



Inverurie West Parish Church

Order of Service: Sunday 12 January 2025

Thank you for joining our Sunday worship with Inverurie West Parish Church. Whether you are joining us online or in-person; as a newcomer, occasional visitor, or regular, we are delighted to have you with us. This morning we begin a series of services travelling through the gospel of Luke.

Welcome and Call To Worship

HERE IN THIS PLACE, NEW LIGHT IS STREAMING (CH4 623)

Opening Prayer (Including the Lord's prayer)

Our heavenly father
May your holy name be honoured
May your kingdom come
May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today what we really need
Forgive us the wrong we do
as we forgive those who wrong us

Lead us away from temptation
Keep us safe from evil

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours forever
Amen

Intro to the Word

SPIRIT OF GOD COME DWELL WITHIN ME (CH4 722)

Reading: Luke 3: 1-22

Read by Margaret Harrow

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Tracoonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—
2 during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. 3 He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 4 As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.

5

Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.

6

And all people will see God’s salvation.”

7 John said to the crowds coming out to be baptised by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8 Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. 9 The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

10 “What should we do then?” the crowd asked.

11 John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.”

12 Even tax collectors came to be baptised. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?”

13 “Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them.

14 Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?”

He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely—be content with your pay.”

15 The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. 16 John answered them all, “I baptise you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” 18 And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

19 But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of his marriage to Herodias, his brother’s wife, and all the other evil things he had done, 20 Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison.

21 When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened 22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

Reflection

COURAGE, BROTHER DO NOT STUMBLE (CH4 513)

Prayer

LOVE DIVINE (CH4 519)

Grace

Blessing

News

The Guild’s first meeting of 2025 is tomorrow, Monday 13 January when Larry Young will be the quizmaster for the afternoon. There will also be a ‘Bring & Buy’ table.

Foodbank - We don’t have a current wishlist from the Foodbank but regularly needed items include: Tinned spaghetti/macaroni, Tinned meat (hot or cold), Tinned vegetables, Tea bags (40s/80s, please), Tinned

tomatoes, Small jars of coffee, Pot noodles/Mug Shots, UHT Milk (semi-skimmed or full cream)

Retiring Offering - Our Christmas Day retiring offering was in aid of Shelter Scotland. If you weren't here on Christmas Day but would like the opportunity to support the work of this important charity there will be another chance to donate on the 21st January.

Fundraising and Stewardship - Registering with the EasyFundraising website is an easy way to use your online shopping to raise a little money for the church. The site is partnered with over 4000 retailers including big names like Amazon, Tesco and Argos. You can begin by following this link <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/inverurie-west-parish-church>

Practical help - if you, or anyone you know need shopping, errands etc done, we have lots of volunteers keen to help. For assistance ring Joyce Petrie on 01467 620932 or email help@inveruriwestchurch.org

For prayer requests, joys and concerns, or content which you would like shared on Sunday, please email Rhona on r.cathcart@inveruriwestchurch.org by Saturday night, or you can text her on her mobile.

Donations to the work of the church (either nationally or to an individual congregation like ours) can be made online at <https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/donate/11>