

# St Nicholas Church, Sighthill

Sunday, 26 March 2023

Hearing God's whisper  
in dreams and the unconscious



## Call to worship

(Adapted from Psalm 126)

When the LORD restored the fortunes of St Nicholas Church, Sighthill, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the people, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in our parish and beyond. May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their harvest. Stuart Strachan Jr.

## Opening Song:

**We want to see Jesus lifted High**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLJmRPvhgdo>

## Opening Prayer

Lord God Almighty, We read in the Book of Job that "[You] uncover the hidden dimensions from darkness, bringing what is in deep shadow to light" (Job 12:22 ISV). The Psalmist also prayed, "Open my eyes so that I may contemplate wonderful things from Your instruction." (Psalm 119:18). Lord God, we praise and thank You. We ask, in prayer, that You express Your heart, that You express the beauty, and the glory of who You are to us—that we may know You, here and now.

We read in Paul letter to the church in Rome, "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse" (Romans 1:20). God, Your Word is our firm foundation. Lord Jesus, You're our solid Rock—our way, our truth, our life, our salvation! And God, we thank You for Your Holy Spirit—our "truth navigation." How You direct us and lead us into what is true. You give us sight to see, to hear, and to perceive what You are speaking.

Lord Jesus, you say "...blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8). We desire to hear what You are saying. We want to see what You are showing us. Purify our heart, Lord and our senses, that we may be able to clearly see and hear what You are saying and doing... within Your Word, by Your Spirit, through what You illuminate for us to see and to perceive in and through Your creation, through the pictures that You paint for us, and to see and hear and

perceive within our imagination. Surprise us, surprise us Lord, with what You desire for us to perceive from You, in beautiful, unexpected ways! For it is all, that we may know You more. In Jesus' name, Amen

## The Lord's Prayer

### Hymn: Master Speak (Second service)

1. Master, speak! Your servant's list'ning,  
longing for Your gracious word,  
longing for Your voice uplifting,  
Master, let it now be heard.  
I am listening eagerly,  
what will You now say to me?
2. Master, speak! and make me ready,  
when Your voice is truly heard,  
with obedience glad and steady  
still to follow every word.  
I am listening eagerly:  
Master, speak! O speak to me!

CCLI Song # 7004677

## Bible Reading: Genesis 37: 1-11

### Joseph's Dreams

Jacob lived in the land where his father had stayed, the land of Canaan. This is the account of Jacob's family line. Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate[a] robe for him. When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him. Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more. 6 He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had: 7 We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it." His brothers said to him, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said. Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. "Listen," he said, "I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me." When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, "What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?" His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

## God's Dream by Charles Peguy (1873-1914) (Second Service)

I myself will dream a dream within you...  
Good dreams come from me you know...  
My dreams seem impossible  
not too practical, not for the cautious man or woman  
a little risky perhaps, a trifle brash perhaps

Some of my friends prefer to rest more comfortably,  
in sounder sleep, with visionless eyes...  
But from those who share my dreams  
I ask a little more patience,  
a little humour, some small courage  
and a listening heart, I will do the rest...  
Then they will risk and wonder at their daring  
Run — and marvel at their speed...

Build — and stand in awe at the beauty of their  
building... You will meet me often as you work...  
in your companions who share the risk...  
in your friends who believe in you enough  
to lend their own hands their own hearts to your  
building... In the people who will stand in your doorway,  
stay awhile and walk away, knowing that  
they too can find a dream.

There will be sun-filled days, and sometimes it will rain...  
A little variety...both come from me.  
So come now, be content  
It is my dream you dream...my house you build,  
my caring you witness, my love you share,  
And this is the heart of the matter.

## Reflection



## Song/ offering: Speak O Lord

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08LUNRufFH4&t=23s>

## Prayers for offerings

God of Great gifts, we give you these gifts today,  
knowing that You take good care of us constantly  
providing for us, caring for us.  
As we have been abundantly provided for,  
so we give abundantly to the work that you give us to  
do, the work of the church,  
the care for those who are in need.  
Accept these gifts in Jesus' name.

## Prayers for others

### I have a dream a man once said

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZMqMamZCpU&t=102s>

## Hymn: Pass me not o gentle Saviour

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08LUNRufFH4&t=23s>

1. Pass me not O gentle Saviour  
Hear my humble cry  
While on others Thou art calling  
Do not pass me by

### Chorus

**Saviour, Saviour  
Hear my humble cry  
While on others Thou art calling  
Do not pass me by**

2. Let me at Thy throne of mercy  
Find a sweet relief  
Kneeling there in deep contrition  
Help my unbelief
3. Trusting only in Thy merit  
Would I seek Thy face  
Heal my wounded broken spirit  
Save me by Thy grace
4. Thou the Spring of all my comfort  
More than life to me  
Whom have I on earth beside Thee  
Whom in Heav'n but Thee

CCLI Song # 5253861

## Benediction

Leader: For your goodness and generosity  
in giving us all we need,

**All: help us to praise you O God.**

Leader: In every circumstance of life,  
in good times and bad,

**All: help us to trust you, O God.**

Leader: In love and faithfulness,  
with all that we have and all that we are,

**All: help us to serve you, O God.**

Leader: As we speak or write or listen  
to those nearby or far away,

**All: help us to share your love, O God.**

Leader: In our plans and work  
for ourselves and for others,

**All: help us to glorify you, O God.  
In every thought and word and deed,  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
this week, may we live for you, O God.**

May the grace....