



## St John the Evangelist

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

**1<sup>st</sup> June 2025**

## Seventh Sunday of Easter

**10.00 EUCHARIST**

*Celebrant: Revd. Andi Hofbauer*

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### Hymn 130

Hail the day that sees him rise (*omit 4, 5*)

### PREPARATION

*(page 1, blue service book)*

### Collect

O God, the King of Glory, hear our prayer:  
that as we believe your Son Jesus Christ  
to be exalted with great triumph to your  
kingdom in heaven;  
so also we may know his presence with us  
now, and to the end of time;  
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)*

### 1<sup>st</sup> reading:

Acts 16:16 – 34 (*p. 145, pew Bible*)

### Psalm 97

**The Lord is king, most high over all the earth.**

**Hymn 349** Come, let us join our cheerful songs

Gospel: John 17:20 – 26

Sermon, Creed, Intercessions, Peace

**Hymn 295** Let all mortal flesh keep silence

### **LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

*(page 7, then page 23, 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 p.30:

Communion ***“Father of all ...”***

**Hymn 443** Rejoice, the Lord is king

Blessing and Dismissal

***We pray especially today for***  
Linda Grant, Elizabeth Bentley

### ***Dear Friends and people of God,***

The disciples had always wanted in on Jesus' prayer life. You couldn't miss his passionate intimacy with God, and they had said probably more than once, "Lord, teach us to pray."

But in the shadows, on that last night after supper, Jesus wasn't teaching them to pray, rather, he was praying for them--right in front of them. And in his prayer, Jesus prays for unity.

And the pattern for the unity of believers Jesus is praying for is unlike anything else on earth. It is nothing less than the unity of the Father and Son. It is a unity that is grounded in the being of God and in the saving activity of God in Christ. We are drawn to, called, one to another because we are drawn to a common centre, Jesus Christ Himself.

The Church, we, in our lives and outworking of our calling, are to be the embodiment of the Gospel that the world may not only hear the good news but see its power in bringing about a community of Life and Love such as the world needs.

Desmond Tutu once said: "Our Lord prayed solemnly for the unity of his followers because the credibility of his own mission depended on it. [...A] united church is a far more effective agent for justice and peace against oppression and injustice."

As God's people, we are about a way of living based on faith, on hope, on love, on preserving all creation, on serving our neighbour and all in need, on recognising universal human worth, on action-based love of others. As much as we would rather be saved out of the world, we are saved into it, because God has chosen us to be means of re-ordering the world towards life and light and love.

So, no more Christianity that is either too much of the world, and takes on the assumptions of human-ordered living, or too much removed from the world, wanting to protect itself and find bliss behind a locked gate.

God has called us into a risky engagement with life, life that is lived in Him, through Him and with Him, fully aware of the cost.

The cross of Jesus is our calling, his resurrection and ascension our promise, the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit our hope and strength, that being God's people bound together in the unity of love, in but not of the world, may serve God's purpose, and may be party to bringing about God's realm of life and light and love.

***With my love and prayers: Andi***

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Priest-in-Charge

**Revd. Andi Hofbauer**

07543 104591      andihofb@gmail.com

General enquiries      stjohnsjedburgh@outlook.com

**Charity Number SC016786    CCLI licence no. 525395**

**[www.stjohnsjedburgh.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsjedburgh.org.uk)**

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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.*

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**A notice from your Vestry:**

If you can, please stay behind after today's service for a short presentation from Andi and Vestry members about our plans to extend and develop the refreshment area in church.

This will be a process over several stages. The first step is to remove some further pews from the back of church and extend the available gathering space.