

31st July 2022



Davoit Church 11am

When you hear the following the service has begun.

The Grace of our, Lord Jesus Chris the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all **And also with you**

Good morning brothers and sister, friends and one in Christ. How are you all feeling, I am sure upset and shocked to learn that Neighbours, the Aussie program has ended after nearly forty years or there again maybe you don't care less...or are you excited about what will take place this afternoon, and as the Lioness play, the commentators are already saying, its coming home. However, we're feeling, we gather to worship God this morning we have come in his name. Some of us know each other while there will be some we do not know. We have been brought together due to the new presbytery plan and the decision that Cawdor and Croy , Daviot and Tomatin church families shall Unite together, meaning that our four churches shall join forces and while we will have two worship centres, we will have one joint session. Yes, there will be sadness when two of our churches close, yes, we may not be happy with this decision and wish to remain as it is at the moment. As we know life does not stand still and neither does the churches. We have been

called to move forward, and this is very much the start of the process for ourselves. I am enthusiastic by the prospect of what could be, and even though I maybe the only one at the moment, I pray this will not remain. For we are all part of the body of Christ, we have a function and this plan will only work if we all are prepared to move forward in Jesus' name and work together. I am not able to do this on my own and I do not believe God wishes this...for he has called each one of us into faith, into service and to follow his loving, caring word that unites each one of us together. Let's begin with worshipping God and through our faith and worship may he speak with us all.

Opening Call

May the God of hope go with us every day, **filling all our lives with love and joy and peace**. May the God of justice speed us on our way, **bringing light and hope to every land and race**. Praying, let us work for peace: **singing sharing our joy with all**, working for a world that's new, **faithful when we hear Christ's call**.

Meditation tune -

111-"Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!"

(Sung unaccompanied)

1. "Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!"
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth, and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Lighting the peace candle / A prayer for peace.

Prince of peace we pray for reconciliation between your nations that are arguing, and fighting. We pray for a channel of peace to run through your world where all people whatever language they may speak, colour, faith or sexuality they are...there will be a oneness of love and togetherness...where people care for the other, and give a helping hand to those who are in need. We pray for inner peace and a sanctuary where all can come and sit in silence, and listen to you speak. Lord, we pray for peace, for forgiveness and togetherness all that Jesus expressed with all whom he met as he walked through a land that was in need of love and care...In peace and through our faith and love for humanity may peace flow through your creation and weaken the hardest of hearts. In Jesus name the Prince of peace hear this peaceful prayer and our cry's all to be able to live together. Amen.

776 - "Kyrie eleison" x3 (Lord have mercy)

189-"Be still for the Presence of the Lord"

1. Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.
Come bow before him now with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.
2. Be still for the glory of the Lord Is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight - Our radiant King of light!
Be still for the glory of the Lord Is shining all around.
3. Be still for the power of the Lord Is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.

No work too hard for him - In faith, receive from him.
 Be still for the power of the Lord Is moving in this place.

Prayer / Lord's Prayer

Loving God today is your day, a time that your people come to worship you. Today is a new day for we who have gathered here in Daviot church to not only worship you...we have travelled near and far to be one in you with our brothers and sister of Christ. We thank you for the chance to make new friends, to be able to worship you freely without fear. Yes, Lord we come with questions and we wonder what will be. In you we know through our faith that whatever takes place we will be safe in you, for you have a plan. Lord, you created the world, designed a place of such beauty and wonder that no person could ever recreate without your guidance and love. We live in world that is majestic and beautiful, and as we travel from place to place, yes it can be so very similar in many ways while still being unique and different. You lead us forward, stretching while not breaking, broadening our outlook and giving a vision of where strangers can come together uniting as friends and family. Forgive our lack of wanting to change and move forward, forgive us for feeling comfortable in our surrounding that we wish to remain where we are at, forgive us that we at times find it hard to put our trust in you and wish to not move. Lord, you forgive all people and all actions, and so Lord Jesus thank you for your loving forgiving nature...for it is you who said forgive them heavenly father for they do not know what they're doing. Lord Jesus Son and Word of God have mercy upon us and grant us your heavenly peace where we are able to focus on you, and your will. Through the words of your prayer, as the angels and those who have gone before us have spoken, speak with us as you do with them now as we say word from heaven...

