

**Coldstream & District Parishes  
Church Magazine  
Easter 2025**



**We wish all of our members and friends a very  
Happy and Joyful Easter!**

..... Elder

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Session Clerk

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***Reflections on Easter from Lord Jim Wallace,  
former Moderator of the General Assembly of the  
Church of Scotland.***

The events of the first Easter Day transformed history and our world, but it was infinitely more than an event in history. As the first disciples soon realised, the Risen Jesus is not confined by time or place. As Easter people, we know his risen presence with us today.

And what assurance and hope that brings – not least in a world where there is so much darkness.

John's Gospel tells us that the light which shines in the darkness has never been extinguished and the Easter message affirms that. For the Risen Jesus' first words to the disciples were 'Peace be with you' and 'Do not be afraid.'

Our prayer this Easter must be that those who are suffering or are afraid will know that they are remembered by God and experience that reassurance of peace and hope.

Such comfort won't necessarily cancel the physical pain or anxiety, but it does remind us that through his suffering and passion on the Cross, Jesus has suffered the worst that violent humanity can do. He hears our cries and understands our pain. But through his resurrection, love has conquered hate, hope has prevailed over despair and life has triumphed over death.

What a message that is for a violent and anxious world! What a challenge to us, as Jesus' followers, to take that message to all peoples everywhere and to serve our Risen Lord through our service to others in a suffering world, a world crying out for justice and peace.

May you all know God's love and blessing this Easter Day and may your lives be illuminated by the light of the first

Easter morning throughout all the days ahead. For Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

## **UPDATE FROM THE SESSION CLERK**

The plan for a Parish Grouping for the churches in our area served by a ministry team of five ministers is now almost ready to move forward. Our Kirk Session and Congregational Board voted unanimously on 13 February to approve the Basis for the Parish Grouping and for the minister based in Coldstream to serve as worship advisor for the grouping. The congregational meeting after the morning service on 23 February also voted unanimously to approve the plans.

Many of the other congregations in the planned parish grouping have also completed some or all of the necessary votes and all the remaining votes are expected this month. Once all the votes are in, we hope that the Church of Scotland will give permission to begin the process of appointing ministers to be based in Coldstream, Duns and Earlston.

In the meantime we welcome Mrs Susan Patterson as our Interim Moderator from 1 March 2025 and thank Rev Dr Adam Hood for his guidance and support over the past year. Susan will be leading our worship on 27 April.

*Michael Rowe, Session Clerk*

## **GIFT DAY 2025**

The Treasurer, Congregational Board and Kirk Session thank most warmly all of you who responded so generously to the Gift Day Appeal in March. At the last count, over £4000 has been received. Your generosity and the faithful giving by those who make a weekly or monthly offering make a significant contribution to our ability to keep the church open to serve our community..

## **OUR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES**

### **Palm Sunday 13 April**

Service in Coldstream Parish Church at 10.30 a.m.,  
followed by refreshments in the Church Hall

### **Tuesday 15 April**

Lent reflection in the Church Hall at 7.30 p.m. with our  
friends from St Mary's.

### **Thursday 17 April**

Maundy Thursday Communion in Coldstream Parish  
Church at 7.00 p.m.

### **Friday 18 April**

Good Friday Ecumenical Walk of Witness starting from  
Henderson Park in Coldstream at 10.00 a.m. followed by  
refreshments in the Church Hall.

### **Easter Sunday 20 April**

Easter Day all-age service in Coldstream Parish Church at  
10.30 a.m., followed by refreshments in the Church Hall.

Easter Communion in Swinton Kirk at 10.00 a.m.



## **KEEP IN TOUCH**

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

[www.coldstreamdistrictchurches.org.uk](http://www.coldstreamdistrictchurches.org.uk)

and Facebook page [www.facebook.com/ColdstreamKirk](http://www.facebook.com/ColdstreamKirk)

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