

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD
Laetare Sunday
(Rejoice! Sunday)

Voluntary: Prelude & Fugue in G

Mendelssohn

Introit: This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin

C S Lang

Call to Worship

“Satisfy us in the morning with Thy steadfast love,
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Psalm 90:14

Hymn: 482 (vs 1, 3, 6) Come, let us to the Lord our God

Kilmarnock

1. Come, let us to the Lord our God
With contrite hearts return;
Our God is gracious, nor will leave
The desolate to mourn.
3. Long has the night of sorrow reigned,
The dawn shall bring us light:
God shall appear, and we shall rise
With gladness in His sight.
6. So shall His presence bless our souls,
And shed a joyful light;
That hallowed morn shall chase away
The sorrows of the night.

Sacrament of Baptism and Admission of New Communicants

Sung Blessing (Hymn: 796)

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face to shine upon you,
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.
Amen

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father,
Which art in heaven
Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory,
Forever.
Amen**

We respond to God's Word with our Offering
(Children invited to help with the Offering)



To use the QR code please open the camera app on your smart phone, point it at the QR code, and follow instructions on your screen.

Offertory: Pastorale

Sydney Watson

Prayer

Children leave for Crèche and Sunday Club

Hymn: 483 Father of heaven, Whose love profound

Rivaulx

1. Father of heaven, Whose love profound
A ransom for our souls has found,
Before Your throne we sinners bend:
To us Your pardoning love extend.
2. Almighty Son, incarnate Word,
Our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord,
Before Your throne we sinners bend:
To us Your saving grace extend.
3. Eternal Spirit, by Whose breath
Our souls are raised from sin and death,
Before Your throne we sinners bend:
To us Your quickening power extend.

4. Jehovah – Father, Spirit, Son –
Mysterious Godhead, Three in One,
Before Your throne we sinners bend:
Grace, pardon, life to us extend.

We bring to God our Prayers of Confession

We hear the Word of God

New Testament: **Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**
 (Read by Morag Shankland)

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear Him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes murmured, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

³ So He told them this parable:

⁴ And He said, “There was a man who had two sons; ¹² and the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.’ And he divided his living between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. ¹⁵ So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶ And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.”’ ²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; ²³ and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; ²⁴ for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to make merry.

²⁵ “Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come,

and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.’²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him,²⁹ but he answered his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends.’³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!’³¹ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.’³² It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.”
Amen

Anthem: Flocks in pastures green abiding J S Bach, arr. Stanley Roper

Flocks in pastures green abiding,
Safely with their Shepherd rest.
Cool’d by waters gently gliding,
Flocks in pastures green abiding,
Safely with their Shepherd rest.
With the food of life He feeds them,
To the fold he gently leads them,
There to dwell for ever blest.

(Translated from Cantata no. 208 by Phyllis James)

Intimations

Hymn: 255 Father, hear the prayer we offer

Gott Will’s Machen

1. Father, hear the prayer we offer:
Not for ease that prayer shall be,
But for strength that we may ever
Live our lives courageously.
2. Not for ever in green pastures
Do we ask our way to be;
But the steep and rugged pathway
May we tread rejoicingly.
3. Not for ever by still waters
Should we idly rest and stay;
But would smite the living fountains
From the rocks along our way.

4. Be our strength in hours of weakness,
In our wanderings be our guide;
Through endeavour, failure, danger,
Father, be Thou at our side.

Sermon **Prodigal**

***We bring to God our prayers
of Thanksgiving and Intercession***

Hymn: 182 Now thank we all our God
(Words from CH3 368)

Nun Danket

(Text omitted due to copyright laws)

Benediction and Choral Amen

Voluntary: Choral Amen

Thomas Collinson