



## ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

### FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

29<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

#### Sunday Sermon: Psalm 29

Beginning a series leading up to Advent, John's message was based on Psalm 29 with the title *The Christmas Storm*.

The storm in question is sandwiched between the opening acknowledgement of the glory of God and the closing assurance of His peace. It describes the powerful devastation caused when God speaks into his creation. The whole provides us with some helpful insights as we consider its relevance in the Christmas season.

The first is the realisation that heaven comes down. That has always been the Biblical pattern: God coming down. Nowhere is that divine action more manifest than at that first Christmas.

It also highlights the power of praise as the heavenly host "*ascribe to the Lord!*" That first nativity was marked by praise.

But, the coming reveals the impact of the storm as the voice of God has an effect on all creation – and on his people. Jesus himself spoke of the disturbance caused by his mission as people's response to his speaking differed between believing acceptance and blank refusal, with all its implications.

Yet, to those who believe there is a celebration of his voice and an appreciation that God speaks. Peter responded to Jesus saying "You have the words of eternal life". That voice speaks peace and gives the believer strength rejoicing that at Christmas the "*Word became flesh and dwelt among us*" and says, "*My peace I give unto you*".

#### Services on Zoom

Because of the difficulty in using Zoom and the Loop service for the hearing impaired at the same time, Sunday services will not now be available on line but can be followed on the Internet through the church website as normal.

The Tuesday Prayer meeting will still be available on Zoom for those who find coming out at night difficult but, as Elders, we would stress the importance of being in one place for this most important meeting in the life of the church.

#### Platform 67

We look forward to welcoming Martin Dudgeon from Platform 67 at our prayer meeting this Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> November at 8pm. Plan to come for what is always a fascinating evening with Martin as we hear how they are reaching people in other countries of the world..

#### Church Cafe.

Recently we had 30 people at the morning café; the highest number since we started which was very encouraging. The cafe provides a place for: people in the community to come and meet church members; for church members to bring family and friends; and where we as church members have time to talk and share with one another. If you have not been yet why not visit soon?

#### Ladies Meeting

The Ladies will meet again this Thursday at 2 pm. The speaker will be Fraser Allan. All ladies are welcome for a nice time together with tea, talk and singing.

### **Church Business Meeting**

The Church's General Business Meeting is scheduled for this Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7 30pm, DV.

### **Sunday Treat**

This Sunday morning, 5<sup>th</sup> December please enjoy with your tea or coffee a piece of cake which has been given by someone in the fellowship as a thank-you for your prayers for their family. These have been much appreciated as God has sustained them and answered our prayers.

### **Milngavie Churches Advent Services**

The United Advent Services will continue this week with the service at Allander on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> December, at 7 pm. It will be conducted by Ramsay Shields on the passage: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 2. The remaining two services are:

Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>            St Luke's: Fergus Buchanan  
Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>            St Paul's: Douglas Campbell

### **People and Prayer:**

It is some time since we made mention of the many at Allander who are facing difficult challenges in these days.

Recently, Jim Gourley and Mary Linton underwent hospital investigations, Jim and Allyson Flett still have ongoing concerns over son Alastair's recovery, him being so far away in Japan. Similarly, Ann and Howel's daughter undergoing radio

therapy in France. Joyce Kyle, Margaret Cowan and Jack Harvey are in Care Homes while George and Christine have the related ongoing concerns. Mary Atwell still very confused and Ibbie carrying a major load of care for her at this time. We think of those with ongoing conditions that bring constant pain: Morag and David Wilson, Ian Baird, Janice Allan, the Carmichael family, and Donald Crosbie. Good to see – and hear – Esther back at the piano. There are others in the fellowship who have not yet been able to attend in person.

### **FM Prayer Meeting**

We were encouraged with the visit of FM Bible College students recently. There is a local monthly prayer meeting held on Zoom for the work of FM. The next one is on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 7 30 pm.

Access details: ID: 755 5582 4805;  
Passcode: 8YfpCv

### **Mission of the Month**

December's Mission of the Month will be The Space in Govanhill. Margo Upritchard from there will be with us on Sunday and will speak about the project



### **Finally,**

On my recent trip away, I had the awful experience of temporarily losing my phone. Thankfully it was on a settee in the hotel reception and one of my friends had picked it up, but for 10-15 minutes I endured the panic of believing it was gone. It was a sore reminder of how we have become so dependent on phones for a multiplicity of uses, but it also reminded me of an illustration from church, the previous Sunday. The preacher remarked that so many people go into a panic if they think their phone is lost or not working, even for a brief moment. The thought of lost connection with the internet or social media can create panic, but the very same people can go through much of their life never communicating with God. However great the inconvenience, we can recover from a lost phone, but we can never recover from the damage caused if we fail to call upon the name of the Lord.

John Macleod