



# The Free North Church Inverness

a congregation of the Free Church of Scotland

## A GUIDE TO SUNDAY WORSHIP

11 am – Easter Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Sunday services today at 11 am & at 6 pm are **both** online & in-person, conducted by our minister, Rev Angus MacRae. Tel: (01463) 832616.

Mobile: 07 506 006 459. Email: [angusmacrae1967@gmail.com](mailto:angusmacrae1967@gmail.com)).

Carrie Marlow - Women's Pastoral Worker contacts:  
[carrie.marlow@freenorthchurch.org](mailto:carrie.marlow@freenorthchurch.org) or 07 583 498 782.

It is a joy to welcome you back to in-person worship at the Free North. Please see details below. Online services are also streamed live on our YouTube channel at 11 am and 6 pm each Sunday. Subscribe to the channel at: [www.youtube.com/c/FreeNorthChurchInverness](http://www.youtube.com/c/FreeNorthChurchInverness).

### WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 118:22-24)

Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Hallelujah!

The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;  
the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Hallelujah! Amen.

### THINE BE THE GLORY

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son!  
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won;  
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes,  
where Thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son!  
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won!*

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom;  
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph  
sing,  
for her Lord now liveth,

death has lost its sting:  
*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son!  
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won!*

No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life;  
life is nought without Thee: aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conquerors,  
through thy deathless love;  
bring us safe through Jordan  
to Thy home above.

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son!  
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won!*

*Words: Edmond L Budry (1854-1932), Trans R B Hoyle (1875-1939).*

*Recorded at the EMW Summer Conference, Aberystwyth, in 2018. CCL License No. 616262. CCL Streaming License No. 324811.*

### PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

This week Free Church congregations are praying for our sister churches in **Golspie** (Rev Eric Paterson) and **Aberdeen Bon Accord** (Iver Martin, interim-moderator). Later this month we will pray for Elgin & Forres and Cross (11<sup>th</sup>); Duirinish and Christ Church, Edinburgh (18<sup>th</sup>); Shawbost, Brora, and Oban (25<sup>th</sup>).

### EASTER RESOURCES

Copies of a free Easter booklet, *Easter in Three Words*, by William Taylor are available to help share the gospel with your friends. You can also obtain the March Books of the month from Carrie or the resource table (£3 for two books). **EXPLORE** daily Bible reading notes (for April to June) are available. Suggested donation £3.

## FCYC CAMPS / YOUTH CONNECT VIDEO

FCYC Connect is our exciting new event for young people in P5-S6. Taking place on Zoom from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July, FCYC Connect will bring together young people and leaders from all over the country for a week of challenges, activities, excellent banter, discussions and the opportunity to learn more about God and how He wants us to live our lives to the full! To learn more watch a short video at <https://youtu.be/MjNW-dtTO9U> and visit: [freechurchoyouthcamps.org/connect/](http://freechurchoyouthcamps.org/connect/)

### PSALM 146:5-10 (SING PSALMS)

Blessèd is the one who truly  
looks for help to Jacob's God;  
Blessèd is the one who places  
all his hope upon the LORD—

He who made the earth and heaven  
and the seas, with all their store;  
He who keeps his every promise,  
who is faithful evermore.

He delivers from oppression  
and relieves the hungry's plight.  
He releases those in prison;  
to the blind the LORD gives sight.

Those who are bowed down he raises.  
God delights in righteousness.  
He protects and cares for strangers,  
widows and the fatherless.

He frustrates the wicked's purpose.  
So the LORD through endless days  
Reigns to every generation.  
Praise your God, O Zion, praise!

*Tune: Stuttgart (8787) - Sung by John MacAulay & Chris MacLeod. Sing Psalms, Free Church of Scotland, 2003.*

### BIBLE READING: MATTHEW 28:1-15

<sup>1</sup>After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. <sup>2</sup>There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. <sup>4</sup>The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples: "He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him." Now I have told you.' <sup>8</sup>So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them. 'Greetings,' he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshipped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.' <sup>11</sup>While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. <sup>12</sup>When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, <sup>13</sup>telling them, 'You are to say, "His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep." <sup>14</sup>If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.' <sup>15</sup>So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day.

### SERMON: MATTHEW 28 – RISEN KING ON THE GALILEE ROAD

The first disciples seem to have forgotten all about Jesus' predictions that he would rise from the dead, but the leaders of the Sanhedrin had not forgotten. **1) A NEW AGE DAWNS.** With much sadness and grief, a group of loyal female disciples approached the tomb to care for the broken body of Jesus. He was dead. They were still in shock. But as that Sunday morning dawned, they discovered the tomb was empty, and a new era of hope had dawned! **2). THE AGE OF DEATH HAS ENDED.** Angels shared the Easter Gospel with the women, a message we must share today. Death retreats before the news of the Easter gospel! **3). THE AGE OF SPIRITUAL WAR GOES ON.** Easter hope was met by a Satanic lie, an incoherent self-contradictory lie that the dead body of the dead Jesus had been stolen. Satan still tells many lies, but we respond with Easter truth. The gospel of the empty tomb ends fear and gives boldness to the followers of Jesus.

## HYMN: SEE WHAT A MORNING

See, what a morning, gloriously bright,  
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;  
Folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light,  
As the angels announce, "Christ is risen!"  
See God's salvation plan,  
Wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,  
Fulfilled in Christ, the Man,  
For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead!

See Mary weeping, "Where is He laid?"  
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;  
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name;  
It's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!  
The voice that spans the years,  
Speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us,  
Will sound till He appears,

For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead!

One with the Father, Ancient of Days,  
Through the Spirit who clothes faith with  
certainty.  
Honor and blessing, glory and praise  
To the King crowned with pow'r and authority!  
And we are raised with Him,  
Death is dead, love has won, Christ has  
conquered;  
And we shall reign with Him,  
For He lives: Christ is risen from the dead!

