



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: 13 JUNE 2021

11.00 am In-Person Service at the Kirk -- **no booking required**, provide Track & Trace details at the door.
Online Services -- watch on your YouTube channel at <https://bit.ly/greyfriarstv>.

NEXT SUNDAY: 20 JUNE 2021

11.00 am In-Person Service at the Kirk, together with officebearers of the Presbytery of Edinburgh for the introduction of the Rev Ruth Halley and Gillian Couper to the Greyfriars Ministry team.

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. Watch online at <https://bit.ly/greyfriarsmidweek>.

Kirk Opening - at last!

The Kirk will re-open to visitors on **Thursday 17 June**, from 11.00 am to 3.00 pm with a short break for Midweek Prayers. The following week, it will be open on **Thursday 24 June** and **Saturday 26 June**. The following month, we expect to open for the same four hours daily except on Sundays and Mondays. Please keep checking the website for the latest information.

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.

Communications Coordinator

Greyfriars Kirk is looking for an experienced, energetic and detail-oriented individual to serve as our Communications Coordinator. This full-time role encompasses a myriad of aspects - could you be the person we are looking for?

Visit [greyfriarskirk.com/jobs](https://www.greyfriarskirk.com/jobs) to learn more about this role, and about how to submit your C.V. and cover letter.

Closing Date: Sunday 13 June 2021

Study Service: Sundays at 7.00 pm

The Study Service this week is a bible study on John 5 where we have the first major confrontation of Jesus with the Jewish leaders of his day. Just as John 1 is an outline of the main themes of John's gospel, so John 5 is a full outline of the profound clash between the coming of God into time and a tradition which attempted to fulfil the outward demands of the law while keeping God at a distance, using the law as a barrier against him and refusing him the love of the heart.

In Jesus, God steps out from behind the law, confronting people with himself in the starkest possible fashion. His divinity is of course veiled, for he comes as man, but he does so in such a way that people are profoundly shaken by his presence and can no longer avoid ultimate questions about God, about his nature and what it should mean to be human beings made for fellowship with him and one another. Ultimately, it is a clash between the revelation of the one God as inherently trinitarian, Father, Son and Spirit, and a deistic view of a distant God.

Jesus is careful of course only to reveal who he is very gradually and never fully before the cross as he knew people would not be able to understand him until after his resurrection and his sending of his Spirit. John 5 is one of the most important chapters in John and can hardly be read too often. It teaches us the profound nature and depth of the relation between Father and Son.

It is the Son who has become man, not the Father or the Spirit, but in Jesus, Father, Son and Spirit work together for the healing reconstruction of humanity. In this one man Jesus, God has acted decisively to heal humanity and establish the eternal life which is identical with the risen humanity of Jesus and is freely offered in grace to all who believe and embrace him. Not to do so, is to refuse life.

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.

Ecumenical Orchard/Gardening Group at GCP

We still exist! The pandemic has not hindered our apple and pear trees from growing and blossoming. What a sign of hope! The group will meet weekly on Saturday mornings from 10.30 to 12.30 to care for our little orchard but also to do gardening at the Quiet Garden at St Columba's. We're now running as a GCP group in ecumenical partnership. If you want to join us in digging, sowing, planting, pruning and eventually harvesting, please drop me (Anne Ross) a line: a.ross@churchofscotland.org.uk.

Grassmarket Community Project - Activities to Join in

The GCP is running various online activities and from the 26th April a limited number of activities in the centre. 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! Online there is Scottish History, Community Choir, a book group, cinema chat, mindfulness 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. In person activities include Art, Reading and Writing, Tartan Skills and IT where people are gaining skills to go online as well as many other useful tips.

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.