



The Church of Scotland  
Presbytery of Edinburgh

# Presbytery Meeting 8 September 2020

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## **CELEBRATION**

Opening Devotions  
Honouring our Own: Tributes, Welcome  
Admission to Presbytery  
Approval of Minutes  
Approve the Order of Business

## **CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS – ORDER OF THE DAY 7.30PM**

Cramond – Demission Very Rev Dr Russell Barr

## **LOCAL MISSION IN CONTEXT**

Superintendence and Local Church Review  
Ministries Committee

## **BUSINESS MATTERS**

Business Committee  
Report of the Clerk  
Planning Strategy Team  
Finance Committee  
Property Committee  
Administrative items from the Clerk

## **Adjournment to meet**

- for ordinary business until 3 November 2020 on-line at 7pm.

## Worship

The Lord is the vine:

***we are the branches.***

Dwelling in him:

***we bear much fruit.***

Apart from him:

***we can do nothing.***

Heeding his commands:

***we dwell in his love.***

### Sentence

How good and pleasant it is,

***when God's people live together in unity!***

### Prayer

Creator God, the architect of the Universe; out of chaos you fashioned order

And out of the destruction of stars and galaxies, you form new worlds.

We honour you, for all things are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Redeeming Son, the pioneer of fulfilled humanity,

You reveal the divine nature to be filled with tender love and compassion.

We honour you for showing us the way to live lives of meaning and purpose.

Energising Spirit, source of life and love, laughter and tears,

You are the life-blood that courses through our veins.

Yours is the lens through which we catch glimpses of glory,

We honour you for your brooding energy, inhabiting all things.

### Romans 12: 6 – 18

#### Alan Dale's "New World" Translation

Each of us has different gifts; God has seen to that. We must use them. For example: some of us are able to understand God's Way more clearly than others; some of us deal with business better; some of us are teachers; some of us are speakers. Let us use our different gifts with God's help. And so with everything we do. If we give, let us be generous givers; if we are leaders, let us be energetic leaders; if we are helping others, let us be cheerful helpers.

Love must be sincere and straight forward. Have nothing to do with evil of any kind. Give your heart to everything that is good. Be a real family, warm – hearted in your care for one another, thinking better of others than of yourselves.

When keenness is called for, let's have no laziness; on fire with the spirit of Jesus, give yourselves to his service.

Look forward to God's new world with gladness.

In hard times stand your ground and never forget to pray.

Take your part in helping others when they are in want; make it your aim to keep the doors of your home open to those who need it.

Remember the words of Jesus: "Bless those who treat you badly; bless them – don't curse them". Share other people's happiness and other people's sadness. Learn to respect everybody.

Don't be proud. Mix with ordinary people.

Don't talk as if you knew all the answers.

Don't injure anybody just because he has injured you; do the right thing that all people, in their hearts, know is right.

And, as far as you can, be friends with everybody.

## **Reflection**

### **Prayer**

Lord of Creation, source of life, we honour you.

As pilgrims together, we long for your companionship along the way.

The Bible teaches us that you have written your law in our inward parts and placed it in our hearts. That draws us to search for you and offer our worship and reminds us that each one of us is fearfully and wonderfully made, conceived in your mind before we were knit together in the womb and filled with a variety of gifts to use in the building of your peaceable kingdom.

Come to us now, Lord. Walk with us and nourish us so that we might make journeys for you, to embrace the new, let go of things that hold us back and use our passion and imagination in your service. Help us to build the peaceful city that is your will for the human community. Search us now, O God and know our hearts. Help us to explore the storehouses of our memories, filled as they are with past hurts, sadness, regret and pressing guilt. Guide us now, into the future you have in store for us and for you Church, which is your mystical, risen body.

Make plain a way for our future together as we journey through this time of deep uncertainty and challenge, and set us free from all that weighs us down or holds us back.

***All: May we become more fully present to ourselves, from whom we often hide; more fully present to each other, so that we might work together in the service of a better world; and more fully present to our city that longs for spiritual renewal.***

Leader: Lord, have mercy,

**All: Christ, have mercy,**

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

Hear the Good news of Jesus Christ, who welcomes you home with outstretched arms:

"Your sins are forgiven, I give you my peace"

### **Blessing**

May the light of your presence and the warmth of your Son shed light on dark places, bring new growth to barren places and refreshment to parched spirits, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.