

Call to Prayer: Sunday 15th November 2020
Prayer @ 7pm

‘Well done, good and faithful servant!’ In the Gospel of Matthew, these words are spoken to the servants who have wisely used the talents entrusted to them. In our reading of the Parable of the Talents, we remember that the meaning of the word ‘talent’ has subtly changed. Originally, the reference is to a measure of weight and we learn from this that the weight of money entrusted to the servants is considerable indeed. In our contemporary reading, we are more apt to think of ‘talent’ in terms of gift and ability, and we read and mark this subtle distinction carefully. (Matthew 25: 14-30)

In these unprecedented times, we are conscious of the very considerable investment that has been made in sustaining the community and society of which we are a part. In facing the challenges that are before us, we are again conscious of the work of those who seek, on a daily basis, to renew the health and well-being of our community and society. We act with them and pray for them. Indeed, we are all called to use that which has been entrusted to us to serve and bear witness to the love, grace and mercy of God. We do so trusting that, at the last, we shall hear the words: ‘Well done, good and faithful servant!’
We pray:

Faithful God

And giver of all good gifts,

We thank you for the gift of life entrusted to us

And for the knowledge that we are made in your image.

In these times, may we bear witness to the gift you have given to us.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Faithful God

And giver of all good gifts,

We thank you for the gift of family and of friendship

And for the companions who join us on the way.

In the community in which we share, renew the ties that bind us together.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Faithful God

And giver of all good gifts,

We thank you for those who serve within our community and society

And who, by their work, sustain our common life.

In these times, strengthen and renew them in all they do,

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Faithful God

And giver of all good gifts,

We thank you that you call us to serve and to bear witness

To your love, grace and mercy.

In the community of the faithful, may we never forget this calling.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Faithful God

And giver of all good gifts,

We thank you for all those who through their talent,

And by their research, give hope to the world.

In these times, may we share generously the fruit of that hope.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Faithful God

And giver of all good gifts,

We thank you that you reveal your life to us

In the community of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

In the life to come, may we hear: 'Well done, good and faithful servant!'

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Signed by:

Rt. Rev. Dr Martin Fair, Moderator of the General Assembly, Church of Scotland

Most Rev. Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, Roman Catholic Church

Most Rev. Mark Strange, Primus, on behalf of the College of Bishops, Scottish Episcopal Church

Rev. John Fulton, Moderator, United Free Church of Scotland

Rev. Lindsey Sanderson, United Reformed Church (Scotland)

Rev. Martin Hodson, General Director, Baptist Union of Scotland

Rev. Mark Slaney, District Chair, Methodist Church (Scotland)

Rev. May-Kane Logan, Chair, Congregational Federation in Scotland

Lt. Col. Carol Bailey, Secretary for Scotland, Salvation Army

Adwoa Bittle, Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Rev. Claire Fender, District Superintendent, British Isles North District, Church of the Nazarene

Pastor Chris Gbenle, Provincial Pastor, Province of Scotland, Redeemed Christian Church of God

Bishop Francis Alao, Church of God (Scotland)/Minority Ethnic Churches Together in Scotland (MECTIS)

Rev Fred Drummond, Director, Evangelical Alliance (Scotland)