

ORDER OF SERVICE – 26 September 2021

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

MINISTRY TEAM

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



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 26 September 2021 – Eighteenth 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.

Send out your light and your truth to be my guide;
let them lead me to your holy hill, to your dwelling place.

Psalm 43:3

Organ: Elevation: Tierce en Taille, from Messe pour les Couvents

François Couperin

Welcome and Call to Worship: Gillian Couper

Hymn 112:

1. *God, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard, and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel-day sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.*
2. *Saviour, who came to bring, on your redeeming wing, healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind, sight to the inly blind,
now to all humankind let there be light.*
3. *Spirit of truth and love, life-giving holy dove, speed forth your flight;
move o'er the waters' face, bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place let there be light.*
4. *Blessèd and holy Three, glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless as ocean's tide rolling in fullest pride,
through the world far and wide let there be light.*

John Marriott and Thomas Raffles

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Pardon: Gillian Couper

Collect for the Day:

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered by your Holy Spirit into one, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your name; 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

James 5: 13 - 20

Reader: Anne Bradbury

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Mark 9: 38 - 50

John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

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

Hymn 10 (Psalm 19):

1. *The stars declare his glory; the vault of heaven springs
mute witness of the Master's hand in all created things,
and through the silences of space their soundless music sings.*
2. *The dawn returns its splendour, the heavens burn and blaze,
the rising sun renews the race that measures all our days,
and writes in fire across the skies God's majesty and praise.*
3. *So shine the Lord's commandments to make the simple wise;
more sweet than honey to the taste, more rich than any prize,
a law of love within our hearts, a light before our eyes.*
4. *So order too this life of mine, direct it all my days;
may meditations of my heart be innocence and praise,
my rock and my redeeming Lord, in all my words and ways.*

Timothy Dudley-Smith

Sermon: Gillian Couper

Affirmation of Faith:

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of the one God, maker and sustainer of earth, sea and sky. Born of Mary's womb, Jesus healed the sick, served the poor, and proclaimed heaven on earth. He died, but transformed even death, and rose to life so that he might journey with us. He blessed his disciples with his Holy Spirit and sent them forth, east and west, north and south.

We commit ourselves to Jesus, to one another as brothers and sisters, and to his mission in the world, by the grace of the Holy Spirit. *Amen*

Dedication of the Offering

*To Father, Son and Holy Ghost, the God whom we adore,
be glory, as it was, and is, and shall be evermore.*

Prayer of Dedication**Holy Communion**

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessèd is he, O blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Partaking of the Elements

Music for Reflection: Prelude in D major, BWV 936

J.S. Bach
Victoria Irvine, piano

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Pastoral Prayer: Rev Ruth Halley

Hymn 227:

1. *The earth is yours, O God, you nourish it with rain;
the streams and rivers overflow, the land bears seed again.*
2. *The soil is yours, O God, the shoots are moist with dew,
and, ripened by the burning sun, the corn grows straight and true.*
3. *The hills are yours, O God, their grass is lush and green,
providing pasture for the flocks, which everywhere are seen.*
4. *The whole rich land is yours, for fodder or for plough,
and so, for rain, sun, soil, and seed, O God, we thank you now.*

Michael Saward

Benediction

Amen

Organ: Plein jeu: Premier Couplet du Sanctus

François Couperin