



Inverurie West Parish Church

Order of Service: Sunday 19 November 2023

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. Today we look at the depth of God's parental love for his chosen people, Israel, as expressed by the prophet Hosea in the midst of great upheaval, and ask ourselves how we too can express love and compassion in times of stress and conflict.

Call To Worship

We come before our faithful God
Whose mercy covers us as a parent shelters their child
We come to return and share that love

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US (CH4 359)

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

JESUS LOVES ME, THIS I KNOW (CH4 563)

Reading: Hosea 11: 1-9

Read by Joyce Petrie

“When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son.

2

But the more they were called,
the more they went away from me.

They sacrificed to the Baals
and they burned incense to images.

3

It was I who taught Ephraim to walk,
taking them by the arms;
but they did not realise
it was I who healed them.

4

I led them with cords of human kindness,
with ties of love.

To them I was like one who lifts
a little child to the cheek,
and I bent down to feed them.

5

“Will they not return to Egypt
and will not Assyria rule over them
because they refuse to repent?

6

A sword will flash in their cities;
it will devour their false prophets
and put an end to their plans.

7

My people are determined to turn from me.
Even though they call me God Most High,
I will by no means exalt them.

8

“How can I give you up, Ephraim?
How can I hand you over, Israel?
How can I treat you like Admah?
How can I make you like Zeboyim?
My heart is changed within me;
all my compassion is aroused.

9

I will not carry out my fierce anger,
nor will I devastate Ephraim again.
For I am God, and not a man—
the Holy One among you.
I will not come against their cities.

Reflection -

LOVE IS THE TOUCH OF INTANGIBLE JOY (VIDEO)

Prayer

News

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING (CH4 519)

Grace

Blessing

News

Parking access to church next week - next Sunday 26th is lights on Sunday in Inverurie and the town will be very busy, including stalls set up this year on our portion of the West High Street. Access will be made available to our parking lot (from the Virgin Bank/Constitution Street direction of West High Street) for drop offs/collections and limited

parking during the service, however if possible, parking elsewhere is recommended.

Climate friendly Christmas - The Climate Matters team will be running an informal drop-in event in the afternoon from 2-4 during Lights on Sunday (next week, 26th), for interested passersby. There will be a craft for the kids, a Nescan information stall, tea, biscuits and some Syrian treats, recycled jewellery made by local Syrian ladies for sale, along with some of Fred Barber's woodwork. Please feel free to join us.

Big Sing - The West Church is hosting the Inverurie BID Big Sing this year on Saturday Dec 2nd. It will be running from 11-2 and you can drop in to sing a selection of Christmas carols and other Christmas songs at any time.

Ecumenical prayer service - Anyone interested is warmly invited to attend a short service of prayer for the persecuted church around the world. It will be in the rooms in the hall at the Church of the Immaculate Conception on Thursday 23rd November at 7.30pm. A cup of tea will be available afterwards.

Bible Study - our Advent Zoom bible study will start on Wednesday Nov 29th evening at 7.30 pm, and will run for four weeks. You don't need any background or bible expertise to be part of the group which is informal and has amazing discussions.

Foodbank appeal - The local foodbank is appealing for helpers for the Tesco collection on Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd. They've got Thursday covered, but if anyone could spare a couple of hours on either Friday or Saturday to do a stint, that would be great. Contact for this is be Erica Magaz, emagaz@anfb.org.uk or 07721 380897

Foodbank Reverse Advent Calendar - there's an extra opportunity to support the food bank this year by taking part in their 'reverse advent calendar' challenge.

The idea is that the listed items are gathered in during November (or any 30 day period leading up to 25th December) and handed in to the Food Bank to help with providing emergency food parcels over the festive period. You may think the items requested are not particularly Christmassy but a lot of specifically Christmas items (e g mince pies and seasonal chocolates) are very short-dated and therefore not very helpful for the food bank. A list of the reverse advent calendar items is available on the Inverurie Food Bank Centre Facebook page, if you'd like to take part.

Meanwhile, the usual donations are also very much appreciated. This month's wish list includes: Biscuits, tinned tomatoes, tinned meat, tinned fish, jam/marmalade, jars of sauce, tinned Fruit, tinned vegetables, tinned custard)

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/>