

Sunday 12th July, 2026
The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Ian Taylor, A.C.I.B.S., B.D., Th.M., Dip. P.S.R.P.
Guest Preacher: Student Minister - Mr. Euan Gibb, B.A., P.G.D.E.
Musical Director: Mr. Alan A. Craig, M.B.E., B.Mus., P.G.C.E.

Welcome & Intimations

- Please ensure all mobile phones are switched off or in silent mode during the Service.
- Please place your offering in the Offering Plates as these are uplifted during the Service.
 - The Summer Sunday School meet in Room 2 this morning
 - Tea and Coffee will be available after Church today in the Cameron Hall.
- There will NOT be a Vestry Hour or a midweek Service on Wednesday 15th July, 2026.
- Tickets for the **SAMH concert with Euan Russell & friends** on **Saturday 22nd August, 2026 at 6.45-9.30pm** are now available priced £10/£6.

Introit

Call to Worship

Hymn 349 In our lives plant seeds of hope,

*In our lives plant seeds of hope,
In our homes plant seeds of love,
In your Church plant seeds of joy,
Tell the world about God's love.
Tell the world about God's love.*

1 Jesus said 'If you have faith
 small as a mustard seed,
In my name you'll do great things,
 you'll do great things indeed.
 Refrain

2 'If a seed falls to the ground,
 lies buried like the grain'
 Jesus said 'Until it dies
 it cannot grow again.'
 Refrain

3 Jesus told the story of
 the seed the sower sows,
 'Listen to my Father's words
 and then your faith will grow.'
 Refrain

4 'Some words fall among the thorns
 and some on stony ground;
 Some are carried off and lost
 but others find good ground.'
 Refrain

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Call to Prayer

Prayers of Approach and Confession

Children's Address

Hymn 804 You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,
and the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy and the trees of the field
shall clap, shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and you'll go out with joy.

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Genesis 25: 19-34

¹⁹ These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, ²⁰ and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. ²¹ Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. ²² The children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?'^[a] So she went to inquire of the Lord. ²³ And the Lord said to her,

'Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
one shall be stronger than the other,
the elder shall serve the younger.'

²⁴ When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵ The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. ²⁶ Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob.^[b] Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. ²⁷ When the boys grew up, Esau was a skilful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. ²⁸ Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob. ²⁹ Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. ³⁰ Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!' (Therefore he was called Edom.^[c]) ³¹ Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.' ³² Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?' ³³ Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.'^[d] So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Romans 8: 1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin,^[e] he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit^[f] set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Hymn 134 Bring many names,

- 1 Bring many names,
 beautiful and good,
celebrate, in parable and story,
 holiness in glory,
 living, loving God.
 Hail and Hosanna!
 bring many names!

- 2 Strong mother God,
 working night and day,
planning all the wonders of creation,
 setting each equation,
 gen-i-us at play:
 Hail and Hosanna,
 strong mother God!

- 3 Warm father God,
 hugging every child,
feeling all the strains of human living,
 caring and forgiving
 till we're reconciled:
 Hail and Hosanna,
 warm father God!

- 4 Old, aching God,
 grey with endless care,
calmly piercing evil's new disguises,
 glad of good surprises,
 wiser than despair:
 Hail and Hosanna,
 old, aching God!

- 5 Young, growing God,
 eager, on the move,
saying no to falsehood and unkindness,
 crying out for justice,
 giving all you have:
 Hail and Hosanna,
 young, growing God!

- 6 Great, living God,
 never fully known,
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,
 closer yet than breathing,
 everlasting home:
 Hail and Hosanna,
 great, living God!

St. Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. 2 Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. 6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 Let anyone with ears[a] listen!'

'Hear then the parable of the sower. 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.[a] 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. 23 But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

Sermon – Lifelong Service and God's purpose or plan subverting human expectations and traditions

The Offering (& Sung Doxology: Hymn 807)

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

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.

Hymn 519 Love divine, all loves excelling,

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.
- 2 Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy grace receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

3 Finish then thy new creation,
 Pure and spotless let us be;
 Let us see thy great salvation,
 Perfectly restored in thee:
 Changed from glory into glory,
 Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
 Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

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Benediction

Choral Amen