

# QUEENSFERRY PARISH CHURCH

## MIDWEEK SERVICES

### NOVEMBER

#### Week 2 – Social Care Council

**Leader:** “Teacher” I said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He replied by asking me what was written in the law and I had to reply: “Love God – and love your neighbour.”

#### Opening Responses

Open our eyes

**TO WHAT WE NEED TO SEE**

Open our ears

**TO WHAT WE NEED TO HEAR**

Open our minds

**TO WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW**

Open our hearts

**TO WHAT WE NEED TO BEAR**

Open our hands

**TO WHAT WE NEED TO GIVE**

Open our lives

**TO JUSTICE AND LOVE**

**AMEN**

**Read:** Psalm 23

## **Prayer**

Gracious God, we bless you that you are a loving God and that in your love we feel valued and given a dignity, sometimes despite ourselves.

Thank you that your love is active, shown in what you do and how you do it, wanting the best and willing to give until that comes to be.

We bless you that you are a caring God who cares for all that you have made and all whom you have made.

Thank you for your tender mercy, for your gracious patience, that you do not weary of us but stick with us to the end.

We bless you that you are a serving God, who washes dirty feet, embraces the leper, and brings people in from the edges.

Thank you that you call us to serve and find our identity in giving to others and fulfilment in their joy; for in doing so we follow Jesus.

Forgive us when we do not take time for other people or do not listen to them.

Forgive our indifference, disinterest and self-centredness, and forgive us when we marginalise people or treat them as being of little worth.

Help us to find forgiveness for where we have gone wrong and the power to live differently.

Hear us as we pray in your Son's words, saying:

## **OUR FATHER**

**Read:** Luke 4 verses 16 - 22

### **Reflection**

This should take the form of an introduction from the leader of 5 – 7 minutes **maximum**, and designed to stimulate discussion on the subject.

This part of the service might involve music or something visual; it might involve silence.

Last year we celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Church of Scotland Social Care Council. Today is an opportunity to give thanks for its continuing work and to reflect generally on the provision of social care and the challenge providers of Social Care face. You might want to reflect on how best we can provide social care for the most vulnerable in our society.

### **Prayer**

This a time for prayers for the world, for the communities in which we live; for the Church and in particular the situation in which we find ourselves as a result of coronavirus; for those known to us to be in particular need of our prayers; for ourselves.

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

**LIVING GOD, TEACH US THAT THIS SMALL WORLD IS YOUR WORLD. SHOW US HOW TO RESPOND TO THE**

**NEEDS OF OTHERS AND TEACH US THAT WHEN WE DO  
SO WE ARE RESPONDING TO YOU.  
AMEN.**