

**St. Columba's by the Castle
Scottish Episcopal Church**

In Ecumenical Partnership with
Augustine United Church and Greyfriars Kirk

**Sunday 23rd February, 10am
Ecumenical Holy Eucharist
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany**

Joint Ministers, *Presiding*
Rev Fiona Bennett, *Preaching*
Helen Smailes, *Organ and Piano*



Whoever you are and wherever you are in your journey in faith, you are welcome at our Ecumenical Partnership. If you are visiting or new to us, we rejoice that you have found your way here this morning. An equal welcome if you are joining us online.

We believe that God affirms us all, regardless of our age, gender, sexual orientation, background, ethnicity or ability and we welcome everyone who wishes to worship with us.

A loop system is available, using the "T" setting on a hearing aid. A large print order of service is available if needed. If you need gluten free bread at Communion please let a welcomer know.



The service is being streamed on YouTube. If you have any concerns about this please speak to the clergy or a welcomer.

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Words of Welcome

*Opening Hymn: 124 – Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation
Tune: Lobe den Herren*

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
praise God, my soul, for in him are your health and salvation;
come all who hear,
into his presence draw near,
joining in glad adoration.
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who in all things is wondrously reigning,
shields you from harm and is gently yet firmly sustaining.
Have you not seen
how your heart's wishes have been
granted by God's wise ordaining?
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who with blessing and power will defend
you;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you;
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do
God will for ever befriend you.
- 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from God's people again:
gladly for ever adore him.

Opening up the theme

Collect for Purity:

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

REFRAIN: GLORIA (x2)

Glo-ry to God in the high — est, And peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

Lord God, heav'n-ly King, Al-migh-by God and Fa—ther.

We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo—ry.

A—men, A—men, A—men.

Collect of the Day:

Almighty God, your Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of
your saving love. Renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in
all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ
our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First reading: Genesis 45. 3-11,15 read by a member of Greyfriars

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, ‘Send everyone away from me.’ So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, ‘I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?’ But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, ‘Come closer to me.’ And they came closer. He said, ‘I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, “Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.” And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honoured in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.’ Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

At the end, after a short silence, the reader may say:

Hear the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn: – Psalm 37, 1-12, 41-42, Tune: Dandasoy (267)

- 1 Do not fret on account of the wicked,
do not envy the men who do wrong,
for like grass they will very soon wither,
like green plants, they will not flourish long.
- 2 Put your trust in the Lord and be upright,
then secure in the land you will live.
Take delight in the Lord above all things –
the desires of your heart he will give.
- 3 To the Lord let your way be committed,
trust in him – he will do what is right.
Then your justice will shine like the morning,
your just cause like the sun in its might.
- 4 So be silent and seek the Lord's presence,
and be patient until he replies.
Do not fret when men's ways are successful,
when their schemes are promoted through lies.
- 5 Do not fret, it leads only to evil,
keep your temper and stay far from wrath,
because evil men surely will perish
while the godly inherit the earth.
- 6 From the Lord comes the hope of the righteous,
and in trouble defence for the meek.
So the Lord saves them all from the wicked,
for in him their protection they seek.

Gospel: Luke 6.27-38 read by a member of Augustine United

When it is announced: **Glory to Christ our Saviour**

Jesus said: 'I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

'If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

'Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.'

At end: Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

All: Praise to Christ our Lord

Sermon by Rev Fiona Bennett (followed by a time of quiet reflection)

Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon, of water and earth,
and of our rainbow humanity.**

**We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
born of a woman's womb, servant of the poor.
He was tortured and nailed to a tree.
A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.
He descended into the earth, to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present,
and his kingdom will surely come.**

**We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of resurrection and of life everlasting. Amen.**

(after the Iona Community)

Intercessions led by Mary Moffett

God is love and we are God's children. There is no room for fear in love. We love because God loved us first. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence

Loving God, we confess to you and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry. Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil. For the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

God, who is both power and love, forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by the Holy Spirit and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We meet in Christ's name
Let us share his peace.

Please feel free to share the Peace either physically or from a distance (eg. by greeting people with your palms together).

NOTICES

We do not take a collection as most members of the church give by standing order. A digital giving point is available on the welcome table at the back if you should wish to make a card donation.

