

ORDER OF SERVICE | 6 DECEMBER 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 6 December 2020 – Second 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.

'Our best chance of finding God is to look in the place where we left him'.

Meister Eckhart

Greyfriars Bell

Welcome and **Lighting of the Second Advent Candle** : Rev Richard Frazer

Hymn 277:

1. *Hark, the glad sound! The Saviour comes, the Saviour promised long;
let every heart exult with joy, and every voice with song!*
2. *He comes, the prisoners to relieve, in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.*
3. *He comes the broken hearts to bind, the bleeding souls to cure;
and with the treasures of his grace to enrich the humble poor.*
4. *The sacred year has now revolved, accepted of the Lord,
when heaven's high promise is fulfilled, and Israel is restored..*
5. *Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's exalted arches ring with thy most honoured name.*

St Luke 4: 18, 19

Prayer of Approach: Rev Dr Richard Frazer

The Word of God: read by Ian Proudfoot

Isaiah 40: 1 - 11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a

highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.' A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

1 Thessalonians 5: 1 - 11

Introduction: St Paul writes to the Thessalonian Church urging them to become active citizens and not to wait passively for "The Day of the Lord". Positive engagement with the life of the city, shedding light in dark corners is what Paul urges from his hearers. Let's listen to his words:

Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labour pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Sermon: Rev Richard Frazer

Music for Reflection: Voces 8: "Let my love be heard"

Pastoral Prayer, Lord's Prayer and Blessing: Rev Richard Frazer

Hymn 489:

Come down, O Love Divine

Bianco da Siena

Organ: Henry Wallace: "Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ", BWV 722, by J. S. Bach