

AYTON PARISH CHURCH

UNITED SERVICE

of

AYTON AND BURNMOUTH CONGREGATIONS

on

REMEMBRANCE DAY

SUNDAY, 11th NOVEMBER, 1973

at 10.45 a.m.

and

DEDICATION OF CHANCEL

(Restored in Memory of Mrs. Jessie Smith of Peelwalls)

Officiating Ministers :

The Very Reverend W. ROY SANDERSON, D.D.,
Minister at Whittingehame with Stenton

The Reverend JOHN T. PEAT, M.A.,
Minister at Ayton with Burnmouth

Organist : Dr. J. M. CARRICK, Berwick-upon-Tweed

Order of Service

ORGAN VOLUNTARY "Invocation" (Guilmant)

PSALM 124 (2) :Tune—Old 124th, 185

Now Israel
May say, and that truly,
If that the Lord
Had not our cause maintained;
If that the Lord
Had not our right sustained,
When cruel men
Against us furiously
Rose up in wrath,
To make of us their prey;

Then certainly
They had devoured us all,
And swallowed quick
For ought that we could deem;
Such was their rage,
As we might well esteem;
And, as fierce floods
Before them all things drown,
So had they brought
Our souls to death quite down.

The raging streams,
With their proud swelling waves.
Had then our soul
Overwhelmed in the deep.
But blessed be God,
Who doth us safely keep,
And hath not given
Us for a living prey
Unto their teeth
And bloody cruelty.

Even as a bird
Out of the fowler's snare
Escapes away,
So is our soul set free;
Broke are their nets,
And thus escaped we.
Therefore our help
Is in the Lord's great name,
Who heaven and earth
By His great power did frame.

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, CONFESSION AND SUPPLICATION

CHILDREN'S HYMN 576

Who would true valour see,
Let him come hither;
One here will constant be,
Come wind, come weather;
There's no discouragement
Shall make him once relent
His first avowed intent
To be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round
With dismal stories,
Do but themselves confound;
His strength the more is.
No lion can him fright,
He'll with a giant fight,
But he will have a right
To be a pilgrim.

Hobgoblin nor foul fiend
Can daunt his spirit;
He knows he at the end
Shall life inherit.
Then fancies fly away;
He'll fear not what men say;
He'll labour night and day
To be a pilgrim.

(Primary leave)

THE SILENCE OF REMEMBRANCE

Scripture Lesson : Revelation, chap. 7, 9-17

HYMN 220, verses 1 to 5 and 8

For all the saints who from their
labours rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world
confessed,
Thy Name, O Jesus, be for ever
blest.

Hallelujah !

Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress,
and their Might ;
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the
well-fought fight ;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their
one true Light.

Hallelujah !

O may Thy soldiers, faithful, true,
and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought
of old,
And win, with them, the victor's
crown of gold.

Hallelujah !

O blest communion, fellowship
divine !
We feebly struggle, they in glory
shine ;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are
Thine.

Hallelujah !

And when the strife is fierce, the
warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant
triumph song,
And hearts are brave again, and
arms are strong.

Hallelujah !

From earth's wide bounds, from
ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in
the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy
Ghost,

Hallelujah !

DEDICATION OF CHANCEL

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PSALM 84, verses 1 to 5 : Tune—Harington 66

How lovely is Thy dwelling-place,
O Lord of hosts, to me !
The tabernacles of Thy grace
How pleasant, Lord, they be !

My thirsty soul longs veh'mently,
Yea faints, Thy courts to see ;
My very heart and flesh cry out
O living God, for Thee.

Behold, the sparrow findeth out
An house wherein to rest ;
The swallow also for herself
Hath purchased a nest.

Even Thine own altars, where she
safe
Her young ones forth may bring,
O Thou almighty Lord of hosts,
Who art my God and King.

Bless'd are they in Thy house that
dwell ;
They ever give Thee praise.
Bless'd is the men whose strength
Thou art,
In whose heart are Thy ways.

