

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 11.00 am

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Minister: Rev. Ian Taylor, A.C.I.B.S., B.D., Th.M., Dip. P.S.R.P.

Probationer: Mrs. Julie Hearty, B.D.

Musical Director: Mr. Alan A. Craig. B.Mus., P.G.C.E.

Welcome & Intimations

Introit

Call to Worship

**Hymn 229 We plough the fields and scatter**

1 We plough the fields, and scatter  
the good seed on the land,  
but it is fed and watered  
by God's almighty hand:  
he sends the snow in winter,  
the warmth to swell the grain,  
the breezes and the sunshine,  
and soft, refreshing rain.  
*All good gifts around us  
are sent from heaven above;  
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,  
for all his love.*

2 He only is the maker  
of all things near and far;  
he paints the wayside flower,  
he lights the evening star;  
the winds and waves obey him,  
by him the birds are fed;  
much more to us, his children,  
he gives our daily bread.  
*Chorus*

3 We thank thee then, O Father,  
for all things bright and good,  
the seed-time and the harvest,  
our life, our health, our food.  
Accept the gifts we offer  
for all your love imparts,  
with what we know you long for  
our humble, thankful hearts.

*Chorus*

Matthias Claudius (1740-1815) tr Jane Montgomery Campbell (1817-1878)

**Call to prayer**

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Reflection

**Hymn If I were a butterfly**

If I were a butterfly  
I'd thank you Lord for giving me wings  
If I were a robin in a tree  
I'd thank you Lord that I could sing  
If I were a fish in the sea  
I'd wiggle my tail and I'd giggle with glee  
But I just thank you Father for making me, me

**CHORUS**

For you gave me a heart and you gave me a smile  
You gave me Jesus and you made me your child  
And I just thank you Father for making me, me

If I were an elephant  
I'd thank you Lord by raising my trunk  
If I were a kangaroo  
You know I'd hop right up to you

If I were an octopus  
I'd thank you Lord for my fine looks  
But I just thank you Father for making me, me

Chorus

If I were a wiggly worm  
I'd thank you Lord that I could squirm  
If I were a fuzzy, wuzzy bear  
I'd thank you Lord for my fuzzy, wuzzy hair

If I were a crocodile  
I'd thank you Lord for my great smile  
But I just thank you Father for  
making me, me.

Chorus

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Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Reading - The Farmer who lost a horse

### Hymn 607 **The bright wind is blowing, the bright wind of heaven**

1. The bright wind is blowing, the bright wind of heaven,  
and where it is going to, no-one can say;  
but where it is passing our hearts are awaking  
to grope from the darkness and reach for the day.

2. The bright wind is blowing, the bright wind of heaven,  
and many old thoughts will be winnowed away;  
the husk that is blown is the chaff of our hating,  
the seed that is left is the hope for our day.

3. The bright wind is blowing, the bright wind of heaven,  
the love that it kindles will never betray;  
the fire that it fans is the warmth of our caring,  
So lean on the wind - it will show us the way.

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Reflection

Anthem



*"The Church of Scotland Guild is a movement within the Church of Scotland which invites and encourages both women and men to commit their lives to Jesus Christ and enables them to express their faith in worship, prayer and action."*

Act of Dedication

***"Whose we are and whom we serve."***

The Church was commissioned by its Lord to go into the entire world, and make disciples of all nations. The Church of Scotland Guild is part of the Church, and rejoices that it is called to share in the tasks of spreading the Gospel, and in particular, to encourage both women and men to commit their lives to Jesus Christ and enable them to express their faith in worship, prayer and action.

**OFFICE-BEARERS** (standing):

God has called you to serve his church in your work in the Guild. By your prayerful preparation, work and example, will you seek to unite the members of the Guild in the dedication of their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship and service?

*Will you?*                      **We will, God being our helper.**

May God grant you grace to be faithful in your service, enabling you, by his grace to continue to give worthy service at all times.

**MEMBERS** (standing):

As members of the Church of Scotland Guild, you are part of the world-wide family of the church of Jesus Christ. Do you promise to be loyal members of the Guild and to support the activities of this group?

*Do you?*                      **We do, God being our helper.**

May God keep you in His care, Christ be with you and save you, and the Holy Spirit guide you in the ways of truth and love always.

**CONGREGATION** (standing):

Members of the Church and Congregation, will you endeavour to maintain

here a fellowship of worship and service that our Officer-Bearers and Members will be encouraged and supported in their work for Christ? Will you pray for the Guild that they may grow in the knowledge and grace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ?

*Will you?*                      **We will, God being our helper.**

May God pour His Spirit upon you and keep you faithful to your promises.  
**All sit.**

The Offering (& Sung Doxology: Hymn 807)

Prayer of Intercession

**Our Father which art in heaven,**

**Hallowed be thy Name.**

**Thy Kingdom come.**

**Thy will be done in 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

**Hymn 154 O 'Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder**

1. O Lord my God, When I, in awesome wonder,  
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Chorus:

**Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.  
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!**

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.  
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur  
And see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.  
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

3. And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing;  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on a Cross, my burdens gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin.

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.  
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

4. When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.  
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration,  
And then proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!"

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.  
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

Staurt K.Hine (1899-1989)