

COLLECT

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you riches beyond imagination. Pour into our hearts such love towards you that we, loving you above all things, may obtain your promises which exceed all that we can desire; 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 Acts 17.22–21

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. 23 For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. 24 The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, 25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. 26 From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, 27 so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him – though indeed he is not far from each one of us. 28 For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we too are his offspring." 29 Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. 30 While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 31 because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

For the word of the Lord. THANKS BE TO GOD

PSALM Psalm 66.7-18

Response: Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard.

Bless our God, you peoples; make the voice of his praise to be heard. 8 Who holds our souls in life, and will not allow our feet to slip. **R** 9 For you, O God, have proved us; you have tried us just as silver is tried. 10 You brought us into the snare; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs. 11 You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; but you brought us out into a place of refreshment. **R** 12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble. 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats. **R** 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he has done for me. 15 I called out to him with my mouth, and his praise was on my tongue. 16 If I had found evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me; **R** 17 But in truth God has heard me; he has attended to the voice of my prayer. 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld his love from me. **R**

SECOND READING 1 Peter 3.13–22

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? 14 But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, 15 but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; 16 yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so

that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. 17 For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. 18 For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, 19 in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, 20 who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. 21 And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

For the word of the Lord THANKS BE TO GOD

GOSPEL John 14.15-21

**Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to Christ our Saviour**

Jesus said to his disciples:

15 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. 17 This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. 18 I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. 19 In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. 20 On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21 They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

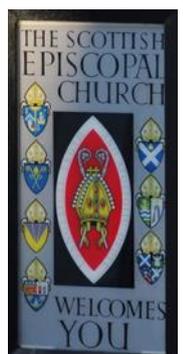
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Father,
you restored us to life by raising your Son from death.
May we who receive this sacrament
always be strengthened to do your will,
in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen**

BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

The notices for the week are on
the reverse of this sheet





The Joint Charges of St Johns Johnstone & St Margarets Renfrew

The Scottish Episcopal Church

United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway

St John's Church, Floors Street, Johnstone PA5 8QS

St Margaret's Church, Oxford Road, Renfrew PA4 0SJ

www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

Facebook: [@stmargaretsrenfrew.org.uk](https://www.facebook.com/stmargaretsrenfrew.org.uk) [@StJohnsJohnstone](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsJohnstone)

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Worship today 17 May 6th Sunday of Easter

All SEC Church Services in our buildings SUSPENDED

Our service is online at

www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

from 0945am



You can also follow the SEC LIVE streamed Provincial Service at

www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship/

also worship from our

St Mary's Cathedral at www.thecathedral.org.uk

7pm Light a Candle and place it in your window as we pray for the Nation

Monday 18—feria

Tuesday 19—comm-Thomas Rattray, Bishop, 1743

Wednesday 20—feria

Thursday 21—Festival-Ascension Day

0945 Ascension Day Service online with guest preacher

Friday 22—feria

Saturday 23—comm-Wiliam of Perth (or Rochester), 1201

Next Sunday—24 May EASTER 7

All SEC Church Services SUSPENDED

Please follow our SEC online Sunday service on our website

Your Giving supporting our work and ministry

If you can change your giving to online or direct to the church bank accounts that would be appreciated, envelopes can be sent to Reuben at his house. As a reference put your name or envelope's number.



St Johns

Account Name: St Johns Scottish Episcopal Church - Johnstone

Bank: Bank Of Scotland, Johnstone.

Sort Code: 80-16-53 Account Number: 00356544

St Margarets

Account Name: St Margarets Episcopal Church

Bank: Royal Bank of Scotland

Sort Code: 83-26-22 Account Number: 00196266

You can also send via paypal www.paypal.me/reubenjamespreston

www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

To ask about arrangements for Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms/Christenings, Confessions, House Blessings etc. please contact the Rec-

Intercessions

The sick and in need we have promised to pray for: Liz Fairns, Elsbeth Carberry, Sandra Ferguson, Pauline Campbell, Alasdair Woods, Jenna McKernan, Audrey Callaghan, Scott Taylor, George Wilmshurst, Adam Semple, Margaret Kerrigan, May Burton, Joan Harrison, Isobel Reid, Gerald Mungavin, Adrian Bull, Norman Sproule, May Goldthorpe, Doreen Ward, Isobel Trail, Richard Tiplady, Robert Ferguson

The Departed: John Caldicot

We pray for Trades Unions as they are working to help make work places safe for workers as we look towards returning to work

We pray for researchers seeking to develop a vaccine against COVID19

We pray for the Glasgow City Mission

Please see the **VOCID-19 prayers in the Intercession leaflet**

To download this week from www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

This **Pewsheet**

The **Weekly Intercessions & COVID-19 prayers**

The **Reflection sheet**

Our Online services—Have you got any content ideas for the Finding Jesus with George Productions ? Please share your ideas with Reuben

Praying at home together online and live

As an experiment I have set up a camera to live-stream in **St Gabriel's Oratory** and I'll be leading

Morning Prayer at 9am &

Evening Prayer at 530pm Monday to Friday this week.

Come along and join in too and put a bit of structure to your day in lockdown.

The service words are found at

<https://www.scotland.anglican.org/spirituality/prayer/daily-offices/>

The live stream is at

<https://tinyurl.com/SECStJohnStMargaret>

Thank you to our Pastoral Assistants Wilma and John are keeping in touch by phone—**Thank you for your support and encouragement**

Church Contacts

The Rector: Reuben Preston, 29 Gleniffer Road, Renfrew PA4 ORD 07971 895897

Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

Items for inclusion should be sent to Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk by 0900 on Wednesdays.

Sponsorship: we pray for businesses and unions as we prepare for a return to working in a new safe way

If you would like to sponsor this sheet please send you £5 donation to the Rector along with details of the sponsorship (even if anonymous)