

ORDER OF SERVICE – 11 APRIL 2021

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

MINISTER

Rev Dr Richard Frazer

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Rev Ken Luscombe

VISITING MINISTERS

Rev Anne Ross & Rev Philipp Ross



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 11 April 2021 – Low Sunday

You are very warmly welcomed to Sunday Services at Greyfriars. All our services are available in our online library for viewing at any time at greyfriarskirk.com/online-services.

Organ: “Ach bleib mit deiner Gnade”, Op. 65

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Welcome and Call to Worship: Rev Philipp Ross

Hymn 417:

1. *Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*
2. *In the grave they laid him, Love whom men had slain,
thinking that never he would wake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*
3. *Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain,
quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*
4. *When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
thy touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

John Crum

Prayer of Approach and Confession: Rev Philipp Ross

Collect for the Day:

Grant, we pray, O God, that we, who share in the paschal celebrations, may, through your goodness, hold fast to them in the way we live our lives; through Jesus Christ who is alive with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*

The Word of God

Acts 4: 32 -37

Reader: Catherine Alexander

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means 'son of encouragement'). He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

John 20: 19- 31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Hymn 393:

1. *We turn to God when we are sorely pressed;
we pray for help, and ask for peace and bread;
we seek release from illness, guilt, and death:
all people do, in faith or unbelief.*
2. *We turn to God when he is sorely pressed,
and find him poor, scorned, without roof and bread,
bowed under weight of weakness, sin, and death:
faith stands by God in his dark hour of grief.*

3. *God turns to us when we are sorely pressed,
and feeds our souls and bodies with his bread;
for one and all Christ gives himself in death:
through his forgiveness sin will find relief.*

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Sermon: Rev Ken Luscombe

Affirmation of Faith:

(from the Iona Abbey Worship Book, adapted)

We believe in God whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that awaits to enslave us all and whose love, defeating death, holds a promise of freedom. Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, in God we trust; and in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the Earth and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness, to live in the freedom of forgiveness and the power of the Spirit of love, and in the company of the faithful, wherever found. *Amen*

Music for Reflection: "Ach Gott und Herr", BWV 714

J.S. Bach

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer: Rev Philipp Ross

Hymn 528:

1. *Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your pardon, Lord; and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand; to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*
2. *Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life let me bring hope;
where there is darkness, only light; and where there's sadness, ever joy.*
3. *Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive; and in dying that we're born to eternal life.*

Sebastian Temple

Benediction

Organ: "Wer nur den lieben Gott lasst walten", BWV 690

J.S. Bach