

Coldstream & District Parishes Church Magazine June 2025



**You are invited to Holy Communion
at the Sunday Service
in Coldstream Parish Church
on 15 June 2025 at 10.30 a.m.**

..... Elder

Interim Moderator: Mrs Susan Patterson

Session Clerk: Michael Rowe

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TRANSFORMATION

Pentecost, which this year falls on Sunday 8 June, is sometimes described as the birthday of the Church. It was the day when the followers of Jesus were transformed from a group of people wondering what was going to happen next into a movement of inspired preachers, teachers and leaders. Less than two months earlier, they had been frightened and disoriented. Jesus had been arrested and they had deserted him and fled the scene. When Jesus was tried and put to death, they hid in fear behind locked doors.

So, what had changed? At Easter they had experienced the resurrection of Jesus. Puzzled and doubting at first, they had witnessed the risen Jesus appearing in their midst. He had spent time with them, offering peace and forgiveness and encouraging them not to be afraid. He had promised that they would receive the Holy Spirit to give them power to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth.

And now at Pentecost the Holy Spirit had come upon them, with the sound of a rushing wind and the visible sign of tongues of fire on their heads. The noise attracted a crowd and Peter and the other disciples began boldly preaching. People from many countries visiting Jerusalem for the Jewish festival of Pentecost were amazed to understand the disciples in their own languages and that very day three thousand were baptised as a sign of repentance and new life and became followers of Jesus. The Church was born!

Almost 2000 years later the flame of Pentecost has not been extinguished and Christians have gone to the ends of the earth and borne witness to the love of God and to salvation and new life in Jesus through repentance and the forgiveness of sins.

Sometimes as Christians in 21st century Scotland we feel like the disciples at Easter – puzzled and disoriented. For

the last two years in Coldstream we have lived with the uncertainty about when we might get a new minister. Nevertheless, we have seen the Holy Spirit at work, enabling us to continue weekly worship, bringing us closer together, and helping us to welcome new folk into our worshipping community.

Now that the parish grouping and the linkages of congregations in Berwickshire have been agreed, we are finally permitted to begin the search for a minister, who will work in a team with the other ministers in the area. As well as work in our parish and community our minister will have the exciting role of worship advisor for the whole parish grouping – encouraging and helping lay people to prepare and lead worship. Others in the team will help us to develop mission, pastoral care and Christian education.

It may sound daunting, but Pentecost reminds us that the Holy Spirit is there to guide and enable us, to release skills we didn't know we had and to enrich and renew the life of our congregation.

You are warmly invited to come and join us as we celebrate on Sunday 8 June – or any Sunday at 10.30 a.m.

NEXT STEPS

Soon members of the congregation, along with members of our linked congregation of Eccles and Leitholm, will be invited to elect a nominating committee who will have the task of advertising the post, seeking and considering candidates and bringing to the congregations their recommendation of the most suitable candidate, who will be invited to preach at services in Leitholm and Coldstream. After we have heard the candidate preach, the members of both congregations will vote on whether to appoint the candidate as our minister.

Michael Rowe, Session Clerk

WHAT'S THE BEST FUTURE YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE?

These days, hope often feels hard to come by.

**But what if we could find real hope,
which delivers on it's promise?**

**Come along to Hope Explored: a three-session course
run by churches across the UK.**

**We will start with some food, we will watch a couple
of short videos and look at a reading from the Bible.**

**Open to everyone, whether you are
a regular churchgoer or just curious.**

**Tuesdays 10th, 17th & 24th June
7.00 p.m. and finished by 9.00 p.m.
in the Parish Church Hall,
entrance at the back of the church.**

**More information is on our website
www.coldstreamdistrictchurches.org.uk
Or email coldstreampc@gmail.com
Or call or message 07528364602**



KEEP IN TOUCH

For the latest news and updates on Coldstream and District
Parishes please visit our Church website

www.coldstreamdistrictchurches.org.uk

and Facebook page *www.facebook.com/ColdstreamKirk*

You can contact us via the website or Facebook page or by
email to *ColdstreamPC@gmail.com*