

ORDER OF SERVICE | 29 NOVEMBER 2020

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

MINISTER

Rev Dr Richard Frazer

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Rev Ken Luscombe

PROBATIONARY MINISTER

Dr Urzula Glienecke

VISITING MINISTERS

Rev Anne Ross & Rev Philipp Ross



GREYFRIARS

life in all its fullness / beatha na lànachd

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 29 November 2020 – First Sunday in Advent

You are very warmly welcomed to Sunday Services at Greyfriars. Whether you are watching online or in person, thank you for joining us today. During in-person services, please ensure that you are following the one-way system, adhering to a two-metre distance from others and staying seated as much as possible in order to create plenty of space between one another. We know things look a little bit different than usual, and we are grateful to you for your adherence to the rules to keep us all as safe as possible. All Sunday services are available in our online library for viewing at any time at greyfriarskirk.com/online-services.

The prophetic tasks of the Church are to tell the truth in a society that lives in illusion,
to grieve in a society that practices denial,
and to express hope in a society that lives in despair.

Walter Brueggemann

Greyfriars Bell

Organ: (On-line) Henry and Amelia Wallace: "God be in my head", by Malcolm Archer

(In-person) Henry Wallace:

"Ricerca pro Tempore Adventus", by Johann Caspar Ferdinand Fischer

Hymn:

- O come, O come, Emmanuel! Redeem thy captive Israel,
that into exile drear is gone, far from the face of God's dear Son.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*
- O come, thou Branch of Jesse! Draw the quarry from the lion's claw;
from the dread caverns of the grave, from nether hell, thy people save.*
- O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright! Pour on our souls thy healing light;
dispel the long night's ling'ring gloom, and pierce the shadows of the tomb.*
- O come, thou Lord of David's Key! The royal door fling wide and free;
safeguard for us the heav'nward road, and bar the way to death's abode.*
- O come, O come, Adonai, who in thy glorious majesty
from that high mountain clothed with awe gavest thy folk the elder law.*

18th century antiphon

tr. T. A. Lacey

Welcome and Opening Prayer: Rev Dr Richard Frazer

Collect for Advent Sunday (said by all): *Living God, you are beyond our imagining, a mystery that words cannot express. Yet, at this Advent season, we are invited to imagine you beside us. A helpless child in need of the nurture of loving parents, a young man with the wind upon his face, full of future plans, a friend with a passion for caring for the least of these. Fill us with love and anticipation, that our worship and our waiting through this season might lead us to new adventures with you. In your loving name we pray. Amen*

Readings: Anne Bradbury

Hebrew Scriptures: Isaiah 64: 1 - 9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence — as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil — to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

New Testament: Mark 13: 24-37

'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

Choir: Christ-child's Lullaby

My love, my dear, my darling, thou, my treasure new, my gladness thou,

My comely beauteous babe son thou, unworthy I do tend to thee.

Halleluia, halleluia, halleluia, halleluia.

O dear the eye that softly looks, O dear the heart that fondly loves,

Tho' but a tender babe thou art, the graces all grow up with thee.

The fair white sun of hope thou art, putting the darkness to exile,

Bringing mankind from a state of woe to knowledge, light and happiness.

Hebridean carol

Tune: Taladh Christiosta (Gaelic traditional)

Conversation: Rev Richard Frazer with our probationer Dr Urzula Glienecke,
on the last official Sunday of her attachment to us.

Pastoral prayer: Rev Ken Luscombe

Hymn 477:

1. *Lo, he comes with clouds descending, Christ, the Lamb, for sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending join to sing the glad refrain:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! God appears on earth to reign.*
2. *Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.*
3. *Those deep wounds of cross and passion still his glorious body bears;
cause of endless exultation to his ransomed worshippers;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! See! the day of God appears.*
4. *Yea, amen, let all adore you, high on your eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory, claim the kingdom for your own;
oh, come quickly, oh, come quickly, oh, come quickly,
Alleluia! come, Lord, come!*

Charles Wesley

Holy Communion

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts. *We lift them to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessèd is he, O blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.*

The Lord's Prayer

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Partaking of the Elements

Prayer and Benediction

Organ: Henry Wallace: "Nun komm der Heiden Heiland", BWV 659, by J.S. Bach