

ORDER OF SERVICE - 5 MARCH 2023

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev Dr Richard Frazer
Rev Ruth Halley
Gillian Couper



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 5 March 2023 – Second 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: Postlude pour L'Office de Complies

Jehan Alain

Welcome and **Call to Worship:** Rev Richard Frazer

Hymn 160:

1. *Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven; to his feet thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him! Praise the everlasting King.*
2. *Praise him for his grace and favour to our fathers in distress;
praise him, still the same for ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless;
Praise him! Praise him! glorious in his faithfulness.*
3. *Father-like he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes:
Praise him! Praise him! widely as his mercy flows.*
4. *Frail as summer's flower we flourish; blows the wind and it is gone;
but, while mortals rise and perish, God endures unchanging on.
Praise him! Praise him! Praise the high eternal One.*
5. *Angels, help us to adore him; ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him! Praise with us the God of grace.*

Henry Francis Lyte

Call to Prayer

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Pardon

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

Collect for the Day:

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up unto joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified; mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymn 608:*Down Ampney*

1. *Spirit of truth and grace, come to us in this place,
as now in Jesus' name God's people gather.
Open our eyes to see truths that will ever be,
and in communion draw us close together.*
2. *Spirit of joy and peace, make all anxieties cease
with knowledge of the Father's perfect caring.
Then may God's children know love that won't let us go
and joy that fills each day, beyond comparing.*
3. *Spirit of life and power, revive us in this hour
and stir our hearts to praise with true devotion.
Fill us with heavenly fire, and every heart inspire,
that we may serve the world with your compassion.*

Iain D. Cunningham

The Word of God**Genesis 12: 1 - 4**

Reader: Tori Graham

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Hymn 81 (Psalm 121):*French*

1. *I to the hills will lift mine eyes. From whence doth come mine aid?
My safety cometh from the Lord, who heaven and earth hath made.*
2. *Thy foot he'll not let slide, nor will he slumber that thee keeps.
Behold, he that keeps Israel, he slumbers not, nor sleeps.*
3. *The Lord thee keeps, the Lord thy shade on thy right hand doth stay:
the moon by night thee shall not smite, nor yet the sun by day.*
4. *The Lord shall keep thy soul; he shall preserve thee from all ill.
Henceforth thy going out and in God keep for ever will.*

Scottish Psalter

John 3: 1 - 17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

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

Anthem:

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and forgive me all my sin. For I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is ever before me.

Psalms 51: 2-3

Samuel Sebastian 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

The Offering

Moville

*Glory to God the Father, the unbegotten one; all honour be to Jesus, his sole-begotten Son;
and to the Holy Spirit – the perfect Trinity. Let all the worlds give answer, 'Amen, so let it be.'*

Pastoral Prayer: Rosemary Scott

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 5 (Psalm 8):

Tramps and Hawkers

1. *O Lord, our Lord, throughout the earth how glorious is your name,
and glorious too where unseen heavens your majesty proclaim.
On infant lips, in children's song a strong defence you raise
to counter enemy and threat, and foil the rebel's ways.*
2. *When I look up and see the stars which your own fingers made,
and wonder at the moon and stars, each perfectly displayed,
then I must ask, 'Why do you care? Why love humanity?
And why keep every mortal name fixed in your memory?'*
3. *Yet such as us you made and meant just less than gods to be;
with honour and with glory, Lord, you crowned humanity.
And then dominion you bestowed for all made by your hand,
all sheep and cattle, birds and fish that move through sea or land.
O Lord, our Lord, throughout the earth how glorious is your name!*

John L. Bell

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: "Aus tiefer Not schrei ich zu dir", BWV 686

J. S. Bach

(Kirk notices overleaf)

NOTES

Forthcoming Services

Thursday 9 March	1.10 pm: Midweek Prayers
Sunday 12 March	10.30 am: Morning Worship 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service 7.00 pm: Refugio – Holy Communion with silence and symbol.
Sunday 19 March	10.30 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, 9 March, with a cello recital by Anoukia Nistor. Admission is free.

Bible Study

This evening's Bible Study will be on 1 Corinthians 15: 42-48, the wonderful climax of one of the most important chapters in the Bible. What is the basic meaning of "spiritual" in this context, and of "spiritual man" or "spiritual body"?

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.

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.

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.

“Choirs for Climate” Concert

This concert, directed by Chris Hutchings, will be in the Kirk at 7.30 pm **this evening**, presenting a range of climate-conscious music from local and international composers – songs of nature, warning, anger, solutions and hope. Admission is free, with a collection afterwards for environmental causes.

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 on Thursday fortnight, 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.

“Soul Space” at the Charteris Centre

This new monthly event gives 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 takes 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 March, the topic will be “Encountering God in the Struggle for Justice”, with guest speaker Martin Johnstone.

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.