Offertory Hymn: 721— We lay our broken world, Tune: Southwell (491)

- 1 We lay our broken world
in sorrow at your feet,
haunted by hunger, war, and fear,
oppressed by power and hate.
- 2 Here human life seems less
than profit, might, and pride,
though to unite us all in you,
you lived and loved and died.
- 3 We bring our broken towns,
our neighbours hurt and bruised;
you show us how old pain and wounds
for new life can be used.
- 4 We bring our broken loves,
friends parted, families torn;
then in your life and death we see
that love must be reborn.
- 5 We bring our broken selves,
confused and closed and tired;
then through your gift of healing grace
new purpose is inspired.
- 6 Come Spirit, on us breathe,
with life and strength anew;
find in us love, and hope, and trust,
and lift us up to you.

Anna Briggs (b. 1947)

Reproduced from *CH4* CD-ROM edition, number 721

Words: © Anna Briggs, from *This is the day*, Wild Goose Publications

Eucharistic Prayer V

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, maker of light and darkness.
Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos, brings a harvest out of
sorrow, and leads the exiles home.

In Christ, your Son, enemies are reconciled, debts forgiven and
strangers made welcome. Your Spirit frees us to live as sons and
daughters in our Parent's house.

We, who by Christ's power follow the way of the Cross, sharing the
joy of his obedience, now offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Sanctus and Benedictus (sung, hymn 651):

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving God,
For Christ in whom the world is reconciled.

Lifted on the cross,

his suffering and forgiveness spanned the gulf our sins had made.

Through that dark struggle, death was swallowed up in victory,
that life and light might reign.

Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night of Israel's release, the night in which the sons of Egypt died, your Chosen One, himself the First-Born, freely offered up his life.

At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:

'Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.'

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:

'Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me.'

We now obey your Son's command.

**We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.**

**Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful God,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by the Spirit's life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together
in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into
our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, Columba, the
apostles and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living
and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

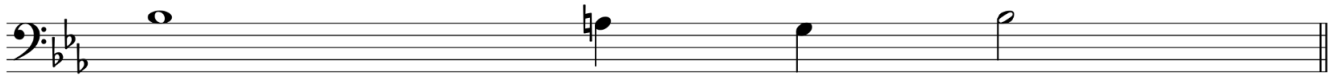
Breaking of the Bread:

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.

Lord, unite us in this sign.

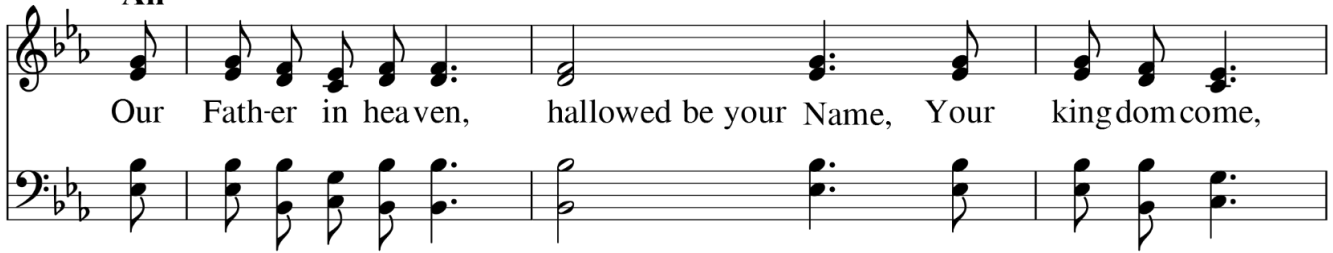
Lord's Prayer (sung to a Russian chant, music and words overleaf)

