



Inverurie West Parish Church

Order of Service: Sunday 14 September 2025

Welcome to worship with Inverurie West Parish Church. Whether you are joining us online or in-person; as a newcomer, occasional visitor, or regular, we are delighted to have you with us. We are continuing with this season's narrative lectionary focus on the things we are called as people of faith to go and do. This morning we will be wrestling with the biblical account of Abraham's binding of Isaac and asking ourselves if this spiky, troubling story can help us understand what God might mean in telling us to 'go sacrifice.'

Welcome and notices

Call To Worship

BE STILL FOR THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD (CH4 189)

Opening Prayer (Including the Lord's prayer)

Our heavenly father

May your holy name be honoured

May your kingdom come

May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today what we really need

Forgive us the wrong we do

as we forgive those who wrong us

Lead us away from temptation

Keep us safe from evil

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours forever

Amen

Intro to the word

FATHER GOD I WONDER (CH4 186)

Reading: Genesis 21:1-3; Genesis 22: 1-14 read by Alan Gardner

Now the Lord was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah what he had promised. 2 Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him. 3 Abraham gave the name Isaac to the son Sarah bore him.

Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!”
“Here I am,” he replied.

2 Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”

3 Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. 4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. 5 He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”

6 Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, 7 Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?”

“Yes, my son?” Abraham replied.

“The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

8 Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together.

9 When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. 11 But the

angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

12 "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

13 Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided."

Reflection -

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US (CH4 549)

Prayer

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE (CH4 132)

Grace

Blessing

News

Next week's service - will be led by Morag Mitchell and Alison Sharp as Rhona will be in the West Gordon Parish that morning on Interim Moderator duty.

Zoom Bible study - will recommence on Wednesday 24th September at 730 pm. All welcome. If you are interested and not already on our mailing list, please speak to Rhona for the link.

St Mary's Episcopal church is also running a seven week bible study series, titled The Virtuous Seven beginning Thursday 18 September at 630pm in the St Mary's Centre. The series will be led by Chris Stellhorn and is open to all.

Alpha and Youth Alpha Courses - Catalyst church is going to be running these exploring faith courses each Tuesday (with a break for the October holidays) beginning on 23 September and ending 2 December. The courses will be held in the St Andrew's church halls and run from 7.15 to 9pm. All welcome. For more info speak to Rhona or contact the Catalyst church pastor Don Thomas on don.thomas@catalyst.vin

Play Church - first Play Church was great fun. Save the date if you want to join in the next one on October 5! For more info (or if you would like to help out) please speak to Rhona at 01467 620285 or r.cathcart@inveruriwestchurch.org

Fundraising and Stewardship - Registering with the EasyFundraising website is an easy way to use your online shopping to raise a little money for the church. The site is partnered with over 4000 retailers including big names like Amazon, Tesco and Argos. You can begin by following this link <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/inverurie-west-parish-church>

Foodbank - This month's wish list includes: Small jars of coffee, Tinned tomatoes, Tinned rice pudding, Tinned vegetables, Tea bags (40s/80s, please), Packets of cereal bars, Bars of chocolate (100g)

Practical help - if you, or anyone you know need shopping, errands etc done, we have lots of volunteers keen to help. For assistance ring Joyce Petrie on 01467 620932 or email help@inveruriwestchurch.org

For prayer requests, joys and concerns, or content which you would like shared on Sunday, please email Rhona on r.cathcart@inveruriwestchurch.org by Saturday night, or you can text her on her mobile.

Donations to the work of the church (either nationally or to an individual congregation like ours) can be made online at <https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/donate/11>