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, forever. **Amen**

A rolling stone gathers no moss

Mick Jagger, Charlie Watts who has sadly died in August 2021, Keith Richards, and Ronnie Wood - The Rolling Stones - have played together for more than 50 years. However, they recognize the importance of practicing together.

They understand that for excellence to become a habit, you need to define a shared approach to working together. You need to practice it over and over until it becomes second nature.

Before every tour, the band typically commits two months to rehearsing. They appreciate the opportunity to reconnect with their collective rhythm. The practice enables the band to perform with almost telepathic communication.

Keith Richards says that he knows exactly what's happening by simply watching Charlie Watts' left hand. If the tempo ever drags, one glance from Richards to Wood speaks volumes. Together they will then step up the pace.

The Stones' success comes from each member having a distinctive yet complementary role. Richards is their spiritual leader, Watts was the band's backbone, Wood the mediator, and Jagger is in control of everything he can be - a chief executive in many ways.

Each of the band's members is a talent in his own right, but it is the chemistry the band has on each of them that works best. Being part of the Rolling Stones remains the best way for each member to achieve their individual goals. The best teams are those who combine

individual drive with understanding the importance and power of the team and you know my friends this is what we are in Christ, a team that is part of a family called Gods family.

You know we can learn from the Rolling stones, the secret to becoming an excellent team: There is no substitute for the ongoing commitment and deliberate practice required to build a better team and this is what we have been called to do... Our reading this morning is one of the most famous pictures of the unity of the Church that has ever been written. People have always been fascinated by the way in which different parts of the body co-operate. St Paul draws on the picture as the church as a body, one body, Christs body. Now the body consists of many parts but there is in it an essential unity.

1 Corinthians 12 : 12-31

¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.¹³ For we were all baptized by^[c] one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.¹⁵ Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body.¹⁶ And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body.¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be?¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be?²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!"²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be

weaker are indispensable,²³ and the parts that we think are less honourable we treat with special honour. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty,²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honour to the parts that lacked it,²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it.²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.²⁸ And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues.²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles?³⁰ Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues^[d]? Do all interpret?³¹ Now eagerly desire the greater gifts. And yet I will show you the most excellent way. This is the Word of God, **thanks be to God Amen**

532-"Lord, you have come to the seashore"

1. Lord, you have come to the seashore,
neither searching for the rich nor the wise,
desiring only that I should follow.

**O, Lord, with your eyes set upon me,
gently smiling, you have spoken my name;
all I longed for I have found by the water,
at your side, I will seek other shores.**

2. Lord, see my goods, my possessions;
in my boat you find no power, no wealth.
Will you accept, then, my nets and labour?

3. Lord, take my hands and direct them.
Help me spend myself in seeking the lost,
returning love for the love you gave me.

4. Lord, as I drift on the waters,
 be the resting place of my restless heart,
 my life's companion, my friend and refuge.

Reflection

You will never have guessed it I am sure, that when I was at school I was normally the one who was last to be picked in team sports I even heard one captain say to the other after they had chosen the second last person, you can have him also on your team as he pointed to me..I know, I couldn't believe my natural football skills hadn't shone through in previous games lessons...and I may had I resisted showing off my Ronaldo talent. I learnt a lesson our abilities at times are not seen by some or that we are not always good at everything. For sure I took great pleasure on cross country long distance runs out lapping the football team and up and coming school rugby stars. Yes, my talent was running and I might not have been fast but I had endurance, even today as a grown up I have felt a bit like the school lad standing on the lines watching the game even though I am meant to be playing...it happens where our talents and abilities are not seen by others. The church is no exception and I know many people worship wondering will they ever be asked to take part, to help with events and be made to feel part of the family. The church is changing, and we are all part of this new dawn that is around the corner. Whatever our age, lets remember Moses was called into service in his 80's, so there is scope for us all even me at my ripe old age. Do you hear that ?? do you, that is God calling, and thankfully he does not leave anyone on the side lines watching. He created, gave gifts and expects us to serve, we are all part of the family, and as the Liverpudlian mother in the program Bread use to repeat often to her youngest son, Billy your part of the family, that is what we are part of the family of God and thankfully when some may be blind to our talents God can see them for, he is the one who gave them to us...