Cantor



As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

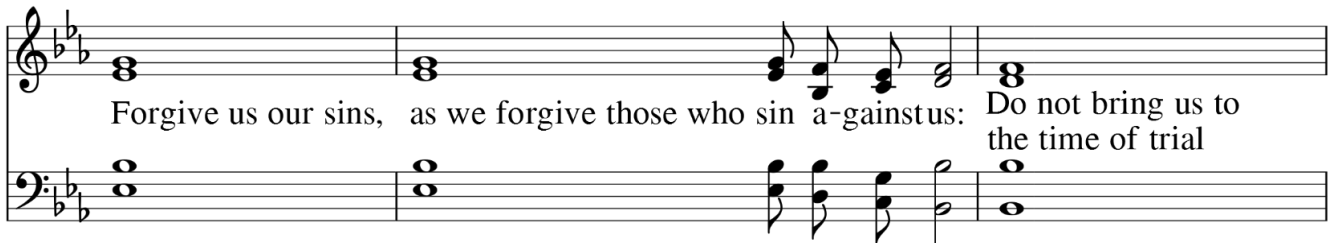
All



Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, Your kingdom come,



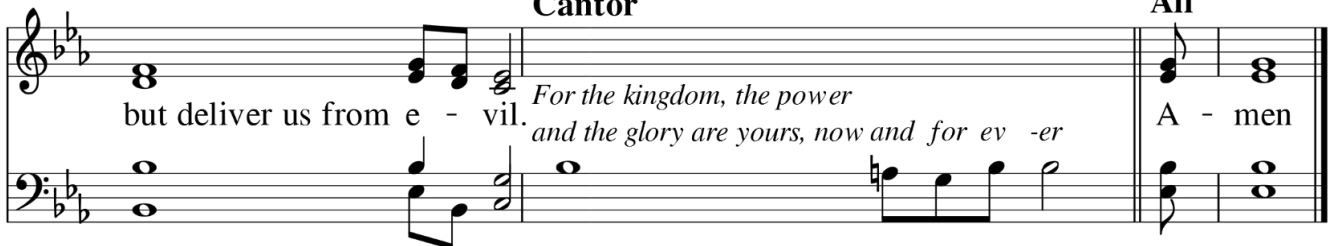
Your will be done, on earth as in heaven Give us today our dai - ly bread:



Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin a- gainst us: Do not bring us to the time of trial

Cantor

All



but deliver us from e - vil. *For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ev - er* A - men

Because some people are worshipping online, and because of continuing infection concerns, the priest receives bread and wine on behalf of everyone with the words:

The Body of Christ, given for us all. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, shed for us all. **Amen.**

Agnus Dei (sung) (hymn 653)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us (Repeat)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

grant us peace.

*The bread and wine are then shared with those in church. **If you wish to drink the wine please use the chalice on the pulpit side. The chalice on the right hand side of church is for intinction only (dipping the bread in the wine). If you choose to intinct, please disinfect your hands before receiving the bread.***

*Post-communion Hymn: **528** – Make me a channel of your peace
Tune: Prayer of St Francis*

- 1 Make me a channel of your peace.
 Where there is hatred let me bring your love;
 where there is injury, your pardon, Lord;
 and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 *Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek
 so much to be consoled as to console;
 to be understood as to understand;
 to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

- 2 Make me a channel of your peace.
 Where there's despair in life let me bring hope;
 where there is darkness, only light;
 and where there's sadness, ever joy.

- 3 Make me a channel of your peace.
 It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
 in giving of ourselves that we receive;
 and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Sebastian Temple (1928–1997)

from the *Prayer of St Francis*

Reproduced from CH4 CD-ROM edition, number **528**

Words and Music: Dedicated to Mrs Frances Tracey. © 1967, OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213, USA. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Give thanks to our gracious God
whose mercy endures for ever

Prayer after Communion:

Gracious God, in the eucharist we celebrate your love for us and for all people. Grant that, strengthened by these holy gifts, we may show your love in our lives and know its fulfilment in your presence. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep you hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Recessional Hymn: 258 – When the hungry who have nothing share with strangers

- 1 When the hungry who have nothing share with strangers;
 when the thirsty give such water as they have;
 when in weakness, we lend strength to one another:
 God goes with us on the pathways of our lives.
 God goes with us on the pathways of our lives.

- 2 When the suffering find their comfort in our blessing,
 when despair is turned to hope, radiant and bright;
 when all hating melts in embers of our loving:
 God goes with us on the pathways of our lives.
 God goes with us on the pathways of our lives.

3 When rejoicing overtakes our hearts with gladness;
when the truth is in our lives and on our lips;
when our love for simple things helps conquer sadness;
God goes with us on the pathways of our lives.
God goes with us on the pathways of our lives.

