

St John the Evangelist

Scottish Episcopal Church, Jedburgh A community of welcome in the Borders

13th October 2024 Pentecost 21

10.00 EUCHARIST

Celebrant: Revd. Duncan McCosh

Hymn 407 Lord, thy word abideth

PREPARATION

(page 1, blue service book)

Collect

O Lord, since without you we cannot please you: let the work of your mercy in all things guide our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

(page 4, blue service book)

Reading: Hebrews 4:12 – 16 (p. 235, pew Bible)

Psalm 90 We shall rejoice and be glad all the days of

our life

Hymn Take my life, and let it be

1 Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

- 2 Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King; take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.
- 4 Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose.
- 5 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Frances Ridley Havergal (1874)

Gospel: Mark 10:17 – 31

Sermon, Creed, Intercessions, Peace

Hymn 420 O Jesus, I have promised

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

(page 7, blue service book)

At Communion: there is hand gel on the way to the altar rail for those who wish to handle the chalice themselves.

Please do not intinct (dip your wafer in the wine).

Prayer after We use prayer (b) on page 30:

Communion "Father of all, we give you thanks ...

Hymn 296 Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour

Blessing and Dismissal

We pray especially today for Grace Lancaster and Linda Grant

Dear Friends and people of God,

The man in today's gospel story has done all the right things. He has been obedient and faithful. He has kept all the commandments since he was a child. He has got power, position, prestige, possessions and wealth. And yet, he knows something is missing. So he asks Jesus, 'What must I do to inherit eternal life?'

He wants to know what he must do, as if this 'life' is something to be acquired, possessed, and gained by expenditure and transaction. He is seeking by the only means he knows. And Jesus says to this very rich man who has many possessions, 'You lack one thing.'

I imagine the man saying to himself, 'One thing? One thing? What's the one thing I don't have?' I imagine him taking a mental inventory of his life, accomplishments, and possessions trying to figure out what one thing he still lacks. I imagine him picturing in his mind every item he owns, recalling everything he has done, and then wondering what he should do or get next.

But Jesus is talking about 'one thing' not 'one more thing'.

The Bible talks about the 'one thing' again and again: The psalmist sings, 'One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple' - being connected to something beyond ourselves, trusting in finding meaning in God's presence in our lives. Jesus tells Martha who was worried and distracted by many things, 'There is need of only one thing' -

learning and paying attention to what really matters, being present and showing up to life, and becoming whole. In his letter to the Philippians Paul writes, 'This one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead' - staying open to the future and listening for God's call on our lives.

What would offer you more meaning in your life today? In what ways might you make a difference in the life of another, not so much by what you do but by who you are? What would you need to let go of in order to become more fully and authentically yourself?

'You lack one thing' is not a criticism. It is not a judgment. It is not a deficiency. It is a door opening to new life. It is an invitation to follow Jesus more closely. It is an opportunity set before us by our God with whom and for whom nothing is impossible.

With all my love and prayers: Andi

Priest-in-Charge

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Toilets are available next door in St. John's Old School at the end of the downstairs corridor.

Our welcomers have the key to the front door.

Coming up

Vestry meets on 23rd October at 7.00pm.

All Souls Eucharist on Saturday 2^{nd} November at 10.00am: please write on the sheet at the back of church the names of those you would wish to be remembered at that service.

Advent Study Group starts on Thursday 28th November after midweek communion (for four weekly sessions).

AGM after Eucharist on Sunday 15th December.