

DUNDEE APC  
22 NOVEMBER 2020



## ORDER OF SERVICE

Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth (Ps. 124:8).

## Reading

ISAIAH 55:1-7

“Come, everyone who thirsts,  
come to the waters;  
and he who has no money,  
come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
without money and without price.  
Why do you spend your money  
for that which is not bread,  
and your labour  
for that which does not satisfy?  
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,  
and delight yourselves in rich food.  
Incline your ear, and come to me;  
hear, that your soul may live;  
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
my steadfast, sure love for David.  
Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,

a leader and commander for the peoples.  
Behold, you shall call a nation  
that you do not know,  
and a nation that did not know you  
shall run to you,  
because of the LORD your God,  
and of the Holy One of Israel,  
for he has glorified you.

“Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;  
let the wicked forsake his way,  
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
let him return to the LORD,  
that he may have compassion on him,  
and to our God,  
for he will abundantly pardon.”

PSALM 138

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing your praise;  
I bow down toward your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name  
for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,  
for you have exalted above all things  
your name and your word.  
On the day I called, you answered me;  
my strength of soul you increased.  
All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks,  
O LORD,  
for they have heard the words of your mouth,  
and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD,

for great is the glory of the LORD.  
For though the LORD is high,  
he regards the lowly,  
but the haughty he knows from afar.  
Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve my life;  
you stretch out your hand  
against the wrath of my enemies,  
and your right hand delivers me.  
The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

## Prayer

## Reading

LUKE 24:1-12

<sup>1</sup> But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. <sup>5</sup> And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead?" <sup>6</sup> He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." <sup>8</sup> And they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup> and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup> Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, <sup>11</sup> but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup> But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

## Sermon

LUKE 24:1-12

*Why do you seek the living among the dead?*

## Prayer

PSALM 21:1-6

O LORD, in your strength the king rejoices,  
and in your salvation how greatly he exults!  
You have given him his heart's desire  
and have not withheld the request of his lips.  
For you meet him with rich blessings;  
you set a crown of fine gold upon his head.  
He asked life of you; you gave it to him,  
length of days forever and ever.  
His glory is great through your salvation;

splendour and majesty you bestow on him.  
For you make him most blessed forever;  
you make him glad  
with the joy of your presence.  
For the king trusts in the LORD,  
and through the steadfast love  
of the Most High  
he shall not be moved.

## Benediction

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14

The women came to the tomb, but they didn't find the body in the tomb. Instead, they were told by angels that Christ had risen. The women reported this to men. And what's written? What did you hear? These things seemed in their eyes like an idle tale. How very unhappy is the human condition! When Eve related what the serpent had said, she was listened to straightaway. A lying woman was believed, and so we all died. But [the disciples] didn't believe women telling the truth so that we might live. If women are not to be trusted, why did Adam trust Eve? If women are to be trusted, why did the disciples not trust the holy women?

So in this fact we have to reflect on the goodness of the Lord's arrangements, because this, of course, was the doing of the Lord Jesus Christ that it should be the female sex which would be the first to report that he had risen again. Humanity fell through the female sex; humankind was restored through the female sex. A virgin gave birth to Christ; a woman proclaimed that he had risen again. Through a woman death, through a woman life. But the disciples didn't believe what the women had said. They thought they were raving, when in fact they were reporting the truth.

*Augustine, Sermon 232.2.19*



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