

## Quiet Time Service

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024

### DAVE

Good evening and a very warm welcome to this Quiet Time service from Orchardhill Parish Church in Giffnock. Wherever you are – in church, listening online or later on the podcast, you are all very welcome. We have set this time aside to lift ourselves toward God through prayer, music and meditation – worshipping together as a family of Christ, where for a short time we focus on what is truly important.

Our theme this evening is based around faith, hope and love and how we show it to the world. Without love there is nothing. It fuels our faith and brings hope for the future. Known as the Three Christian Virtues they intermingle together as a core value of Christian life. It is how God wants us to be towards others growing in a strong faith full of love and hope.

### MAUREEN

Let us all pray together

Father god, We come to you in this quiet place- focusing on you and your holy spirit. An ever-present light bringing hope and peace throughout the world. For this short time of reflection, we are at one with God – a place where we can bring our own thoughts and Prayers. We thank you for being a listening ear putting our trust and faith in you. We pray that the constant faith we have in you, takes us through every situation guiding us on the correct path. A path you first showed us when we were tiny babies – full of love and hope as a new life began.

Amen

### LORNA

As previously mentioned, Our Theme this evening is, faith, hope and love.

You may not realize it, but the theme of love is mentioned about 365 times within the bible, depending on which translation you dig into. Thats a lot of love!

Why so many times? As Christians, we have an image of God that is pure unconditional love, and it is through the reading of his word that we see his love poured out and lavished upon us. All the way from the Creation to his countless promises, we are reminded of Gods unfailing grace and mercy, and even His righteous discipline. His love is there through every single detail of our lives. It comes unconditionally, no questions asked and in every sense it is perfect. It is through the 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians passage, that we are given an insight into what kind of love god has in store for us so we can share it throughout the world with others. A love that endures through everything – it does not boast or self-seek – a simple plain love to share with others.

It is of course in verse 13 of Paul's letter, that everything comes together in those three words. It symbolizes that love will always be there throughout eternity. It is an essential part of Gods nature, and a central part of our Christian lives. We all need to love God and love one another.

Love is the greatest of them all and if we have Love, Faith and Hope will follow. Faith, Hope and Love – these three things remain but the greatest of these is Love.

**Maureen**

Our Bible Reading this evening is taken from First Corinthians Chapter 13- Paul's famous and best-known passage about faith, hope and love.

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a ringing gong or a Clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have absolute faith to move mountains, but have no love, I am nothing.

If I give all I possess to the poor and exult in the surrender of my body, but have no love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no account of wrongs. Love takes no pleasure in evil but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be restrained; where there is knowledge, it will be dismissed. For we

know in part, and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial passes away.

When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I set aside childish ways. Now we see but a dim reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love; but the greatest of these is love.

## Lorna

Our beautiful reflection music tonight is written by High Road Music- a female, Christian worship group. A beautiful song all about faith, hope and love and bringing it to the world. All you need is faith, hope and love to move mountains and make a difference in the world. Spreading the message the best way we can with love and joy in our hearts.

<https://youtu.be/nNJusSQrB9s?si=-OiR3YHzCZIKIUEF>



## MAUREEN

We now come to a time of prayers for others within our community and the greater World. Let us come together in prayer.

Holy Loving Father,

We come to you now in this quiet space. You are ever loving – always forgiving and hopeful in all situations. A beacon of light shining and lighting our path as we navigate our circle of life. No matter what gets thrown in our path you are always there – faithful strong and true. We pray for those throughout the world who may not feel love from others through bullying or abuse. – put your loving arms around them. Show them they are unique and a special part of the world you created.

We especially pray for those who are living through times of conflict and war in Ukraine, Gaza, and Israel and we pray for peace in all areas of the world where your merciful grace and love has been lost or forgotten.

Merciful father,

We also pray at this time for those suffering bereavement or illness. Although they may feel despair, let them know your love for them so that they can gain the strength they need to carry on. We are thankful for all the medical professionals within the NHS using their caring skills to nurse the sick as well as the many doctors treating illnesses with their brilliant minds.

Caring god

We pray for those within our own community, the seekers, who are looking for a church. Give us the knowledge and wisdom to create a welcoming space full of love and care, so that we can be a beacon of love to others regardless of gender, creed or colour – your love knows no bounds.

And within your love Let's take a few moments now to pray for those close to us who are needing your love and support at this time.....

**A few moments Silence**

## Lorna

We pray for everyone involved in the Quiet time Services. Those who prepare and read at our services each week. Those who Welcome everyone and those involved in making sure the IT and Media run smoothly. This is a special time where we pray together – may we continue to bring your word to others through faith, hope and love.

Lord we pray for all the churches in our cluster their ministers and their congregations. Guide us to come together in a common way forward in love.

And now we pray for our own congregation and those who serve here. Our minister Gillian and her family, Lorna, Carol-Anne, David and Isabella and all those who give of their time often quietly without any recognition.

Father God without love we have nothing. It gives us hope in all situations and keeps our faith strong and true. As we heard in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthian 13 these three remain – Faith Hope and Love but the greatest of these is Love.

Amen

## DAVE

We now come together to say the Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name;

your kingdom come; your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil

For the kingdom, the power and the glory, are yours now and forever . Amen.

And now as we go a blessing.

May the love of Christ  
be active in your heart,  
be heard in your words,  
be seen in your actions  
and inform your choices  
today and all days.

Amen.

I would like to thank Lorna for preparing and reading this evening's service along with Maureen as our additional reader, and Gillian who organised the music.

So all that remains for me is to say a big thank you to everyone who has come along this evening and those listening later on the podcast. We hope that we will see you this Sunday here in the sanctuary of Orchardhill at 10:30 and if not then we will be back next Wednesday evening for another, Quiet Time, when we hope that you will be able to join us. Until then I hope you have a good week and I wish you all a very good night. Good Night.