

ORDER OF SERVICE - 5 FEBRUARY 2023

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev Dr Richard Frazer
Rev Ruth Halley
Gillian Couper



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 5 February 2023 – Fifth 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.

May the pain of Christ intervene between us and each pain of ours,
the love of Christ intrude between us and each love,
the eye of God be interjected between us and each eye.

G.R.D. McLean

Organ: Arabesque

Louis Vierne

Welcome and Call to Worship: Rev Richard Frazer

Hymn 543:

Christ be our Light

1. *Longing for light, we wait in darkness, longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gathered today.*
2. *Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice.*
3. *Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed.*
4. *Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.*
5. *Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come.
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gathered today.*

Bernadette Farrell

Call to Prayer

Prayers of Adoration, Confession and Pardon

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

Collect for the Day:

Spirit of God, Lord and Giver of Life, moving between us and around, like wind or water or fire; breathe into us your freshness that we may awake; cleanse our vision that we may see more clearly; kindle our senses that we may feel more sharply; and give us the courage to live as you would have us live, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Word of God

Malachi 3: 1 - 4

Reader: Tori Graham

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight — indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Hebrews 2: 14 - 18

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Hymn 332:

Ave Maria Klare

1. *When Mary brought her treasure unto the holy place,
no human eye could measure the joy upon her face.
He was but six weeks old, her dearest joy and pleasure, her silver and her gold.*
2. *Then Simeon, on him gazing with wonder and with love,
his aged voice up-raising, gave thanks to God above:
'Now welcome sweet release! For I, my Saviour praising, may die at last in peace.'*
3. *And she, all sorrow scorning, rejoiced in Jesus' fame.
The child her arms adorning shone softly like a flame
that burns the long night through, and keeps from dusk till morning its vigil clear and true.*
4. *As by the sun in splendour the flags of night are furled,
so darkness shall surrender to Christ who lights the world:
to Christ the Star of Day, who once was small and tender, a candle's gentle ray.*

Jan Struther

Luke 2: 22 - 40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

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

Anthem:

When to the temple Mary went, and brought the Holy Child,
him did the aged Simeon see, as it had been revealed.
He took up Jesus in his arms and blessing God he said:
In peace I now depart, my Saviour having seen, the Hope of Israel, the Light of men.
Help now thy servants, gracious Lord, that we may ever be
as once the faithful Simeon was, rejoicing but in Thee;
and when we must from earth departure take,
may gently fall asleep and with Thee wake.

tr. Rev J. Troutbeck

Johannes Eccard

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

The Offering

Land of Rest

*Now, Lord, according to thy word, let me in peace depart;
mine eyes have thy salvation seen, and gladness fills my heart.
This great salvation, long prepared, and now disclosed to view,
hath proved thy love was constant still, and promises were true.*

Pastoral Prayer: Alison Noble

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 291:

Kingsfold

1. *When out of poverty is born a dream that will not die,
and landless, weary folk find strength to stand with head held high,
it's then we learn from those who wait to greet the promised day,
'The Lord is coming; don't lose heart. Be blest; prepare the way!'*
2. *When people wander far from God, forget to share their bread,
they find their wealth an empty thing, their spirits are not fed.
For only just and tender love the hungry soul will stay,
and so God's prophets echo still 'Be blest; prepare the way!'*
3. *When God took flesh and came to earth, the world turned upside down,
and in the strength of woman's faith the Word of Life was born.
She knew that God would raise the low, it pleased her to obey.
Rejoice with Mary in the call, 'Be blest; prepare the way!'*

Kathryn Galloway

Benediction

Amen

*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: Prelude and Fugue in C major, BWV 545

J. S. Bach

NOTES

Forthcoming Services

Thursday 9 February	1.10 pm: Midweek Prayers
Sunday 12 February	10.30 am: Morning Worship 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service
Sunday 19 February	10.30 am: Morning Worship 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service 7.00 pm: Refugio – Holy Communion with silence and symbol.
Sunday 26 February	10.30 am: Holy Communion – Three Churches joint service at St Columba's by the Castle. 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.

Our decorative textiles

Midge Gourlay, the textile artist who produced the fabric decorations for our two Communion tables, has written a book describing the sources of their motifs and the various production techniques that she used. Copies are on sale today at the coffee hatch, £10 each – cash only. The book can also be ordered online from Midge's studio, www.portappinstudio.co.uk.

Giving with Gift Aid

When giving to the Kirk with 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.

Study Service

This evening's Study Service is a Bible study on 1 Corinthians 15, Paul's great chapter on the resurrection. The bodily resurrection of Jesus means he has conquered sin and death for us and brings us to share in his resurrection. The fact that Paul describes his body as 'a spiritual body' (1 Cor 15:44) does NOT mean that Jesus is now less body but more body, able to make us alive and bring us to eternal life, transforming our mortal bodies to be 'like his glorious body' (Phil 3:21).

The Study Service meets by Zoom from 7.00 pm to 8.30 pm. For the Zoom link, please email Bob Walker at bob@hebrides.u-net.com.

Greyfriars Lunchtime Concerts

The popular Greyfriars lunchtime concerts at 12 noon continue on Thursday fortnight, 23 February, with an organ recital by Ciaran Walker, who is the organist at St Michael's Church, Inveresk. Admission is free.

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.

"Bread and Stories" at GCP



Here is a poster for a new HeartEdge initiative which is starting up at the Grassmarket Community Project in March. HeartEdge is about churches developing these four C's:

Commerce: generating finance via enterprise, creatively extending mission. **Culture:** art, music, performance re-imagining the Christian narrative for the present. **Congregation:** inclusive liturgy, worship and common life. **Compassion:** empowering congregations to address social need.

The Rev Ruth Halley is seeking one or more volunteers from the congregation who might like to help her run this group as part of the Kirk's commitment to be a HeartEdge church. Those interested in applying for this role should make contact with Ruth by email at associate.minister@greyfriarskirk.com.

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.

Coffee Mornings at the Charteris Centre

The next Coffee Morning at the Greyfriars Charteris Centre will be on Thursday week, 16 February, in the St Ninian's Hall from 10.30 am until 12 noon, and fortnightly thereafter. Do come along to enjoy the warm and welcoming atmosphere with coffee and cake, or tea and scones, or whatever else may tickle your fancy.

(NOTES continued overleaf)

"Soul Space" at the Charteris Centre

This new monthly event will give people an opportunity to explore faith, current issues, and the world around us, led by a series of guest speakers, along with reflection, conversation, and refreshments. It is organised by Greyfriars Kirk in association with the Edinburgh University Chaplaincy and other partners, and will take place on the first Tuesday of each month from 5.00 to 7.00 pm in the St Ninian's Hall at the Greyfriars Charteris Centre, 140 The Pleasance.

This Tuesday, 7 February, the opening topic will be "Journey into Silence" with guest speakers Mollie Paterson and Hugh Donald. Please book for this event on Eventbrite at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/soul-space-tickets-506244349477>.

Events in support of Ukraine

All are warmly invited to the following events which will be held at our ecumenical partner church St Columba's by the Castle, 14 Johnston Terrace.

Saturday 18 February: 12 noon to 4.00 pm: Art and Craft Fair

4.00 pm to 6.00 pm: Gala Concert with musicians from Ukraine.

Friday 24 February: 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm: a guest speaker with front line experience
will be speaking about the war in Ukraine.

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.