

ORDER OF SERVICE - 12 MARCH 2023

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev Dr Richard Frazer
Rev Ruth Halley
Gillian Couper



GREYFRIARS

life in all its fullness / beatha na lànachd

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 12 March 2023 – Third Sunday in Lent

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: Chorale Prelude on "St. Cross", Set 2 No.6

Hubert Parry

Welcome and Call to Worship: Rev. Ruth Halley

Leader: People of the Way, arid and winding as life may feel at times, come to this place of God's dwelling, come to the well-spring of grace bringing your many questions, concerns, laments, and longings of the heart..

All: *In God's embrace we are welcomed. We are listened to.
We are filled with hope and encouraged on our way.*

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

Hymn 59 (Psalm 95):

Irish

1. *Oh, come, and let us to the Lord in songs our voices raise,
with joyful noise let us the Rock of our salvation praise.*
2. *Let us before his presence come with praise and thankful voice;
let us sing psalms to him with grace, and make a joyful noise.*
3. *For God, a great God, and great King, above all gods he is.
Depths of the earth are in his hand, the strength of hills is his.*
4. *To him the spacious sea belongs, for he the same did make;
the dry land also from his hands its form at first did take.*
5. *Oh, come, and let us worship him, let us bow down withal,
and on our knees before the Lord our Maker let us fall.*

Scottish Psalter

Call to Prayer

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Pardon

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

Collect for the Day:

Almighty God, of ourselves we have no power to help ourselves. Keep us outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymn 550:

1. *As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield, to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.*
2. *I want you more than gold or silver; only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver, and the apple of my eye.*
3. *You're my friend and you are my brother, even though you are a King.
I love you more than any other, so much more than anything.*

Martin J. Nystrom

The Word of God

Exodus 17: 1 - 7

Reader: Laura Dunlop

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me' The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Anthem:

O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us, save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord. Amen.

Antiphon at the Visitation of the Sick (Book of Common Prayer)

John Goss

John 4: 5 - 42

So Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.' Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

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

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith:

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Leader: There are parched places and dry throats.

All: *We believe that there is also water that springs from hard places
and living water that quenches every thirst.*

Leader: There are wild places and so much that is unknown.

All: *We believe that there is also reason to burst into song and make a joyful noise
because we have been to the depths but also know the heights that God can reach.*

Leader: There are hardened hearts and impossible situations.

All: *We believe that there is healing and reconciliation for everyone.
God promises peace and invites us to share this good news.*

The Offering

Gonfalon Royal

*To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, praise be done;
may Christ the Lord upon us pour the Spirit's gift for evermore. Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn 522:

The Bard of Armagh

1. *The Church is wherever God's people are praising,
knowing they're wanted and loved by their Lord.
The Church is wherever Christ's followers are trying
to live and to share out the good news of God.*
2. *The Church is wherever God's people are loving,
where all are forgiven and start once again,
where all are accepted, whatever their background,
whatever their past and whatever their pain.*
3. *The Church is wherever God's people are seeking
to reach out and touch folk wherever they are —
conveying the Gospel, its joy and its comfort,
to challenge, refresh, and excite and inspire.*

Carol Rose Ikeler

Pastoral Prayer: Alison Elliot

Hymn 153:

Faithfulness

1. *Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not, as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided – great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*
3. *Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside.*

Thomas Chisholm

Benediction

Amen

Organ: Fantasia in C minor, BWV 562

J. S. Bach

(Kirk notices overleaf)

NOTES

Forthcoming Services

Today	12.30 pm: Gaelic Service 7.00 pm: Refugio – Holy Communion with silence and symbol.
Thursday 16 March	1.10 pm: Midweek Prayers
Sunday 19 March	10.30 am: Morning Worship 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service
Sunday 26 March	10.30 am: Holy Communion 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service

We record with sadness the death of Tim Smith, husband of Wendy. Funeral arrangements will be announced in due course.

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.

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.

Bible Study

This evening's Study Service is a Bible study on 1 Corinthians 15: 42-58, Jesus the live-giving man. Through his taking our sinful flesh to himself, and in it achieving victory for us over sin and death, Paul sees the momentous significance of the resurrection as being that in his risen body Jesus is so alive that he can make others alive, bringing us to share with him in his resurrection, and even the cosmos itself to be freed from its groaning (Romans 8: 18-23).

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

Greyfriars Lunchtime Concerts

The popular Greyfriars lunchtime concerts continue at 12 noon on Thursday week, 23 March, with a recital by the Zephyrus Quintet. 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.

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.

Greyfriars 400th Anniversary Concert – World Première

The concert in the Kirk at 7.30 pm on **Sunday 19 March** by the Edinburgh Royal Choral Union will include the long-awaited world première of “Water Psalms”, which was commissioned for the Kirk’s 400th anniversary from the composer Thomas LaVoy. There will be a pre-concert talk with the composer at 6.15 pm.

Coffee Mornings at the Charteris Centre

The next Coffee Morning at the Greyfriars Charteris Centre, 140 The Pleasance. will be this Thursday, 16 March, 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.

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.