In the passage that I just read, Paul was dealing with a problem. He was writing to the little church at Corinth—a church which he had established—a church that he loved—but a church that had problems. So, Paul wrote a God inspired letter giving them guidance—to get them on the right path again.

One of their problems was spiritual pride. Each of the Christians had different gifts—different talents—and some of them were acting as if they were more important than the others because of their gifts.

The gift that seemed to be giving them the greatest problem was speaking in tongues. Shortly after Jesus' resurrection, Jews from all over the world gathered in Jerusalem for the Day of Pentecost—a great Jewish holy day. On that day, the apostle Peter became a street preacher, and preached to the great crowd about Jesus.

There were two strange things about Peter's sermon. First of all, the people listened. They didn't ignore Peter the way most people today ignore street preachers. The second strange thing was that all the people—from many different nations—all heard Peter's sermon in their own language.

It was a little bit like the United Nations, where one person can speak in Chinese and another can listen on headphones to an almost simultaneous translation into English. Except that Peter had no electronic apparatus and no translators. God had worked a miracle, and everyone heard in their own language. That was the first instance of speaking in tongues.

In the early church, other people also spoke in tongues. Sometimes people could understand them. Sometimes, their language was gibberish. But they were proud that they could speak in tongues, and tended to think that anyone who could not do so was not as good as they. Paul was writing this chapter in large measure to answer these people. Paul said that:

Every Christian has his or her own gifts. Some were prophets. Some were teachers. Some spoke in tongues. Some had other gifts.

Then he said that all these gifts are important to the church. The church is like a human body, and its different members are like a hand or a foot or an eye. Each of those organs is important to the human body, and each Christian's gifts are important to the church.

Therefore, we should treasure each other's' gifts. If our gift is teaching, we should be glad that someone else has the gift of music—or administration—or preaching—or speaking in tongues.

Therefore, we should share each other's' sorrows and rejoice in each other's' joys—because we, the church, are all one body. You are the arm; someone else is the leg; someone else is the eye. But all the pieces fit together to form one body—meaning the church. Every part of the body needs every other part, and if one-part hurts, they all hurt.

"The King's Highway" Once a king had a great highway built for the members of his kingdom. After it was completed, but before it was opened to the public, the king decided to have a contest. He invited as many as desired to participate.

Their challenge was to see who could travel the highway the best. On the day of the contest the people came. Some of them had fine chariots; some had fine clothing, fine hairdos, or brought along great food. Some young men came in their track clothes and ran along the highway. People travelled the highway all day, but each one, when he arrived at the end, complained to the king that there was a large pile of rocks and debris left on the road at one spot and this got in their way and hindered their travel. At the end of the day, a lone traveller crossed the finish line warily and walked over to the king. He was tired and dirty, but he addressed the king with great respect and handed him a bag of gold, he explained, "I stopped along the way to

clear a pile of rocks and debris that was blocking the road. This bag of gold was under it all.

I want you to return it to its rightful owner." The king replied, "You are the rightful owner."

The traveller replied, "Oh no, this is not mine. I've never known such money." "Oh yes," said the king, "you've earned this gold, for you won my contest.

He who travels the road best is he who makes the road smoother for those who will follow." That was respecting his King and the ones who followed him. Isn't it that by respecting someone is a way of worship? Today we have come together to worship, one of the first steps to move our parishes into a Union with each other...we are asked to accept the new Presbytery plan and I believe by doing this we are respecting God. For what is taking place today is done in God's name a vision which came about through much prayer. Whether we like it or not we have free will to be part of it or not...the reality as the plan goes out there are people going to struggle with it and find it hard to accept. As the Moderator of the General assembly wrote in a daily newspaper last week, we are a minority being Christians in Scotland today. It used to be we lived in a Christian country now folk are non-believers or followers of other faiths...I think I am correct in saying only 7% attend church. The Church is in dire straits and we need to move and change now or else there will be nothing to build on later. ...there is no point waiting for the next generation for there won't be anything to hand over if we do not act today. There is uncertainty and sadness and anger, when worship centres close and congregations are asked to come together. This is only natural for our worship centres mean a lot to us. There will be folk who leave the church, some while dig in their heels and resist while others will take the bull by the horns and pray and through the holy spirit move forward for if we do not there won't be a church locally or nationally. Today we have the opportunity to grow together and build on what we have already so that there is a church family to