4 When true goodness makes each home a hallowed shelter;
when our warfare yields to peace, and earth is blest;
when we find Christ's human face in every neighbour;
God goes with us on the pathways of our lives.
God goes with us on the pathways of our lives.

Spanish-language hymn Cuando el Pobre,
Jose Antonio Olivar and Miguel Manzano
translated Mary Louise Bringle (b. 1953)

Reproduced from CH4 CD-ROM edition, number **258**

Words and Music: 1971, Jose Antonio Olivar and Miguel Manzano. Published by, OCP Publications, 5536 NE
Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213, USA. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Dismissal: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Regular Activities

Discussion and Study Group (Wednesdays: Eucharist and breakfast 7.00 a.m. at the Thompsons' or 7.45am on line) –: The Wednesday Group are now reading "The Landscape of Faith" by Alister McGrath. Please contact Iain Thompson for the Zoom link

Bible Study: (Thursdays 10.00am) - contact Sheila Judson for the Zoom link. The group is currently reading the book of Acts. Do get in touch if you would like to join us.

Midweek Eucharist 12.30pm on Thursdays – in church and online.

<https://zoom.us/j/313451912?pwd=Z1lsVkFhY0ZwVWNRaWVhSHNZYlMzZz09> Tel: 0131 460 1196

Meeting ID: 313 451 912; Password: 016076

Our Tribe: LGBT+ Ministry by Augustine United Church.

First Thursday of the month from 7:30pm to 9pm online on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3140057633?pwd=MmlkbWNKem5BZUZNTGZQZXp5TWdQUT09>

Meeting ID: 314 005 7633 Password: 1861AUC.

Last Sunday of the month from 1:30pm to 3pm in-person at: Coffee Saints, 2a Little King Street, Edinburgh, EH1 3AR. For more information: <https://www.augustine.org.uk/lgbt-ministry/>

TLC Youth (Sundays, 1.30 - 3.00PM) are meeting every two weeks on Sunday afternoons. If you would like to take part, email Matt at youth@augustine.org.uk. Inclusive group (S1 up).

Refugio (3rd Sundays, 7-8pm at Greyfriars) Reflective prayer, silence and communion.

Other notices

Joanie's Baptism

Joanie's baptism will be held as part of the service on Sunday 27th April and we are very happy to have such a warm church community to welcome her. We will be providing some drinks and sweet treats after the service. There will then be lunch for family and friends (any St Columban's included, of course!) around 12pm. If you would like to stay for lunch, you'd be very welcome, but please let James and I know by the end of February - james.f.dow@gmail.com, so we can confirm numbers with the caterer.

IONA 2026

Now's your chance to sign up for a whole week on beautiful Iona 2026. **Dates: Saturday 4 – Saturday 11 July.**

The total cost is £747.73 per person for full bed and board. This is spread over five payments - the deposit (asap) £106.89, followed by four of £160.23 in the beginning of these months: (April25, June25, December25 and June26. if you'd like further information or to register your interest please speak to Mark Woods or Cat Outram. There are only 7 single rooms available so these will be allocated on a first come first served basis, unless you indicate you are happy to share with a friend.

SPRING WITHIN US: A QUIET DAY FOR LENT

Saturday 22nd March, 10:30am-4pm, St Columba's by the Castle
"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19). In Spring, the natural world starts to grow again. Meanwhile, what hopes am I quietly tending? What new things are springing up for me? This retreat day led by Susan Mansfield will draw on words and images, music and silence to explore some of the gifts of Spring. Cost £35 (£25 Concession), includes a buffet lunch.

St Columba's Giving

We are very grateful for your donations over the years and hope that you will continue to support the life and mission of our church

Our account details are:

Sort code: 80-22-60

Account number: 26145461

Account name: 'St Columba's by the Castle Scottish Episcopal Church SCIO Giving Account' or
'T/A St Columba's by the Castle'

Standing orders can be set up electronically if you bank online, or via your bank's branch, or your agent if you use one. Whichever route is used, please can you ensure that you put your name in the payment reference so that we will be able to identify from whom the donation is coming, for accounting and tax purposes.