*Words Keith Getty & Stuart Townend © 2003 Kingsway  
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## BENEDICTION

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**SUNDAY AT SIX – in-person and on our YOUTUBE CHANNEL at 6 PM tonight.  
EASTER PRAISE - MATTHEW 28 – THE RESURRECTION ROAD - BOLD WITNESSES IN GALILEE**

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## DIARY, NEWS & PRAYER

**Services today at 11 am & 6 pm** both in-person and online on YouTube. For the time being we will stop the Zoom **"coffee-time"** catch up after services. We have an Easter teaching series **ON THE ROAD WITH JESUS**. Today we meet with Jesus, **"THE RISEN KING ON THE GALILEE ROAD"**.

**Offering Envelopes:** Weekly Envelopes are all available for those who would find them helpful. Speak to an office bearer if you would like a set, or contact the treasurer to set up direct giving from your bank account.

**WOMEN FOR MISSION:** The national WfM committee has asked us to remind you of their four very worthy fundraising projects for 2020-2021: SU Scotland, the Moldova Support Group, The Leprosy Mission and our own Free Church disaster relief fund. Donations may be made via our treasurer, by a marked offering in the offering plate, or sent directly via [womenformission.org/](http://womenformission.org/)

**Kiltwalk:** Effie and Sandy Finlay are both doing the Kiltwalk to support Inverness YMCA (CYC). Donations can be made either via their Facebook pages or directly to Effie or Sandy. There is no sibling rivalry!

**Ferguson family:** Thank you for praying for Roddy Ferguson and family. Julie's funeral service took place last Tuesday in Kilmallie and Glen Nevis and can be seen here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=fi2Z\\_gPjA\\_g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fi2Z_gPjA_g)

Copies of our latest **Congregational Newsletter** are available.

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April – AGM & Free North Accounts:** Our AGM is online on Zoom at 7.30 pm on 7<sup>th</sup> April. Those who receive this Service Guide by email will find attached a simplified copy of the FN Accounts for 2020. This financial report will be presented to the congregation at the AGM. We would be delighted if

you are able to join us at this online meeting. A full set of accounts is available if anyone would like a copy. Please email our treasurer, **Mrs Barbara Macphail: treasurer@freenorthchurch.org**. To donate to the work of the congregation or to contribute to the recently completed Livestream Video Project visit our website (PayPal logo) or contact the treasurer.

**Guys Groups** are taking a break over April and will resume on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May. By then it should be possible for the evening group to meet in-person.

**Ladies' Bible** study dates for next term are 22nd April, 6th & 20th May, 3rd & 17th June. We'll continue to look at 1 Peter through the term but you don't need to have been at previous studies to join us. These will continue on Zoom for the time being but we look forward to when we can meet in person. For more details contact Carrie: carrie.marlow@freenorthchurch.org or 07583 498782.

### PRAYER

Give thanks that we have been able to resume meeting in-person. Pray for blessing on all who participate in our services in-person and online. Give thanks for our children and youth.

**Rev Andy Pearson** was recently inducted to St Peter's, Dundee. We pray for his former church London City Presbyterian and for all vacant congregations as they look for a pastor.

**Praying for 20 Schemes:** This is the list of church planting pastors and their locations to guide your prayers. Tommy Millar—*Maryhill, Glasgow*; Pete Stewart & Pete Bell—*Barlanark, Glasgow*; Andrew Mathieson—*Lochee, Dundee*; Andy Robertson—*Charleston, Dundee*; Chris Davidson—*Merkinch, Inverness*; Derek Laidlaw—*Gorgie, Edinburgh*; Gerald White—*Bingham, Edinburgh*; Andy Prime & Tim Rawlinson—*Gracemount, Edinburgh*; Mez McConnell, Andy Constable, & Jason Nelson—*Niddrie, Edinburgh*.

**Colegio San Andrés, Peru:** Pray for pupils and teachers as they begin a new school session, going back to the computer screen instead of the classroom because of the pandemic. Pray for enthusiasm, good communication, effective learning and deep spiritual growth. Pray for San Andres staff as they face substantial cuts in salaries this year. Please pray God would provide additional sources of work or funding.

### INFORMATION ON CHURCH REOPENING

We are delighted to reopen our church building for in-person worship **on Sunday mornings and evenings**. As we are limited to a maximum of 50 in the building the welcome team will direct latecomers to an overflow service in the CYC or the Church Street Hall, if available. Sadly, it may be necessary to send latecomers home. **We ask for your patience, understanding and your compliance with the instructions of the welcome team.**

**Parents** are asked to take **Sunday School** children directly to the separate **CYC building** at 12 Bank Street by 10:50 am, collecting them from the CYC after the service. A mobile contact number will be required. A creche is available in the church foyer. Families with children are welcome to attend every Sunday morning.

**All other adults are invited to attend in-person morning worship every second week**, following an alphabetical split based on surnames. On Easter Sunday at 11 am, we invite those with **Surnames McL-Z**. On 11<sup>th</sup> April those with **Surnames A – MacK** are invited to attend at 11 am. Please try to be in your seat by 10:50 am. The CYC overflow is only available on Sunday mornings. There will be an **evening service** in the Free North at 6 pm each Sunday. **Our Sunday evening service is open to all every week**, but limited to 50 persons. Try to be seated by 5:50 pm. Please continue to use a face-covering unless exempt and observe social distancing. We hope there will be a growing number wishing to attend our services and so we may need to gradually adjust arrangements as we go forward. **Midweek services** will remain online only during April. We plan to hold **Communion** services on Sunday mornings, 25<sup>th</sup> April and 2<sup>nd</sup> May.