

26th November 2017



A very warm welcome to our services of worship today. We pray that you will all know God's blessing as we meet together. Worship this morning is led by Mr John Hebditch and this evening by Mr Iain Macmillan



Induction loops are fitted in both the Church and hall for the hard of hearing. Please set your hearing aid to position 'T'.

Recordings of all our services are available on our website



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Praise: Hymn 12

Praise: Psalm 119:33-40

Praise: Psalm 46: 1-5 & 8-11

Reading –Esther 4 (NIV)

When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the city, wailing loudly and bitterly. ² But he went only as far as the king's gate, because no one clothed in sackcloth was allowed to enter it. ³ In every province to which the edict and order of the king came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting, weeping and wailing. Many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

⁴ When Esther's eunuchs and female attendants came and told her about Mordecai, she was in great distress. She sent clothes for him to put on instead of his sackcloth, but he would not accept them. ⁵ Then Esther summoned Hathak, one of the king's eunuchs assigned to attend her, and ordered him to find out what was troubling Mordecai and why.

⁶ So Hathak went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate. ⁷ Mordecai told him everything that had happened to him, including the exact amount of money Haman had promised to pay into the royal treasury for the destruction of the Jews. ⁸ He also gave him a copy of the text of the edict for their annihilation, which had been published in Susa, to show to Esther and explain it to her, and he told him to instruct her to go into the king's presence to beg for mercy and plead with him for her people.

⁹ Hathak went back and reported to Esther what Mordecai had said. ¹⁰ Then she instructed him to say to Mordecai, ¹¹ "All the king's officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without being summoned the king has but one law: that they be put to death unless the king extends the gold scepter to them and spares their lives. But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king."

¹² When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai, ¹³ he sent back this answer: "Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. ¹⁴ For if you remain

silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

¹⁵ Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: ¹⁶ "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish."

¹⁷ So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther's instructions.

Tea/Coffee will be served after the morning service to which everyone is warmly invited

No Sunday school this week

6pm service – Mr Iain Macmillan

The Week Ahead

Tues 28th Nov - Chit Chat women's group 8pm in the church hall. Donna Morrison and Murdo MacIver will be giving a talk on The Shed youth and community facility, Stornoway. All women most welcome.

Wed 29th Nov 10.15am – Women's bible study at Willina Macleod's house, Gatehouse 18a North Dell. All women welcome.

Wed 29th Nov, 7.30pm – midweek prayer meeting (church hall).

Services next Sunday 3rd December

11am (church)

Sunday school

6pm (church hall)

Dates for your diary

Sat 9th Dec Women's Christmas meal, 6.30pm, Borge House

Tues 19th Dec Men's Christmas meal, 6.30pm, Borge House

Please pick up menus at the back of the hall, fill in your choices and indicate whether you need a lift or are able to provide a lift. Menu choices should be returned to Rachel Barrowman, 810112 (women's) and Norman MacLeod, 810364 (men's) by Sunday 3rd December.

Interdenominational Gaelic Service

CLAN MACQUARRIE COMMUNITY CENTRE

FRIDAY 1st December 2017
7:30pm

Service taken by Rev Paul Murray
KINLOCH FREE CHURCH

Door collection for Bethesda Hospice
Bring a friend