The 2025 Diocesan Lent Course is now available on the Diocesan of Edinburgh website. We know a number of congregations and groups have enjoyed journeying through our courses in recent years and are delighted to share this year's materials with you. **Christ has no body now but yours** echoes the prayer of St Teresa of Avila, and invites reflection on the central Christian theme of the Church as the Body of Christ. Different parts of the human body are used to explore the characteristics of God and the invitation to follow and work with God each day, both individually and as the gathered 'Body of Christ'. [Download the course now from their website.](#)

Miriam's Sisters, Deborah's Daughters – a short course in Lent 2025 from the Scottish Episcopal Institute

The latest in the series of online short courses provided by the SEIe will take place throughout Lent, exploring a fresh approach to church leadership in the current times of change.

The course, titled “Miriam's Sisters, Deborah's Daughters: When Women Lead the Way” will be led by the Rev Liz Crumlish, Priest-in-Charge at St Oswald's, Maybole and IME 2 Officer and Associate Tutor at the Institute. It is made up of six roughly 25-minute video's with questions for reflection or discussion.

The course will consider how different times demand a different kinds of leadership, involving imagination and creativity – gifts and qualities exhibited by numerous women in scripture. It reflects on the experiences of various women including Miriam, Deborah, Esther, Ruth, Mary the mother of Jesus, Mary of Bethany and the woman at the well, and finds inspiration and guidance for today in their practices of accompaniment, accountability, spirituality, communal discernment, provision and creativity. Drawing further on insights from feminist theology, and extensively tried and tested in contexts of parish ministry, health care chaplaincy, pioneering and renewal, Rev Liz offers realistic, sustaining and encouraging insights for church leaders.

- [Monday 3 March – Leadership in Liminal Times](#)
- [Monday 10 March – Leadership as Learning – Miriam](#)
- [Monday 17 March – Leadership as Resistance – Vashti](#)
- [Monday 24 March – Leadership as Tenacity – Mary, mother of God](#)
- [Monday 31 March – Leadership as Breaking the Mould – Mary of Bethany](#)
- [Monday 7 April – Leadership as Finding New Landmarks – for such a time as this](#)

The course can be joined at the above links from 7pm each Monday in Lent beginning on Monday 3 March. For those who wish to use these materials for their own Lenten study, or as part of a group, all the videos and resources will be available for download in advance. Please contact Margaret Acton for details on how to access the downloads at MargaretA@scotland.anglican.org.

If you would like to sign up for the online “**Adventures in Faith Magazine**”, a valuable resource for courses, events and news in the Diocese of Edinburgh, please use the following QR code:



For those interested in making churches more eco-friendly, there's a webinar on **fitting solar panels to church buildings** on 27 Feb 1-2pm- to register please email Jack Nevin on jackn@scotland.anglican.org

What's on @ AUC this week?

Event	Date	Time	Location	Notes
Our Tribe Coffee Social	Sun 23 rd Feb	1.30pm	Coffee Saints, 2A Little King Street, EH1 3AR	All welcome!
Contextual Bible Study	Weds 26 th Feb	7.30pm	Online	<i>Psalm 22</i> . Email minister@augustine.org.uk for the Zoom link
Contextual Bible Study	Thurs 27 th Feb	12 noon	Online	<i>Psalm 22</i> . Email minister@augustine.org.uk for the Zoom link
Sunday Worship	Sun 2 nd March	11am	AUC & Online	Fiona is leading and Andrew is preaching
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 2 nd March	12 noon	Online	
Space to Remember	Sun 2 nd March	1pm	AUC	A sacred space to come together and share stories of those for whom we grieve. Feel free to bring a photo or small object which connects you to a person you grieve and would like to share memories about.

Zoom ID for worship: 84317815003

Zoom ID for all social events: 3140057633

Password: 1861AUC

Zoom Telephone number: 0131 4601196

Church Office: 0131 622 2277 or church.admin@stcs.org.uk

Rector's Warden: Mary Moffett 07860 823175

People's Warden: Sheila Judson 0790 559 1740

Website: www.stcolumbasbythecastle.org.uk

Registered Charity number SC052645. All hymns © CCL licence: Words 1082411. Music Reproduction, 1082428. Today's Mass Setting is Macmillan's St Anne's Mass augmented by the Columban Gloria.