

ORDER OF SERVICE - 4 DECEMBER 2022

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev Dr Richard Frazer
Rev Ruth Halley
Gillian Couper



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 4 December 2022 – Second Sunday of Advent

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: Adagio, from Symphony No.3

Louis Vierne

Organ Introit: "Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ", BWV 604

J.S. Bach

Welcome and Call to Worship: Rev Richard Frazer

Hymn 279:

1. *Make way, make way, for Christ the King in splendour arrives;
fling wide the gates and welcome him into your lives.
Make way, make way, for the King of kings;
make way, make way, and let his kingdom in.*
2. *He comes the broken hearts to heal, the prisoners to free;
the deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance, the blind shall see.*
3. *And those who mourn with heavy hearts, who weep and sigh,
with laughter, joy, and royal crown he'll beautify.*
4. *We call you now to worship him as Lord of all,
to have no gods before him, their thrones must fall!*

Graham Kendrick

Call to Prayer and Prayers of Approach, Confession and Pardon

Collect for the Day:

Almighty God, you sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah. Inspire the ministers and stewards of your truth to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Hymn 277 (Paraphrase 39):

1. *Hark, the glad sound! The Saviour comes, the Saviour promised long;
let every heart exult with joy, and every voice with song!*
2. *He comes, the prisoners to relieve, in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.*
3. *He comes the broken hearts to bind, the bleeding souls to cure;
and with the treasures of his grace to enrich the humble poor.*
4. *The sacred year has now revolved, accepted of the Lord,
when heaven's high promise is fulfilled, and Israel is restored..*
5. *Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's exalted arches ring with thy most honoured name.*

St Luke 4: 18-19

The Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

The Word of God

Isaiah 11: 1 - 10

Reader: Amelia Wallace

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Hymn 276:

Wait for the Lord, his day is near.

Wait for the Lord, keep watch, take heart.

Prepare a way for the Lord. Make a straight path for him. Prepare a way for the Lord.

Wait for the Lord . . .

Rejoice in the Lord always: God is at hand.

Joy and gladness for all who seek the Lord.

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed. All the earth will see the Lord.

I waited for the Lord. God heard my cry.

Our eyes are fixed on the Lord our God.

Seek first the kingdom of God. Seek and ye shall find.

O Lord, show us your way. Guide us in your truth.

Taizé Community

Matthew 3: 1 -12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

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

Anthem:

Awake us, Lord, and hasten! Thy Holy Spirit give! The old man in us chasten, that our new man may live; on earth may know thee only, our thoughts give to thee wholly, and all thy goodness own.

J.S. Bach

Sermon

Music for Reflection

(Alison Gregson, clarinet)

An Invocation:

Leader: Come, Spirit of Love, that goes to any lengths, that breaks through a lifetime's crippling habits, that wells up from the depths,

All: *Come, Spirit of Love.*

Leader: Come, Spirit of Purity, that burns away lust and wastefulness of time,

All: *Come, Spirit of Purity.*

Leader: Come, Spirit of Wisdom, that teaches us to see into the nature of things, to know and to do what is right.

All: *Come, Spirit of Wisdom.*

Leader: Come, Spirit of Joy, that brings a song into blighted lives, a serenity into our roots and a sparkle into our eyes.

All: *Come, Spirit of Joy.*

Leader: Come, Spirit of Power, that snaps the chains of fear and casts out the demons of hell and hopelessness,

All: *Come, Spirit of Power.*

Leader: The Spirit of Love, of Purity, of Wisdom, of Joy and Power is coming.

All: *Even so, come, Lord Jesus, for just as we await your coming in Advent, we trust your presence even now, and that you accompany us through our deepest sorrow and our greatest joys.*

Glory to Jesus. Glory to the Father. Glory to you, boundless Spirit.

