

ORDER OF SERVICE – 25 DECEMBER 2021

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev Dr Richard Frazer
Rev Ruth Halley
Gillian Couper

Saturday 25 December 2021 – Christmas Day

Organ: Ricercar pro Festis Natalitys

J.K.F. Fischer

Welcome and Call to Worship: Rev Richard Frazer

Hymn 306:

1. *O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him, born the King of Angels; O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*
2. *God of God, Light of light, lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created; O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*
3. *Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
'Glory to God in the highest': O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*
4. *Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given:
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

Call to Prayer

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Pardon

*Child in the manger, infant of Mary, outcast and stranger, Lord of all!
Child who inherits all our transgressions, all our demerits on him fall.*

Collect for the Day:

God of love, Father of all, the darkness that covered the earth has given way to the bright dawn of your Word made flesh. Make us a people of this light. Make us faithful to your Word that we may bring your life to the waiting world. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen

The Word of God

Hebrew Scriptures: Isaiah 9: 2, 6 – 7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Choir:

Sweet baby, sleep! What ails my dear? What ails my darling thus to cry?
Be still, my child, and lend thine ear to hear me sing thy lullaby.
My pretty lamb, forbear to weep; be still, my dear; sweet baby, sleep.

A little infant once was he, and strength in weakness then was laid
upon his virgin mother's knee, that power to thee might be conveyed.
Sweet baby, then, forbear to weep; be still, my babe; sweet baby, sleep.

The wants that he did then sustain have purchased wealth, my babe, for thee;
and by his torments and his pain thy rest and ease secured be.

My baby, then, forbear to weep; be still, my babe; sweet baby, sleep.

George Wither

R. Vaughan Williams

Gospel: Luke 2: 1 - 14

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

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

Hymn 300:

1. *The Virgin Mary had a baby boy, the Virgin Mary had a baby boy,
the Virgin Mary had a baby boy and they say that his name is Jesus.
He come from the glory, he come from the glorious kingdom;
he come from the glory, he come from the glorious kingdom.
O yes, believer! O yes, believer!
He come from the glory, he come from the glorious kingdom.*
2. *The angels sang when the baby was born, the angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born and they sang that his name is Jesus.*
3. *The shepherds came where the baby was born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born and they say that his name is Jesus.*

West Indian traditional

Sermon

Affirmation:

Leader: We affirm that we are made in God's image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit. With people everywhere:

All: *We affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity,
planted more deeply than all that is wrong.*

Leader: With all creation:

All: *We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life;
the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and in the world. Amen.*

(over)

Hymn 322:

1. *Good Christians, all rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now give heed to what we say, Jesus Christ is born today:
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!*
2. *Good Christians, all rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now you hear of endless bliss, Jesus Christ was born for this:
he has opened heaven's door, and all are blessed for evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!*
3. *Good Christians, all rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now you need not fear the grave, Jesus Christ was born to save,
calls you one, and calls you all, to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!*

John Mason Neale

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn 324:

1. *Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship Christ, the new-born King.
Come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born King.*
4. *Though an infant now we view him, he will share his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him, every knee shall then bow down:*
5. *All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:*

James Montgomery, and others

Benediction

Amen

Organ: Chorale Prelude on "Der Tag, der ist so freudenreich", BWV 605

J.S. Bach