



GREYFRIARS COMMUNITY NEWS

Keeping you up to date with what's going on in and around Greyfriars Kirk

The **Minister**, Richard Frazer, or **Associate Minister**, Ken Luscombe, are happy to speak to anyone to discuss any matter, whether you are a member or not. Please contact either:

- Richard on 07715 069 041 or by email at minister@greyfriarskirk.com, or
- Ken on 07488 258 875 or by email at associateminister@greyfriarskirk.com.

THIS SUNDAY: 4 APRIL 2021

11.00 am Online Service at greyfriarskirk.com/online-services.
To take part in the communion portion of the service,
please bring your own bread and wine to the viewing.

Midweek Prayers

We are delighted to announce that in-person Midweek Prayers have returned to Greyfriars Kirk. Join us each Thursday in the sanctuary from 1:10 - 1:30 pm for this special time of prayer and reflection.

Sunday Services

Bookings for attending our in-person Sunday Service are now live on the Kirk website (link below in blue). Please ensure that you book in advance if you would like to attend a service, as there are only 50 spaces available for each week. We look forward to welcoming you back. Have questions about the service? Please review the frequently asked questions, available on our website at:

<https://greyfriarskirk.com/inperson>

Kirk Opening

The Kirk is still closed to visitors. It will re-open on **Thursdays** from **11:00 am to 3:00 pm** as soon as the current restrictions are sufficiently eased. Please keep checking the website for the latest information.

Greyfriars YouTube Channel

We are excited to announce that we have now transitioned Sunday Services and Midweek Prayers from Facebook Live to our **YouTube** account. This new platform makes our services better than ever, as it is built just for videos. Want to watch our services live? Just visit the Greyfriars Kirk YouTube channel at the link below at 11 am on Sundays (for Sunday Services) and at 1:10 pm on Thursdays (for Midweek Prayers). Can't make it to a service live? Never a problem - all of our videos will be available to you at any time via our Online Services page on the Kirk website. We look forward to you tuning in!

📺 Watch on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/greyfriarstv>

📺 Watch on our website: <https://bit.ly/gfk3cs>

New Virtual Tour of Greyfriars !

Have you missed visiting and looking around the Kirk? We have certainly missed welcoming you and all our many friends. We are VERY EXCITED to announce that we have created a virtual tour of Greyfriars just for you! Pan, click and zoom in on some of our favourite treasures and hidden secrets. Click the link below to start your adventure! 🖱

<https://greyfriarskirk.com/virtualtour>

Giving to the Kirk

With the church building closed to outside activity we are totally dependent on the generous financial support of our members, regular attenders, online visitors and friends. As we cannot circulate the usual offering plate as widely, the online alternative is through this link: <https://bit.ly/greyfriarsdonate>. Although headings on that page refer to Greyfriars Outreach, all donations will be used for the same general Greyfriars Kirk purposes as regular offerings; ministry, the Kirk building and staff. Many thanks.

If you are shopping on-line with AMAZON, please can you pay via AMAZON SMILE? This is their way of giving a proportion of your purchase amount right back to Greyfriars Kirk. Again, you can help the Kirk in this way without any monetary impact at all on your bank balance! All that you need to do is quote Greyfriars Kirk's Charity number, which is SC003761.

Study Service: Sundays at 7.00 pm

The topic for the Study Service this Sunday is RESURRECTION and NEW CREATION. The sheer magnitude and significance of what happened in the bodily resurrection of Jesus is something we need to take very much more seriously than we do. It lies at the heart of the New Testament and comes out most strongly in the writings of Paul.

The incarnation tells us that God, without ceasing to be wholly God, became wholly man in the fulness of all that we are as human beings in mind and body. And the fact that God himself became man re-inforces the utter importance for God of all that we are as bodily beings.

The cross of Jesus tells us that God died on the cross, not die the death of God, but the death of man, real death, just as we will all one day die. But the death of Jesus was much more than that, for it was the final death of God's judgment on all that is twisted and wrong in human life.

The resurrection of Jesus tells us that his bodily rising from the dead was actually the beginning of the new creation. It was the beginning, in Jesus, of the resurrection of the whole of creation in him, IN HIM, and not yet in us or in creation as such. Paul speaks about the resurrection of Jesus as the "first-fruits" (1 Corinthians 15.20-23), as it were, of the harvest, for what happened in Jesus will happen to us and to the whole of creation. We and the whole of creation are destined to follow therefore in the pattern of Jesus. The colossal significance of this is so mind-blowing that we can hardly begin to take it in. It is simply astonishing in the depth of its implications.

What is also astonishing is that the modern understanding of the nature of scientific law would not now rule out as impossible such a renewal of the cosmos. When lecturing at Princeton on the difference between the modern concept and the Newtonian concept of law which excluded miracles, and in order to illustrate his point, Richard Feynman the celebrated American physicist and expert on scientific law and not a Christian believer himself, said "You know, this would not be hostile even to Christian views of incarnation and resurrection".

We will look at several biblical passages and their inter-connection, Romans 8: 18-25, 35-39; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-8, 17-26, 51-56; Ephesians 1: .9-10, 15-23; Colossians 1:15-20.

If you are interested in joining this special Zoom gathering, please get in touch to find out more: www.greyfriarskirk.com/get-in-touch or visit the [Study Service](#) page on our website.

Parish Minister / Associate Minister Job Posting

Besides being a parish church in the centre of Edinburgh, over many years Greyfriars has developed a ministry to people on the 'edge', through the Grassmarket Community Project and the Greyfriars Charteris Centre. We are now looking for someone with experience in and a focus on pastoral care who will take forward that ministry, not only walking alongside our remarkable, outward looking and generous congregation, but serving the other groups that make up the Greyfriars community.

Interested in the post, or know someone who might be? For more information, visit the Kirk website at www.greyfriarskirk.com/jobs.

Any experienced systems software developers in our midst?

One of the things we have been doing this year is to review some of the systems that we use across the "Greyfriars family": the Kirk, the Grassmarket Community Project and the Greyfriars Charteris Centre. We are investigating a system called Salesforce to help us with aspects of outreach and with bringing our three places together. We wondered if we might have any individual within our midst who has experience with the programming/development aspects of Salesforce ([CRM Software & Cloud Computing Solutions - Salesforce UK](#)) or similar systems? Please let Gillian know: celebrate400@greyfriarskirk.com.

Grassmarket Community Project - Activities to Join in

The GCP is running various online activities while we continue with lockdown and social restrictions. These activities are a great opportunity to socialise with others in the Greyfriars and Grassmarket communities, learn something interesting, or have a bit of fun! There's Scottish History, Community Choir, a book group, cinema chat, mindfulness (with the previous Probationer Minister at Greyfriars, Urzula) and more. There are also coffee break sessions, at which it's always particularly nice to see some new face, and good for those that just want to drop in for a bit. Check all these out here: [Plan C – Grassmarket Community Project](#). You are very warmly welcome to join in! If you'd like any more information, to receive the regular community bulletin saying what's on, or to speak to someone at the GCP, you can call 0131 225 3626 or email info@grassmarket.org.

Pastoral Care at Greyfriars Kirk

The Kirk's pastoral volunteers enjoy staying in touch with the congregation and community. If you would like a chat, please contact Ken Luscombe (contact details at the top of this newsletter).

If you would like to send in any comments, ideas, requests or queries, please email the office at communications@greyfriarskirk.com. Any thoughts, large or small, very welcome.