

St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall

www.stmagnuscathedral.org

Scottish Charity SCO 05322/CCL No 119086

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Welcome to St Magnus Cathedral this morning. It was founded in 1137 by St Rognvald, in honour of Magnus, his uncle. The Cathedral belongs to the people of Orkney and its doors are open to all. If you are a visitor, we hope this order of service will help you feel part of our worship together.

Sunday 4th November
Morning Service - 11.15am

*If you are able, please stand at parts marked **

The congregation is invited to say the words in bold print.

Gathering

Welcome to Worship

Gathering Music:

Lighting of the Christ candle and a time of Silence

All; As we kindle this symbol of light – our Christ Candle – let us think for a moment about why we've come here today, and what it is we hope this hour of worship might bring.

[You may wish to use these words to help focus]

God is with me, but more, God is within me.

Let me dwell for a moment on God's life-giving presence in my body, in my mind, in my heart, as I sit here, right now.

* HYMN 477 Lo, he comes with clouds descending

* Opening Responses

L: We honour all that went before.

All: In this moment we affirm and release the past.

L: We linger in the present moments,

All: Combining each new life which blesses with lives lost which have made us richer.

L: We anticipate all that is to come,

All: That is life which has been made more glorious by loved ones lost.

Gathering Prayer

Exploring

Bible Reading:

L: May we open ourselves to the seeds of wisdom that lie dormant in this reading.

All And may our minds be fertile soil in which they may grow strong and true

Hebrews 11; 1, 12-15

Faith is the capacity to put all your eggs in the one basket, when even the existence of the basket must be taken on trust and hope. It was the ability to take decisive action based on faith alone that made our forebears such memorable heroes. Abraham and Sarah believed that God could be trusted to keep promises. As a result, this one shrivelled old couple became the parents of a line of descendants that is now as uncountable as the stars in the sky and the grains of sand on the beach. All those we remember as the early heroes of faith went to their graves

without having seen the promises fulfilled, but still trusting in God. They were glad to have just caught a glimpse of what was coming, and that vision was enough to sustain them. They freely admitted that they were on the earth as outsiders and guests. This attitude made it clear that they were still expecting to eventually find their true home. If they had regarded themselves as truly belonging to the places they had come from, there was nothing to stop them from going back. It is clear that the reason they didn't was that their hearts were set on a better country — a piece of heaven itself.

L. For the word of God in scripture, For the word of God among us. For the word of God within us.

All; We give thanks

* HYMN 577 Christ be beside me

SERMON

Uplifting of the Offering

Affirming

Prayers of Dedication

Candle of Remembrance and Hope

[All sing] Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, he rescues me from death.
[The candle of Remembrance and Hope is lit.]

[All sing] Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, he leads me into life.

Celebrating

The Invitation to Communion

St Magnus Cathedral is an open community and all are invited to Christ's table.

*Wherever you are on your faith's journey,
wherever you have come from and wherever you are going to,
whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe,
you are welcome to participate in the communion.
This sacred meal is for all people.*

* HYMN 736 Give thanks for life, the measure of our days

* Sharing the Peace

L . Let us take a moment to celebrate each other.

The peace of God is here... to stay.

All. **Thanks be to God.**

The Thanksgiving.

The Story of the Meal

The Bread and the Wine

L; The Spirit of God is here, within, between and beyond us. With bread and cup, we honour a tradition grounded in the life of Jesus; As Jesus gathered with those closest to him, we, too, renew our unity with one another and our commitment to live lives marked by love, inclusion, hospitality and grace.

All: We renew our communion with the earth and our interwovenness with the broken ones of the world.

L: So come, taste this bread and drink of this cup, gifts of the earth, work of human hands. Our spirit is touched and healed by shared humanity.

All: We take bread, symbol of humanity, symbol of life. We take wine, symbol of oneness, symbol of life.

In celebration of all spiritual paths, all are welcome to share in this symbolic meal. Draw near and receive bread and cup as a sign of the one life that we share.

The Sharing of Communion

The elders bring the bread and wine to the people who share it together by passing to one another.

The Closing Prayer.

* HYMN 530 One more step along the world I go

*Sending out

L; May the love which overcomes all differences,

All; which heals all wounds, which puts to flight all fears,

L; which reconciles all who are separated,

All; be in us and among us

* Benediction

* Choral Amen

Please remain seated until choir and clergy have processed out