

ORDER OF SERVICE – 20 FEBRUARY 2022

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev Dr Richard Frazer
Rev Ruth Halley
Gillian Couper



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 20 February 2022 – Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

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: Air and Gavotte

Samuel Wesley

Welcome and Call to Worship: Rev Richard Frazer

Hymn 598:

- 1 *Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire, let us thine influence prove;
source of the old prophetic fire, fountain of life and love.*
2. *Come Holy Ghost, for moved by thee the prophets wrote and spoke;
unlock the truth, thyself the key: unseal the sacred book.*
3. *Expand thy wings, celestial Dove, brood o'er our nature's night;
on our disordered spirits move, and let there now be light.*
4. *God through himself we then shall know, if thou within us shine,
and sound, with all thy saints below, the depths of love divine.*

Charles Wesley

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Pardon

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. (Lord, have mercy.)

Collect for the Day:

Journeying Christ, meet us as we travel on our way through life and show us new things and fresh perspectives. Remind us that even beyond your death, you are mysteriously present still, a companion on our pilgrimage through life. In your name we pray. Amen

The Word of God

Genesis 45: 3 – 11, 15

Reader: Tori Graham

Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?' But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come closer to me.' And they came closer. He said, 'I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest.

God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there — since there are five more years of famine to come — so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty." And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Psalm 37

(version by Carla Grosch-Miller)

This is the promise: awakened and patient love leads to life abundant. Envy not the prosperity of the greedy and self-centred. Self-satisfaction is shallow. Moth and rust consume treasure. The heart shrinks as wealth grows; enough eludes. Grief comes to the rich and the poor, but joy escapes those that put their trust in riches. Turn instead towards the Source. Place your trust in the Eternal. Persevere in doing right; delight in dependence on friends. Give generously. Share gratefully. Rest in the evening with ease. The years pass. One seldom sees the fruits of one's labours; seeds sown produce a harvest uncounted by the hand of the sower. Give thanks for the sowing without thought for the harvest. In times of sorrow, accept consolation. Peace is not far off. In times of travail, wait patiently. Strength for the day will come. In times of struggle, wrestle wholeheartedly. Prayer is heard. Listen. Those who turn their hearts towards the Holy are not disappointed. Contentment is theirs. In simplicity is wisdom and peace.

Hymn 485:

1. *Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways;
re clothe us in our rightful mind;
in purer lives thy service find, in deeper reverence, praise.*
2. *In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word rise up, and follow thee.*
3. *O Sabbath rest by Galilee! O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity, interpreted by love!*
4. *With that deep hush subduing all our words and works that drown
the tender whisper of thy call,
as noiseless let thy blessing fall as fell thy manna down.*
5. *Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace.*
6. *Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind and fire, O still small voice of calm!*

John Greenleaf Whittier

Luke 6: 27 – 38

Jesus said, 'But I say to you that listen, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. 'If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.'

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

Anthem:

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness, make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

Psalms 5: 8 and 4: 8

S. S. Wesley

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith:

We belong to God, creator of all that is and all that is to come, abundant provider of the gifts in this life and the gifts in our own hearts. It is God alone who gives life, who is generous beyond measure with grace and blessing.

We follow Christ, whom God sent to teach and heal, to show us the way to live, with love and trust, joy and generosity. In this faith Jesus gave of himself, even his very life. He was crucified and buried; yet God raised him from death, and he lives among us, and grants his spirit to us.

We live by that Holy Spirit, and entrust ourselves to her guidance and strength. As members of the church, the Body of Christ, we commit ourselves to lives of love and justice, rejoicing in the power of forgiveness, the reality of resurrection, and the mystery of eternal life. 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.*

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn 251:

1. *I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*
2. *I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my Word to them. Whom shall I send?*
3. *I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?*

Daniel L. Schutte

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: Choral Song

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

NOTES

Forthcoming Services

Thursday 24 February	1.10 pm: Midweek Prayers
Sunday 27 February	11.00 am: Holy Communion 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service
Sunday 6 March	9.30 am: Holy Communion 11.00 am: Morning Worship with our ecumenical partner churches Augustine United and St Columba's by the Castle. 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service

Greyfriars Lunchtime Concerts

The popular Greyfriars lunchtime concerts at 12 noon on Thursdays continue this Thursday, 24 February, with a piano recital by John Longley. Admission is free.

Refreshments

With the easing of social restrictions, we are now able to offer biscuits and tea or coffee after our Sunday Service, hoping that this will be a welcome opportunity for those who feel comfortable and able to attend. There is plenty of room for social distancing, with tables and chairs set out appropriately, but please don't take off your face covering until seated.

The catering team would welcome volunteers to help with this service. If you would like to help out, or to find out more, please contact the Kirk office, who will put you in touch with Isobel and Margaret: email communications@greyfriarskirk.com or telephone: 0131 225 1900.

Pastoral Care and Staying in Touch

The ministry team and pastoral volunteers at the church enjoy staying in touch with folk in the congregation and community. It is great to hear how folk are getting on, share news about what is going on in the life of the community, enjoy friendship and support each other when it is needed. If you would like to chat, or you know someone that might need some help or would simply enjoy hearing from us, please do get in touch. The ministry team and elders welcoming people at the door are always happy to talk before or after Sunday Services, and will put you in touch with the pastoral team, or you can contact Gillian by email: parishassociate@greyfriarskirk.com or by phone: 07808 472 464.

If you would like to speak to a minister, Richard or Ruth will be very pleased to hear from you too: Richard by phone on 07715 069 041 or by email at minister@greyfriarskirk.com, or Ruth by phone on 07530 307 413 or by email at associate.minister@greyfriarskirk.com.