



Cupar Old Parish Church

a place where everyone matters

17 March 2021

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Kirk Session of our congregation, I'm happy to invite you to **return to gathered worship**. Because of the timing of the Scottish Government's permission to gather and the special services for Holy Week and Easter, our worship schedule will be altered for the first two weeks before returning to the pattern we had adopted last autumn. We will have a combination of in-person, live-streamed, and Zoomed worship services. Please also note that British Summer Time begins on 28 March. The complete details of the services are printed in this letter.

We will have a booking system in place for the in-person services on Good Friday and Easter, to ensure that we don't have to turn anyone away from any service. **Please contact our clerk, Jean Martin [01334 652 100] to book seats at the services you wish to attend.**

We will live-stream the eleven o'clock Sunday service each week beginning on Palm Sunday, 28 March. This will take the place of the recorded services that we've had during this lockdown. The service will be available at our YouTube channel for viewing anytime after that.

Throughout Holy Week, a daily **Walk with the Cross** video be released at our YouTube channel. A printed devotional aid will also be available.

There will be evening services via Zoom on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday which will include singing some of our favourite hymns. **If you would like to attend any of the Zoom services, please contact me** [details below] and I will send you the link. If you are not able to connect via internet, you may join the service via telephone. Please call me and I will provide the details. If you're not comfortable with the Zoom format, but would like to receive the sacrament, please call me and I will be happy to arrange a time in the next few weeks to share the sacrament with you.

Unfortunately, **Sunday Club is not yet permitted to resume**. The Sunday Club team, however, are working on an online Zoom experience, and we will contact the families when we have that organised. Children are **always** welcome at our in-person worship services. The creche is not available at this time.

Please be advised that **hygiene measures are still in place**:

- ~ Please enter through the main entrance of the Old Parish Centre and sanitise your hands at one of the dispensers.
- ~ Please confirm your contact details with the welcome team member.
- ~ If you've brought an offering, you may place it in the plate by the entrance to the hall, or at the plate near the exit.
- ~ Please follow the instructions of the welcome team member, who will guide you to your seat, which will ensure a two-metre distance from other worshippers. As much as we value our friendships, we must request that you refrain from standing about the hall before the service in conversation or moving about the sanctuary to greet one another.
- ~ We try to reserve places in the front row for those with mobility, hearing, or visual impairments, but otherwise, please follow the instructions of the welcome team member for your seating.
- ~ Singing is not permitted when we are together.
- ~ At the end of the service, please leave by way of the exit in the southwest corner of the hall, keeping two-metres' distance. Please sanitise your hands on the way out.
- ~ Please do not block the exit, but keep moving to allow others to leave the hall.

Yes, it's tiresome to have these same rules still in place. But when we adhere to the rules, we let one another know that we care enough to take the less comfortable path to ensure the comfort and well-being of others.

It has been a long and challenging year. We are not finished with the pandemic, but **we are moving in a good direction**. Easter is a time when life comes from death. In this difficult year, we affirm that the promise Jesus fulfilled long ago is fulfilled in our own lives when we rise from pain, sadness, and loss, and embrace the new life before us.

With warm regards,

Pastor Jeff Martin
jmartin@churchofscotland.org.uk

01334 656 181

Worship at and with Cupar Old Parish Church

“Palm Weekend” In-Person Services

Friday 26 March, 10:30am

Sunday 28 March, 11:00am and 4:00pm - BST begins!

The 11:00 service will be livestreamed on our YouTube channel, Monimail and Cupar Old.

Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday 1 April

Via Zoom at 7:00pm [with Holy Communion] —Zoom

Good Friday 2 April

In-person at 10:30am —Reservations

Via Zoom at 7:00pm —Zoom

Easter Sunday 4 April

In-person and live-streamed at 11:00am —Reservations

In-person at 4:00pm —Reservations

Via Zoom at 7:00pm —Zoom

Worship in Subsequent Weeks

Thursdays at 10:30am, beginning 8 April

Sundays at 11:00am and 4:00pm, beginning 11 April

Sunday Club is not yet permitted. A Zoom Sunday Club is being organised.

Reservations are requested for the Good Friday and Easter services. Please call Jean Martin [01334 652 100] to book your places.

Contact Jeff Martin [jmartin@churchofscotland.org.uk or 01334 656 181] for contact information to join the Zoom worship services. If you're joining by telephone, Jeff can send a hymn sheet beforehand.

Live-streamed services can be viewed at our YouTube channel, Monimail and Cupar Old at eleven o'clock each Sunday. A recording of the service is available thereafter for viewing at your convenience.

All in-person services take place in the Old Parish Centre. Please reserve the car park for those who need to park close to the entrance.