pass onto the next generation. My prayer is that the next generation will be part of this plan. We all have a role to play...I cannot do this on my own as I have already said, and I will not. We all have an important part to play, we are all part of the same body, whether we live or worship in Cawdor, Croy, Daviot or Tomatin. Our church is going to change, we can fear it, walk away from it, or grab it with all our love for God and go with it and make it work. As St Paul says to the Corinthians, "we were all baptized into one body"—Christ's body—the church. We are all part of one another. Therefore, let us not lord it over other Christians because of our gifts and self-importance and what we have ... Instead, let us rejoice together over each other's' gifts and be together... We have a great opportunity to make new friends and walk with God. Are we able to remove the pile of rocks from the middle of our road that is stopping us, so that we can build on our future together? For if we can, our worship could change the world around us showing God's glory in so many new and wonderful ways.

The three Musketeers creed, a phrase that emphasizes solidarity and support within a family group in which they will support its members and its members will support the group. "All for one and one for all". I will leave this with you, "What we are is God's gift to us.

What we become is our gift to God." Use your gifts for His work and His Kingdom. Ask His blessing on your gifts. I guarantee you that He will answer that prayer. We all have gifts that God calls us to not ignore..gifts that can make our new united church plan work so I want you to take time to reflect on the gifts you bring...one gift I pray you can do is the gift of encouragement. Help those who cannot see the way forward, I pray for enthusiasm to override the desire for yesterday for that day has gone, we are in the now and let us hold onto what God will do...lets rejoice for God is good and He has blessed us. As so many have left the church and walked away from the love of Jesus, Our God has remained with those of us who have not, and he is calling usdo you hear that...??? Can you hear the child in the dark crying, searching for God...how can he get know Him

if we are not there to introduce our Lord and Saviour to all who do not know Him? In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit three in one as we are all one together in Him. Amen.

249-“We have heard the joyful sound”

- 1 We have heard the joyful sound:
 Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
 Spread the tidings all around:
 Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
 Bear the news to every land,
 Climb the steeps and cross the waves;
 Onward!—’tis our Lord’s command;
 Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

- 2 Waft it on the rolling tide,
 Jesus saves, Jesus saves;
 Tell to sinners far and wide,
 Jesus saves, Jesus saves;
 Sing, ye islands of the sea,
 Echo back, ye ocean caves;
 Earth shall keep her jubilee,
 Jesus saves, Jesus saves.

- 3 Sing above the battle’s strife,
 Jesus saves, Jesus saves;
 By His death and endless life,
 Jesus saves, Jesus saves;
 Sing it softly thru the gloom,
 When the heart for mercy craves,
 Sing in triumph o’er the tomb,
 Jesus saves, Jesus saves.

- 4 Give the winds a mighty voice,

Jesus saves, Jesus saves;
Let the nations now rejoice.
Jesus saves, Jesus saves;
Shout salvation full and free,
Highest hills and deepest caves,
This our song of victory,
Jesus saves, Jesus saves.

Martin Luther wrote, "To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing."

"Prayer is simply talking to God like a friend and should be the easiest thing we do each day."

Intercession Prayer

Lord God as a new time is dawning, we pray to you not only for your church here in Scotland but all who gather in your name around the world. We pray for your creation and what is happening within it, in a world where there is hunger and poverty, where climate change is causing drought and death upon many nations, as fires to natural disasters are happening. We pray for those who are suffering and in need of help financially, for the hungry to receive food, for the countries that are desperate for rain to grow food to those who are dying due to being thirsty...We pray for those who are in pain, those on the edge of death who need medical services. We pray for those who grieve lives lost and fear for their own existence. Lord there is so much happening within the world so much suffering because of war, the humanity crisis in Ukraine and Somalia, to the food prices and hunger due to the lack of wheat... Lord hear the cries of help, people living in misery not able to help themselves...hear the cry for help from the children who live in fear, comfort the people who see their homes in ruins and have nowhere now to call their own...we pray for families who have lost all their belongings and only have the

