who are UK taxpayers are invited to make use of the yellow Gift Aid envelopes which are available both in the pews and at the back of the church. Completed envelopes may be placed in the offering plate.

Prayers & Pastoral Support

The Pastoral Care Team often remember people in the congregation in their prayers. If you have any requests for prayers for yourself or someone you know who is ill or bereaved or may simply have a situation in which they would welcome being remembered in prayer, then please contact Rev Scott Rennie.

If you require support, please contact the Pastoral Care Group through the church office or the minister – all information is kept confidential.

Church Membership

We are always delighted to welcome new members to Crown Court. If you are a regular attender, but have not yet joined the congregation, we would encourage you to consider becoming a member or an adherent. If you have been a member of a Church of Scotland elsewhere, transferring your membership is a very simple process; please contact Laura Daniels, Church Administrator to ask for your lines to be transferred.

If you are not yet a member of any church and would like to explore your faith journey through baptism or confirmation, please do speak to our minister, Rev Scott Rennie

Crown Court Church of Scotland

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Follow us on Social Media

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Scottish Charity Number: SC042648

CCLI Licence: 554438



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