STRATH & SLEAT MINI-NEWSLETTER CHURCH OF SCOTLAND April 2020

serve our community in Jesus' name truth and grace." and enjoy God, proclaim Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, life, and influence our world through prayer, witness, strengthen one another in our spiritual "Our purpose is to honour **Mission Statement**

What a difference a day makes!

"Behold, I am making all things new!" Revelation 21.5

John ascribes these words to the Risen Jesus in the vision given to him while in exile on the Isle of Patmos. They express the freshness of possibility emanating from the One who has overcome all barriers and opened the door to life in all abundance. They echo the words of Isaiah in his own vision, which took place several hundred years earlier, likening the Lord's intentions for his people to a desert bursting into bloom. Both visions, before and after the event, give expression to the impact of Jesus' resurrection.

Imagine the sensations of Jesus' family and friends, waking up on the first Easter Monday. How different to their fear and grief of 24 hours earlier.

Many will feel as if we are living through a nightmare. For Christians anyway, Easter was an encouraging reminder that God can transform the bleakest of situations - and literally overnight! In the meantime, we are sustained by extraordinary stories of service and heroism and imagination and cooperation, which the present emergency is evoking. It begs the question: when this is all over, what sort of world, what sort of society, what sort of church are you looking forward to waking up to?

Your Minister and friend,

Rory MacLeod



Need prayer or someone to pray with you?Email Mary Fennell1995gideon@gmail.com

Need to talk? Questions about the Christian faith Contact the minister, who will find the right person to speak to you. Details are on the back page. Strath & Sleat Church: Isle of Skye is a Charity registered in Scotland No SC001285

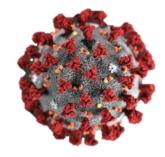
 Website
 www.sschurch.co.uk
 Notices
 lesleyinskye@yahoo.co.uk

CORONAVIRUS PROCEDURES

Church Provision

Spring 2020

Due to the Coronavirus, all planned group activities have been cancelled to prevent the spread of COVID-19. We are meeting through Zoom, putting up daily blogs on the website, and updating facebook regularly. We will try to keep people updated on each church through e-mail. If you currently do not get church e-mails,



please let us know so that we can add you to the list. E-mail <u>Lesleyinskye@yahoo.co.uk</u> to get added onto the Broadford/Kyleakin/Elgol lists, or <u>strathandsleat@gmail.com</u> for the Kilmore list.

If you are not on the internet, please let us know, and we will maintain contact through telephone. You can still join the Zoom LIVE BY RINGING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS JUST BEFORE THE START OF THE SERVICE – enter the ID number and password when prompted (and remember to only 'un-mute' your phone if you are asked to)

0131 460 1196 OR 0203 481 5237 OR 0203 481 5240 **11am Morning Worship:** Meeting ID: 173 461 111 Password: 458436 **3pm Gaelic service:** Meeting ID: 995 750 933 & Password: 601375 **6pm Fellowship:** Meeting ID: 660 693 462 & Password: 389583

What about my weekly offering?

Thanks to all who continue to or have started giving through standing order, and we ask that you **continue to do so**. If you previously donated by weekly envelope / open plate we now encourage each of you to consider setting up a Standing Order. Our outgoings will continue as before so it is imperative that church giving continues, if at all possible. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND at this time that a lot of people may be affected by the downturn in the tourist industry, so we ask that you **give what you can**. Please e-mail Margaret, if you are not able to set up a standing order, but would like to give.

The bank details you will need are Strath & Sleat Church of Scotland

Sort code: 80-05-83

Account number: 00930508



April 2020 PALM SUNDAY CHILDREN'S TALK



In John 8:12 Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life."

On Palm Sunday the children's talk was about why we call the day that Jesus died 'GOOD' Friday. Sin brought darkness into the world and meant we were separated from God. So we call the day we remember that Jesus died on the cross 'GOOD' because it's how Jesus brought light into the darkness. When Jesus died on the cross, he was taking the punishment that should have been for us, for our sin. So now, if we choose to say 'sorry' and choose to follow Jesus, we are forgiven.

To remind us of this, we made crosses where the only way the light can shine through the darkness is through the cross. Thank you to everyone who sent me a photo of the crosses of light that they'd made and put in their windows.

How lovely are the promises of Spring When life returns to animate each thing And man freed from his winter discontent Breathes in the air the coming summer's scent And thanks his Maker And thanks his Maker.

Each little flower - each little fragile head Springs in due season from primeval bed How can these tender blooms the hard earth pierce? Clasped in the ice cold hand of winter fierce Obeying their Maker? Obeying their Maker? A Poem by Helen MacRae

(composed February 1975)

ESURGENCE

List to the birdsong come again unbidd'n Where in harsh Winter have these songbirds hidd'n Such melodies - receptive ears enquire Are these the preludes of a heavenly choir Praising their Maker Praising their Maker.

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Times & Contacts