SCRIPTURE LESSON : St. John, chap. 15, 1-17

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

INTIMATIONS

HYMN 195

Spirit of God, descend upon my
heart;
Wean it from earth; through all
its pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as
Thou art,
And make me love Thee as I
ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet-
ecstasies,
No sudden rending of the veil of
clay,
No angel-visitant, no opening skies;
But take the dimness of my soul
away.

Hast Thou not bid me love Thee,
God and King—
All, all Thine own, soul, heart,
and strength, and mind?
I see Thy Cross—there teach my
heart to cling;
O let me seek Thee, and O let
me find!

Teach me to feel that Thou art
always nigh;
Teach me the struggles of the
soul to bear,
To check the rising doubt, the rebel
sigh;
Teach me the patience of un-
answered prayer.

SERMON

Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

The Lord's Prayer

HYMN 207 : Tune—Westminster Abbey

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and corner-
stone,
Chosen of the Lord, and precious,
Binding all the Church in one,
Holy Zion's help for ever,
And her confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call Thee,
Come, O Lord of hosts, to-day:
With Thy wonted loving-kindness,
Hear Thy servants as they pray,
And Thy fullest benediction
Shed within its walls away.

Here vouchsafe to all Thy servants,
What they ask of Thee to gain,
What they gain from Thee for ever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Thy glory
Evermore with Thee to reign.

Laud and honour to the Father,
Laud and honour to the Son,
Laud and honour to the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One,
One in might, and One in glory,
While unending ages run.

BENEDICTION

Choral Amen

ORGAN VOLUNTARY " Festival Postlude " (Volckmar)

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE NOTE

The original Ayton Parish Church was almost certainly founded as a chapel from the Priory of Coldingham, and dedicated to St. Denys of France, in or before the year 1127. Within its walls at least three treaties between the kingdoms of England and Scotland were signed, including that of 1497 which led to the marriage in 1503 of James IV and Margaret Tudor, and thus to the eventual Union of the Crowns of the two countries.

By the time of the Reformation the church, from neglect and enemy action, was roofless and partly ruinous. It seems to have been repaired and adapted for Reformed worship after 1560, and it was extended and "improved" about 1790.

In the middle of last century a new building was thought desirable, and the present stately edifice, designed by Messrs. Brown and Wardrop, Edinburgh, was opened in 1867. At that time there can have been few finer and more genuine examples of Gothic revival architecture in Scotland: the style was described as "early decorated." But in keeping with the ideas and needs of the period the pews and interior furnishings were unfortunately arranged in a manner suited rather to churches of another design, and which was ill-adapted to the needs of the present day.

By the renovation now completed, the seating at the east end of the building has been re-orientated and the chancel restored to its rightful use as the place for the Holy Table. The Baptismal Font and Lectern have also been re-sited in positions more appropriate to their functions, and the opportunity has been taken of refurbishing the Pulpit to reveal its true shape and fine woodwork. A handsome wooden reredos screen has been erected behind the Holy Table; the apse beyond this screen is to be furnished and equipped by the Sunday School as a children's corner.

All this, together with the provision of carpeting for the chancel and part of the aisles, has been made possible by the great generosity of Mr. Alex. G. Smith, and has been carried out as a fitting memorial to his mother, Mrs. Jessie Smith of Peelwalls, who was a loyal member and benefactress of Ayton Church.

The Communion Table is an exceptionally fine piece of work, constructed and carved by local craftsmen as a memorial to the men of the parish who died in the Great War, 1914-1918. The Font, of stone, bears the wording: "Presented by Norman Mitchell-Innes, Esq., to Ayton Church, May, 1856," which suggests that it must have been in use for eleven years in the old church.

A small, simple bronze plaque is being erected in the chancel with the inscription:

To the Greater Glory of God
The Chancel was Restored
November 1973
In Memory of
Mrs. Jessie Smith of Peelwalls

"I have loved the habitation of Thy house."

How & Blackhall. Printers, 77 Marygate, Berwick-upon-Tweed.
