



**17TH AUGUST
11AM
SANCTUARY**



Bridge of Allan Parish Church of Scotland

- DIVING INTO JONAH - JONAH; THE RELUCTANT PROPHET



led by the Rev

DAN HARPER



FATHER GOD I WONDER (CHOIR)



WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP



LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS WE LIFT THEM, LORD, TO THEE (518)



INTRODUCING "JONAH; THE RELUCTANT PROPHET"



PRAYER ,
APPROACH, CONFESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER



OUR NEW LIFT - DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING



HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS (MP225)



READING: JONAH 3:1-10 - (RETOLD BY DAVID KOSSOFF)



I THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY (251)



UNDERSTANDING "JONAH; THE RELUCTANT PROPHET"



A CELTIC BENEDICTION (CHOIR)



APPLYING "JONAH; THE RELUCTANT PROPHET"



SHINE, JESUS, SHINE (448)



PRAYER



LOOK FORWARD IN FAITH (237)



SENDING

SERVICE INFO



the offering is made in the collection plates before and after the service, via QR code, or for details about regular giving contact the church office



toilets: access from centre of the main foyer
primary age children are welcome to join our Sunday School

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP, LORDS PRAYER & HYMN

Leader: God calls us again and again

All: And we're here to listen.

Leader: God lifts the fallen and welcomes the weary

All: We're here to rise in hope.

Leader: Jonah got a second chance. So did Nineveh

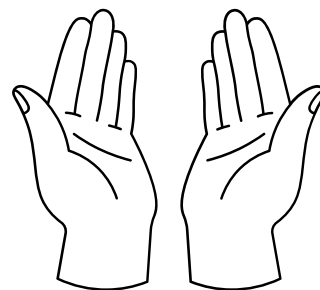
All: God's mercy is bigger than our mistakes.

Leader: Today, we dedicate the new chancel lift

All: A sign of God's welcome in this place.

Leader: Come then, lift your hearts, lift your voices

All: We will worship the God who lifts us all.



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

HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS (MP225)

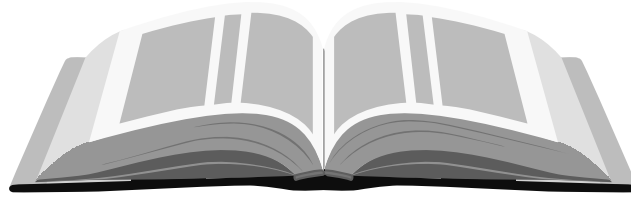
He's got the whole wide world in His hands,
He's got the whole wide world in His hands,
He's got the whole wide world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got everybody here, in His hands . . .

He's got the tiny little baby, in His hands . . .

He's got you and me, brother, in His hands . . .





Very impressive place, Nineveh. For those days a big city. A hundred and twenty thousand people lived there. And God was right. The people were wicked and cruel and they had forgotten him.

At first they all laughed at Jonah and were rather rude, but there was something about this cross little man and eventually Jonah was brought before the King.

The King told him to stop shouting and to tell his story quietly. Which Jonah did. The King listened in silence and realised that it was all true. He had ruled badly and the people had all gone to the bad. He had a long serious talk with his government and then issued a great proclamation. He said, 'Everyone is to fast; you are to pray to God for forgiveness; you are to dress in sackcloth and you are to stop the violence and evil ways.' Then the King himself dressed in sackcloth and began *his* fast.

Jonah watched all this without saying too much. He'd told his story and delivered the message. If this huge city had got themselves into this highly dangerous position it was their look-out. Mind you, in his heart of hearts Jonah didn't really believe that God would do it, but he said nothing.

In the course of a few days he saw a whole city change its ways. The gambling and the debauchery and the cruelty and the evil and the selfishness disappeared. The people walked in fear of the Lord, silent, fasting, praying. One day the King, who was now very pale and thin and wasn't a bad chap really, said to Jonah, 'Who knows,' he said, 'who knows, Jonah? Perhaps God may yet forgive us all. Perhaps He will lose his fierce anger and change his mind so that we don't all perish. Who knows?'

Jonah had, as we've seen, his own ideas as to how likely the all-merciful God was to wipe out a hundred and twenty thousand people.

'Ah,' he said, 'who knows?'

Now the time was nearly up. The people were hollow-cheeked and weary. Even the most hardened evildoers had mended their ways. There was no gossip, no rumours, no lies, no slander, no raised voices. Truth and honesty had come. People rediscovered simple values and they blamed only themselves and repented and prayed, from the heart, for forgiveness.

And of course God did forgive them.



A huge thank you to all who helped in any way with our Coffee Mornings.

Special thanks to Tricia Chillas, Sheila and Dorothy who surpassed themselves with big numbers coming from their fitness classes and their generous donations.

My thanks to all who attended, donated and baked.

The sum of £1244 was raised and will go towards our Fabric Fund.

Fiona McColl



Come and join prayer for our Church and the wider world every Sunday in the Old Vestry, 10.30-10.45



If you, or anyone you know, would benefit from a visit from our Pastoral Team, please speak to Marilyn or contact the church office.

***we are here for all
of life***

- BAPTISMS AND BLESSINGS
- CHURCH MEMBERSHIP
- WEDDINGS AND RENEWING VOWS
- FUNERAL PLANNING

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH



/BridgeOfAllanParishChurch



/bofapc



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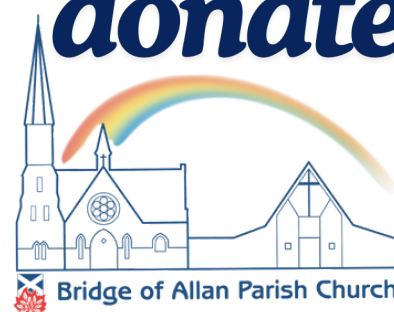


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