



Working to see what Christ will do in Scotland tomorrow.

Stornoway Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland

part of a global church with a glorious heritage



December 2017 Newsletter

BOOKS *of the* BIBLE

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| OLD TESTAMENT | J O B | HABAKKUK | COLOSSIANS |
| GENESIS | PSALMS | ZEPHANIAH | 1 THESSALONIANS |
| EXODUS | PROVERBS | HAGGAI | 2 THESSALONIANS |
| LEVITICUS | ECCLESIASTES | ZECARIAH | 1 TIMOTHY |
| NUMBERS | SONG OF SOLOMON | MALACHI | 2 TIMOTHY |
| DEUTERONOMY | ISAIAH | NEW TESTAMENT | TITUS |
| JOSHUA | JEREMIAH | MATTHEW | PHILEMON |
| JUDGES | LAMENTATIONS | MARK | HEBREWS |
| RUTH | EZEKIEL | LUKE | JAMES |
| 1 SAMUEL | DANIEL | JOHN | 1 PETER |
| 2 SAMUEL | HOSEA | ACTS | 2 PETER |
| 1 KINGS | JOEL | ROMANS | 1 JOHN |
| 2 KINGS | AMOS | 1 CORINTHIANS | 2 JOHN |
| 1 CHRONICLES | OBADIAH | 2 CORINTHIANS | 3 JOHN |
| 2 CHRONICLES | JONAH | GALATIANS | JUDE |
| EZRA | MICAH | EPHESIANS | REVELATION |
| NEHEMIAH | NAHUM | PHILIPPIANS | |
| ESTHER | | | |

\\ LAW \\ HISTORY \\ POETRY & WISDOM \\ MAJOR PROPHETS \\ MINOR PROPHETS
\\ GOSPELS \\ HISTORY \\ LETTERS OF PAUL \\ GENERAL LETTERS \\ PROPHECY



WELCOME

LORD'S DAY

Morning Worship—11.00am

Evening Worship—6.30pm

PRAYER MEETING

Thursday—7.30pm

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Word from the Manse.....2
The Holy Bible.....2-4

CONTACT DETAILS

Stornoway RPCS
Coulregrein Mission House
C/O 9 Perceval Road,
Stornoway, Isle of Lewis,
Scotland, HS1 2UG

www.stornowayrpcs.org

info@stornowayrpcs.org

Scottish Charity No: SC043043

WORD FROM THE MANSE

Dear congregation,

At the manse we have just enjoyed our Thanksgiving meal, an annual feast full of delicious American dishes such as turkey, candied yams, and green bean casserole, followed by pumpkin pie and other desserts. If you were to meet any American towards the end of November then Thanksgiving will not be far from their minds. I truly think that it is one of my favourite parts of American culture. Not much is better than sitting around a table with family and friends enjoying a banquet with good fellowship.

But one thing is needful to remember: if we are celebrating a Thanksgiving dinner, to whom are we giving thanks? Of course the answer is obvious to us in the church – to God. We already give thanks for our food each day through prayer, grateful that God has provided us our daily bread. We know that every good and perfect gift is from Him, as both Scripture and experience teach. Surely complaints should be far from us because our tables are a lot fuller than many by the providence of God.

Millions of Americans will have celebrated Thanksgiving just as we have, with the same types of food as we have enjoyed, yet how many will give thanks to the bountiful God for His gracious provisions? The original intention of the day was to return thanks to God. One of the old Thanksgiving proclamations by Abraham Lincoln in 1863 notes the following about many national blessings: “No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.”

Another significant event occurred on the same day as our feast, this time closer to home. The Chancellor, Philip Hammond, delivered his budget to Parliament. In his speech Hammond pledged millions to certain things and promised investments of billions to others. As one of the largest economies in the world the annual budget speech would be an apt opportunity to give public thanks to God for his goodness to us, even in the midst of much transgression. Alas, that is not the practice! How long can we continue to enjoy the Lord’s gifts without giving Him service?

How should we respond? Let us be sure that we cultivate within us a thankful heart. When others say to us, “You should be proud of that,” or, “You’re lucky,” or something like that, why not respond, “Well, God has been good”? Is that not a very simple way to turn a conversation around to talk about the most important thing in our lives? I wonder how many evangelistic opportunities such responses could open up.

In Christ,

Stephen

THE HOLY BIBLE

The 66 books of the Bible from the Holy Scriptures. They make up one book, for God is the author of it. The following rhymed couplets were first published around 140 years ago, and are well worth memorising.

In **Genesis** the world was made by God’s creative hand,

2 In **Exodus** the Hebrews marched to God’s promised land.

Leviticus contains the law—holy and just and good.

Numbers records the tribes enrolled—all sons of Abraham’s blood.

In **Matthew, Mark and Luke and John**, the holy Gospels tell

How Jesus lived and died and rose, to save our souls from hell.

Acts proves how God th'Apostles owned with signs in every place;

And Paul in **Romans** teaches us how man is saved by grace.

Two letters sent to **Corinth's** church instruct, reprove, exhort:

'The just shall live by faith alone,' is in **Galatians** taught.

Ephesians and **Philippians** tell what Christians ought to be;

Colossians bids us live to God and for eternity.

In **Thessalonians** we are taught the Lord will come from heaven;

In **Timothy**, and **Titus** too, a bishop's rule is given.

Philemon back receives again Onesimus the slave;

Hebrews explains the ancient types which God by Moses gave.

James tells how, without holiness, faith is but vain and dead;

And **Peter's letters** point the way in which the saints are led.

John in his letters, three in all, on love delights to dwell,

While **Jude** gives warnings, clear and strong, of judgment, wrath and hell.

The **Revelation** prophesies of that tremendous day

When Christ, and Christ alone, shall be the trembling sinner's stay.

Read oft the Scriptures, Word so pure, if you would blessed be; for of them Christ the Lord has said, 'They testify of me.'



Trinitarian Bible Society