clothes they're wearing. We pray for those who are shouted at and abused because of their colour, sexuality and faith...we ask you to help educate at times an ignorant world where all people are seen as equals, that all are accepted and each individual is believed to be important and are loved...all part of your human family. Lord, we give thanks for the commonwealth games for the unity that sport can bring and we pray for all the sports persons who will be taking part, for those behind the scenes working hard to make this time a special period and for all who will be watching be proud to be part of this family of many nations whose faith, language and lives may be different yet are united as one. We pray for the two teams that are playing football today where they're both wanting to bring the cup home. Lord, we pray for your church and each family member. Wherever we live, whoever we are, whatever our age, help us to know that we are important and have a part to play within your Godly family. We pray for the churches who are looking to a new dawn whether they resist or happy to follow, may your Holy Spirit guide each of us...Bring comfort to those who are upset and do not wish the changes which we are facing, energize those who have lost their faith and enthusiasm for the church and lead forth your will and vision for your church family to be a constant light for all generations. Help those who are working hard to take your holy plans and form them into a new stable church for all people to receive your message and comfort. We pray for how the presbytery map not only within Inverness but in Scotland is changing. Help us as you help all to put our trust in you and to see what is truly important... speak to us of your plans for the future and the part we can play now.....silence. Lord in your name help us to look forward to be a church that shines your light, where we as a church family will become friends, and see ourselves not as individuals but united together. We pray that we can build on what we have as a church family where people when sad are comforted, those who are in pain will be healed, where all are seen as equals and accepted and where your Holy Word will go forth and speak to all. Lord, we pray for unity

and love and you to be known...In your name Lord Jesus hear all our prayers and have mercy and love for us all. Amen.

448-"Lord the light of your love is shining"

1. Lord the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus Light of the World shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine Jesus shine

Fill this land with the Father's glory

Blaze Spirit blaze

Set our hearts on fire

Flow river flow

Flood the nations with grace and mercy

Send forth Your word, Lord

And let there be light

2. Lord, I come to Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood I may enter Your brightness
Search me, try me consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me
3. As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story
Shine on me, shine on me

Benediction

786-"May the God of peace"

(Sung unaccompanied)

May the God of peace go with us as we travel from this place; may the love of Jesus keep us firm in hope and full of grace.

Threefold Amen

31st July 2022



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Meditation tune -

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3. "Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!"
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
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God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth, and sky and sea.
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2. Be still for the glory of the Lord Is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight - Our radiant King of light!
Be still for the glory of the Lord Is shining all around.
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No work too hard for him - In faith, receive from him.
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Prayer / Lord's Prayer

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, forever.
Amen

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 all I longed for I have found by the water,
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- 2 Waft it on the rolling tide,
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- 3 Sing above the battle's strife,

Jesus saves, Jesus saves;
 By His death and endless life,
 Jesus saves, Jesus saves;
 Sing it softly thru the gloom,
 When the heart for mercy craves,
 Sing in triumph o'er the tomb,
 Jesus saves, Jesus saves.

- 4 Give the winds a mighty voice,
 Jesus saves, Jesus saves;
 Let the nations now rejoice.
 Jesus saves, Jesus saves;
 Shout salvation full and free,
 Highest hills and deepest caves,
 This our song of victory,
 Jesus saves, Jesus saves.

Intercession Prayer

448-"Lord the light of your love is shining"

4. Lord the light of Your love is shining
 In the midst of the darkness shining
 Jesus Light of the World shine upon us
 Set us free by the truth You now bring us
 Shine on me, shine on me

Shine Jesus shine

Fill this land with the Father's glory

Blaze Spirit blaze

Set our hearts on fire

Flow river flow

Flood the nations with grace and mercy

Send forth Your word, Lord

And let there be light

5. Lord, I come to Your awesome presence
 From the shadows into Your radiance
 By the blood I may enter Your brightness
 Search me, try me consume all my darkness
 Shine on me, shine on me
6. As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
 So our faces display Your likeness
 Ever changing from glory to glory

Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story
Shine on me, shine on me

Benediction

786-“May the God of peace”

(Sung unaccompanied)

May the God of peace go with us as we travel from this place; may the love of
Jesus keep us firm in hope and full of grace.

Threefold Amen

