

**North Leith Parish Church  
Sunday 17 January 2021**



*The Tree of Hope*

*Click the link below to listen*

**[Welcome, Call to Worship and Prayer of Approach](#)**

**Call to Worship**

*(Based on Psalm 139)*

Lord, You search and know Your people,  
You know the pattern of our lives and  
You know the rhythm of our ways,  
You know our thinking and our speaking  
for You are with us, behind us and before us,  
You surround us and draw us close.  
In wonder, we worship You.

**Prayer of Approach ending with the Lord's Prayer**

Lord, You are our maker and our Creator,  
With delight you imagined us,  
With loving care you formed us,  
With gentle precision you put us together,  
You shaped us outwardly and inwardly too  
so that we may be one with You and each other.

Look on us now Lord and come close,  
Still us and quieten us,

Touch us with Your presence,  
Make us ready to listen to Your voice,  
To know You better and to follow Your ways.

Lord God, You know our sins. Help us to confess them now to You.

We are sorry for our ingratitude for all You have given us.  
We are sorry for our failure to love others the way You would have us do.  
We are sorry for the things we have said and done which we would rather keep hidden from  
others and You.

God of Mercy  
You promise to forgive us when we are truly sorry. Reshape us now as Your beloved children  
and make us new with the gift of Your Holy Spirit.

In grateful thanks, we pray together the words which Jesus taught us to pray:-

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
Thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

*Click the link below to listen*

**[Hymn CH4 97 O God, you search me and you know me](#)**

### **Scriptures**

*Click the links below to listen*

[1 Samuel 3:1-10](#)



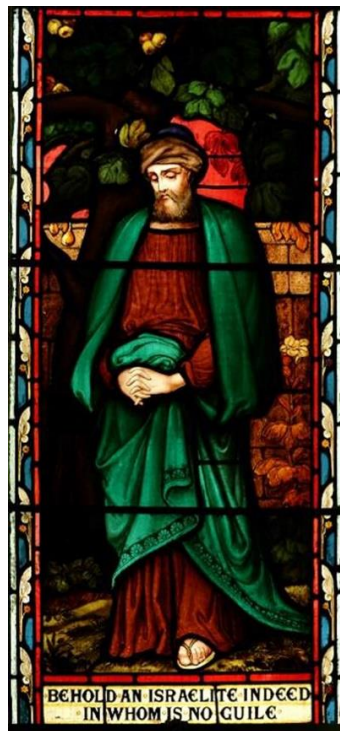
*Fig Tree*

[John 1:43-51.](#)

*Click the link below to listen*

[Reflection](#)

*The Power of Knowing*



*Nathaniel Under the Fig Tree,*

*Katherine Taylor*

## Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

We thank You Lord for the love You have given humankind through the ages. We thank You for the life of Jesus and for His continued calling to his followers through the power of the Holy Spirit. We thank You for the communities of Christian faith in all their diversity throughout the world and for all who work for Christian unity and peace. We thank You for the hope You give us now in the future.

Lord God, we pray for the troubles of the world. We pray for the common human will to clean water, air and earth, for peace instead of conflict and for peace and justice in the transfer of political power, for relief from the continuing and changing infection from coronavirus and for healing from the suffering it carries with it in death and grief, in continuing and debilitating illness and in lack of treatment for other conditions. We pray for the success of vaccination programmes and for just access to them for all. We pray for wisdom for all who must make difficult decisions for the common good, and for rest in body and mind for all whose workload is too great and too hard. We pray for hope for those whose work has disappeared, remembering at this time the travel industry, and who fear for their future. We pray for companionship for those who are isolated and lonely and for our young people who live with restricted opportunity, education and social contact. Help us to find Your strength and hope in all these things Lord.

Lord God, we pray for ourselves and those we love. We pray for the bereaved and grieving. We pray for those who are separated from loved ones in hospital and can't visit them in person. We pray for those we miss and who miss us.

In silence, we lift our prayers to You.

Lord in Your mercy,  
Hear all our prayers,  
Amen

*Click the link below to listen*

[Hymn CH4 251 I, the Lord of sea and sky](#)

## Blessing

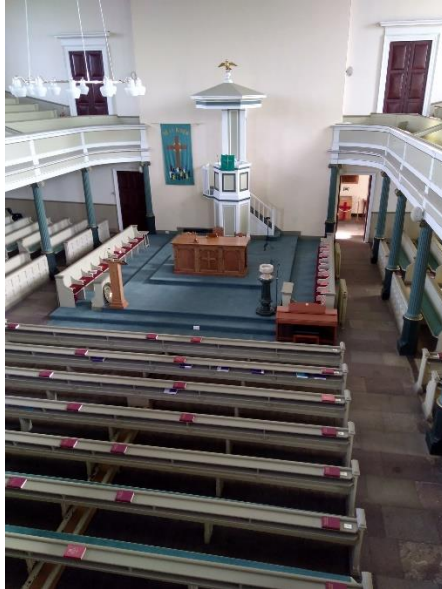
May the Blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us and with all those we love, now and for evermore.

Amen

## Voluntary

*Click the link below to listen*

[Bach - Prelude and Fugue in G Major BWV 550](#)



## INTIMATIONS

### Sunday Services

This Sunday we are joining the congregation of Leith St. Andrews in their Zoom worship at 11am. If you would be interested in joining with this in the future, please contact the church office. Our online worship is ongoing and is available on our new website at <https://northleithparishchurch.co.uk/online-worship>.

### Moderator's Service for 17 January 2020

The Moderator, the Rt. Rev. Dr Martin Fair has prepared a service for today too. The link for viewing (from 17 January) is here <https://youtu.be/nGhsVhTjW5g>

### One Church for Leith

Bible study looking at the Letter of 1 John has restarted. All are welcome and if you would like to join, please contact the church office.

### Church Family

**Thank you** to our readers Emma and Lucy Mackenzie and to our organist Iain Mackinnon for his choice of voluntary.

## Pictures

[Nathaniel Under the Fig Tree](#), [JESUS MAFA. The mission to the world](#), [Leuthold, Julie. Tree of Hope](#) and [Naveedanjumkhan. Fig tree](#) all from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.