

ORDER OF SERVICE – 22 August 2021

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev Dr Richard Frazer
Rev Ken Luscombe
Rev Ruth Halley
Gillian Couper



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 22 August 2021 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

You are very warmly welcomed to Sunday Services at Greyfriars. All our services are available on our YouTube channel for viewing at any time at bit.ly/greyfriarstv.

Organ: "Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ", BWV 639

J.S. Bach

Welcome and Call to Worship: Rev Richard Frazer

Hymn 172:

1. *Sing for God's glory that colours the dawn of creation,
racing across the sky, trailing bright clouds of elation;
sun of delight succeeds the velvet of night, warming the earth's exultation.*
2. *Sing for God's power that shatters the chains that would bind us,
searing the darkness of fear and despair that would blind us,
touching our shame with love that will not lay blame, reaching out gently to find us.*
3. *Sing for God's justice disturbing each easy illusion,
tearing down tyrants and putting our pride to confusion;
lifeblood of right, resisting evil and slight, offering freedom's transfusion.*
4. *Sing for God's saints who have travelled faith's journey before us,
who in our weariness give us their hope to restore us;
in them we see the new creation to be, spirit of love made flesh for us.*

Kathryn Galloway

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Pardon: Rev Ruth Halley

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Collect for the day:

Almighty God, you have taught us that without love all our doings are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

The Word of God

Acts 17: 22 – 34

Reader: Dr Alison Elliot

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we too are his offspring."

Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

When they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some scoffed; but others said, 'We will hear you again about this.' At that point Paul left them. But some of them joined him and became believers, including Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

Hymn 43 (Psalm 63):

1. *O God, you are my God alone, whom eagerly I seek,
though longing fills my soul with thirst and leaves my body weak.
Just as a dry and barren land awaits a freshening shower,
I long within your courts to see your glory and your power.*
2. *Your faithful love surpasses life, evoking all my praise.
Through every day, to bless your name, my hands in joy I'll raise.
My deepest needs you satisfy as with a sumptuous feast.
So, on my lips and in my heart, your praise has never ceased.*
3. *Throughout the night I lie in bed and call you, Lord, to mind;
in darkest hours I meditate how God, my strength, is kind.
Beneath the shadow of your wing, I live and feel secure;
and daily as I follow close, your right hand keeps me sure.*

John L. Bell

Matthew 14: 13 – 21

Now when Jesus heard [of the death of John the Baptist], he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

Sermon: Rev Richard Frazer

Music for Reflection

from the Requiem, by Gabriel Fauré

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem. Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem sempiternam.

(*Merciful Lord Jesus, grant them eternal rest.*)

Affirmation of Faith:

We believe in God, the source of all life, wholeness, and love.

We believe that God is revealed in the life of Jesus Christ in grace, mercy and justice.

*We believe that in his death, Jesus reveals God's determined presence in the world
even in the face of hatred, violence, and pain.*

*We believe that in his resurrection, Jesus reveals God calling us
to abundant life both now and forever.*

We believe that God lives among us, within us, and through us by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We believe that God moves us to be together in communities of faith, hope and love.

*We believe these things not out of certainty but out of faith; as people who trust
in the reality of God revealed in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit.*

Amen

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

*All praise and thanks to God who reigns in highest heaven,
the Father and the Son and Spirit, now be given:
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.*

Pastoral prayer: Rev Richard Frazer

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn 722:

1. *Spirit of God, come dwell within me. Open my heart, oh, come set me free.
Fill me with love for Jesus, my Lord, come, fill me with living water.
Jesus is living, Jesus is here. Jesus, my Lord, come closer to me:
Jesus, our Saviour, dying for me, and rising to save his people.*
2. *Lord, how I thirst, my Lord, I am weak. Lord, come to me, you alone do I seek.
Lord, you are life and love and hope, come, fill me with living water.*
3. *Lord, I am blind, my Lord, I can't see. Stretch out your hand, bring comfort to me.
Lead me your way in light and in truth, come, fill me with living water.*

Helen Kennedy

Benediction

*May the God of peace go with us as we travel from this place;
may the love of Jesus keep us firm in hope and full of grace.*

Organ: Dialogue, from Messe pour les Couvents

Francois Couperin