Amen

The Offering

Gonfalon Royal

*Sing to the Lord of heaven and earth, whom angels serve and saints adore,
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest to whom be praise for evermore. Amen.*

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer: *Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen*

Hymn 468:

Blaenwern

1. *Son of God, eternal Saviour, source of life and truth and grace,
Son of Man, whose birth incarnate hallows all our human race;
great High Priest who, throned in glory, for your own will ever plead,
fill us with your love and pity, heal our wrongs, and help our need.*
2. *Lord, as you have lived for others, so may we for others live;
freely have your gifts been granted, freely may your servants give.
Yours the gold and yours the silver, yours the wealth of sea and land,
we but stewards of your bounty, held in trust at your command.*
3. *Come, Lord Jesus, reign among us, King of Love, and Prince of Peace;
hush the storm of strife and passion, bid its cruel discords cease.
Yours the prayer, and yours the purpose, that your people should be one;
grant from heaven our hope's fruition: here on earth your will be done.*

Somerset Corry Lowry

Benediction

Amen

Organ: Passacaglia

Dietrich Buxtehude

NOTES

Forthcoming Services:

Sunday 4 December	7.00 pm: Refugio – Holy Communion with silence and symbol
Thursday 8 December	1.10 pm: Midweek Prayers
Sunday 11 December	11.00 am: Morning Worship 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service
Sunday 18 December	11.00 am: Morning Worship 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service

Refreshments

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.

Greyfriars Lunchtime Concerts

The popular Greyfriars lunchtime concerts continue at 12 noon this Thursday, 8 December, with an organ recital by Ciaran Walker, who is the organist at St. Michael's Church in Inveresk. Admission is free.

Giving with Gift Aid

When giving to the Kirk through a cash offering during the service, do please use the Gift Aid envelope that you will find in the backs of the chairs. If you are a UK taxpayer we can reclaim a further 25p in the £ by way of tax refund, without cost to yourself. If you have already completed an envelope in full on a previous occasion, or completed a Gift Aid declaration, you need only fill in your name and the amount. Thank you so much for your support, which we depend on to maintain the life of the Kirk.

Times of Sunday Services

From 1 January 2023, morning worship will be at **10.30** am, and from 5 February, early Communion will be at **9.15 am**. Gaelic service times will be unchanged.

GCP Christmas Appeal

Jonny Kinross, the CEO of GCP, writes: 'This winter, we are acutely aware of people in Edinburgh who are lonely and isolated and those who suffer from poverty and mental illness. There are many who have nowhere to call home. We are asking you to donate to our Christmas Appeal 2022, either for yourself or on behalf of a loved one. Please donate to help transform lives this winter - <https://grassmarket.org/christmas-appeal-2022/> See how your donations can make a REAL difference. Thank you!'

Coffee Saints at GCP

Do drop in to the new café space at the Greyfriars Grassmarket Centre, which is now open as Coffee Saints, like our café beside St Mary's Cathedral at the top of Leith Walk. As always, there will be good food, good value and a lovely atmosphere, and all helping our vulnerable members. Thanks.

Greyfriars Charteris Centre – Coffee Morning

Ever since our union with Kirk o'Field in 2013, members of that congregation and of the local community have been gathering fortnightly for coffee in the St Ninian Hall. The completion of the refurbishment has given us the opportunity to relaunch, and we plan to publicise it more widely in the local community too, as a place to meet friends old and new. It's a lovely way for us all to enjoy the Centre as part of the Greyfriars community and to participate in the Southside community.

The last of this year's coffee mornings this Thursday, 8 December, will be a **Festive Coffee Morning with Lunch** from 11 am to 2 pm, so do join us for an extra special Coffee Morning, with a festive hot buffet lunch served at 12 noon! Places are limited, so call the Charteris Centre on 0131 662 6850 or email events@charteriscentre.com to reserve your spot. While this is a free event funded by 'Coozie In for Winter', donations will be welcome.

CoCo Counselling

Kate Frazer and her colleagues are very happy to announce that a grant of £15,600 has been awarded by the **Benefact Trust** to the Greyfriars community. The grant is specifically to support counselling services offered by CoCo Counselling to members of the Grassmarket Community Project and to those in our broader community who cannot afford to pay for support through counselling. With the help of these funds, CoCo Counselling will be able to increase the number of affordable sessions to the wider community by taking on two additional counsellors and increasing the number of zero-cost and low-cost sessions offered on a weekly basis.

Guerilla Peace

The University of Edinburgh Chaplaincy and their Associate Chaplain Dr Urzula Glienecke have set up a web site <https://guerillapeaceukraine.org> to answer the call to "Light up our hearts for Ukraine"; they invite you to visit it to share the solidarity, vigilance, and hope, wherever you are in the world at any time and from anywhere.

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.