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**Highland Perthshire Linked Charge**

**Readings and Services Sunday 28th April 2024**

Rector: The Reverend Canon Liz Baker

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**Sunday 28th April – Easter 5**

**Holy Trinity 9.30 a.m.** Holy Communion

**Kilmaveonaig 11.15 a.m.** Matins

**St Andrew’s 11.15 a. m.** Holy Communion

**All Saints 9.30 a.m.** no service

**Collect for Easter 5**

**O God, who alone can bring harmony to the minds of your faithful people: give us grace to love the things you command, and to desire the things that you promise; that, amid the uncertain changes of this world, our hearts may be firmly fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen**

**Readings**

**Acts 8: 26-40**

**Psalm 22: 24-30**

**1 John 4: 7-21**

**John 15: 1-8**

**Acts 8: 26-40**

### Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

**26**Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, ‘Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.’ (This is a wilderness road.) **27**So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship **28**and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. **29**Then the Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go over to this chariot and join it.’ **30**So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’ **31**He replied, ‘How can I, unless someone guides me?’ And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. **32**Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

‘Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
    and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
        so he does not open his mouth.  
**33**In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
    Who can describe his generation?  
        For his life is taken away from the earth.’

**34**The eunuch asked Philip, ‘About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?’ **35**Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. **36**As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, ‘Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?’ **38**He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. **39**When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. **40**But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**Psalm 22: 24-30**

23 O praise the Lord 'ye that' fear him : magnify him all ye of the seed of Jacob, and fear him' all ye' seed of ' Israel;

24 For he hath not despised nor abhorred the low e'state of the’ poor : he hath not hid his face from him, but when he called ' unto ' him he' heard him.

25 My praise is of thee in the great' congregation : my vows will I perform in the ' sight of ' them that' fear him.

26 The poor shall' eat and be ' satisfied : they that seek after the Lord shall praise him, your ' heart shall' live for ' ever.

27 All the ends of the world shall remember themselves, and be turned 'unto the' Lord : and all the kindreds of the' nations shall ' worship be'fore him.

28 For the kingdom ' is the ' Lord's : and he is the ' Governor a'mong the' people.

29 All such as be ' fat upon ' earth : have ' eaten ' and ' worshipped.

30 All they that go down into the dust shall' kneel be'fore him : and no man hath ' quickened his ' own ' soul.

**1 John 4: 7-21**

### God Is Love

**7**Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. **8**Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. **9**God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. **10**In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. **11**Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. **12**No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

**13**By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. **14**And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. **15**God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. **16**So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. **17**Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. **18**There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. **19**We love because he first loved us. **20**Those who say, ‘I love God’, and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. **21**The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

**John 15: 1-8**

‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. **2**He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. **3**You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. **4**Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. **5**I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. **6**Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. **7**If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8**My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.