



## ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

### FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

*Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2023*

#### **Sunday Sermon: Luke 19: 28 - 44**

Yesterday, being Palm Sunday, the sermon was based on that significant incident in the Gospels story and in the Christian calendar.

Under the title **The Promised King** it was pointed out that, in entering Jerusalem triumphantly on this occasion Jesus was:

**Fulfilling a prophetic proclamation.** The expectation of a Messiah was central to the Jews. The Old Testament books, especially the Prophets, are full of promises of a coming Saviour. Although different from what they had come to expect, Jesus made it clear that His coming was a deliberate statement concerning Himself as the One whom God had sent into the world. It was endorsed by His quoting Zechariah's promise.

It also: **evoked contrasting emotions.** While some of those in the crowd undoubtedly had personal experience of Jesus' ministrations to them in their illnesses and situations, others were angered that Jesus should make such a claim in contrast to the artificial – and false – preconception they had developed over the centuries.

In weeping over their rejection, He: **pronounced a tragic indictment** saddened that they had not recognised Him for Who He was and what purpose He had come to fulfil.

It is a salutary warning for us lest we fail to recognise Jesus, preached so faithfully each Sunday, as our personal Saviour, Lord and King.

#### **This week's activities**

Being Holy Week, some of our normal activities will be suspended. Toddlers and #One2Seven will not meet during the school holiday. The Tuesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study will not meet because of Holy Week services. Nor will there be morning Zoom prayer during this and next two weeks.

#### **Margaret Craig**

Congratulations to faithful stalwart, Margaret Craig who celebrates her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday this Friday. Diligent and forthright, she sets a great example of faithful commitment and practical concern. Well done, Margaret. God bless you.

We will be able to mark the occasion more publicly at our Church Family Lunch after the service this Sunday morning.

#### **Holy Week services**

It will be our privilege at Allander to host the Holy Week services this year. The meetings will be held each night at 7 30 pm with Communion celebrated on Thursday evening. Refreshments will be provided after the service each evening allowing for an opportunity to share fellowship with those from neighbouring churches. Uncertainties due to Covid and other circumstances over recent years have meant the demise of united gatherings such as the monthly Prayer Breakfast which help to generate unity on gospel witness and mutual support. Hopefully, this week, as we attend and

encourage others to do so, will help restore genuine evangelical fellowship.

The speaker each evening will be Dr Sandy Roger who will take the theme of: **The Cross through Peter's Eyes**

The topics for each evening are:

- Christ our Perfect Example
- Christ our Penal Substitute
- Christ our Righteous Representative
- Christ our Liberating Redeemer
- Christ our Blood Sacrifice.

It is envisaged that this will be a very helpful series of meetings drawing believers from both Milngavie and surrounding churches as well as being an occasion to present the Easter message clearly.

### **Easter Sunday**

Following the morning service on Sunday a Church Family Lunch has been arranged in the Back Hall to mark Easter Sunday as an important event in the Christian calendar.

### **Christian Institute**

The Christian Institute's Annual Week of Prayer will be held from, 16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

### **Mission of the Month**

This month we will be supporting The Faith Mission as our Mission of the Month. The FM represents a wide ministry

with personal evangelism, rallies, schools and camp work, mainly in rural areas right across the UK. Gordon and Janice lead the Scottish region where the current issues are: the procuring of accommodation for an Inverness / Highland base and the upgrading of the site at Newton Stewart for camps and conferences. Rallies and Rejuvenate continue at both Allander and in Edinburgh on the first weekend of each month.

£530 was collected for Platform 67 in March

### **People and Prayer**

Several folks have had falls over this past week, including: George Cowan, Betty Mackay and Agnes Wilson. Jean Malkin goes into hospital for hip surgery on Friday. Pray for them and others.

### **Acts Bible Study Booklets**

With a natural break for the weekly Bible Studies during Holy Week it seems a convenient point to issue Part 2 of the written summaries of the weekly Bible Studies in booklet form. Part 1 covered chapters 1 – 12. This part will deal with the first two journeys up to the end of chapter 18 and departure from Corinth. Copies of Part 1 are already available. It is hoped to have Part 2 available for this week.

### **Finally,**

"In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war..... David remained in Jerusalem." (2 Sam. 11:1) Spring time is a season of freshness and newness that offers hope and speaks of new life. But it has also been associated historically with warfare and unrest. In the times of King David, springtime was when Kings sought to extend their borders or at the very least defend their own borders from marauders. One Spring time David chose not to go to war and subsequently he ended up getting involved with Bathsheba and all the sin that flowed from that desire. All his disaster came from a decision of neglect. As signs of new life surround us, may the Lord remind us how vulnerable new life can be and how vigilant we must be when it comes to the welfare of our souls.

John Macleod