

ORDER OF SERVICE - 20 AUGUST 2023

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev Dr Richard Frazer
Gillian Couper
Sue MacGregor



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 20 August 2023 – Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

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.

Seek God, not happiness - this is the fundamental rule of all meditation.

If you seek God alone, you will gain happiness: that is its promise.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, German pastor and Martyr

Organ: Cantilène, from Suite Brève

Jean Langlais

Welcome and Call to Worship: Professor Bert Kerrigan KC

Hymn 124:

Lobe den Herren

1. *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation;
come all who hear, brothers and sisters draw near, praise him in glad adoration.*
2. *Praise to the Lord, above all things so mightily reigning;
keeping us safe at his side, and so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen all you have needed has been met by his gracious ordaining?*
3. *Praise to the Lord, who shall prosper our work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend us.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, who with his love will befriend us.*
4. *Praise to the Lord, who, when darkness and sin are abounding,
who, when the godless are rampant, all goodness confounding,
breaks forth as light, scatters the terrors of night, saints with his mercy surrounding!*
5. *Praise to the Lord — O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the 'Amen!' sound from his people again — gladly we praise and adore him!*

Joachim Neander

Call to Prayer and Prayers of Approach, Confession and Pardon

during which you are invited to join in after the words, 'Lord have mercy', singing:
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Collect for the Day: *Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and sent into our hearts the Spirit of your Son. Give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that all people may know the glorious liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.* Amen

REFLECTION – The Significant Stone

Hymn 198:

Two Oaks

1. *Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive;
built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.*
2. *Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: all are welcome in this place.*
3. *Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space,
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are welcome in this place.*
4. *Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: all are welcome in this place.*
5. *Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: all are welcome in this place.*

Marty Haugen

The Word of God

Psalm 67: The Nations Called to Praise God

Reader: Rebecca Grant

To the leader: with stringed instruments. A Psalm. A Song.

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, *Selah*, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. *Selah*. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us. May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

Anthem:

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives. To decline from sin, and incline to virtue, that we may walk in an upright heart before thee this day and evermore. Amen.

Lidley's Prayers, 1566

John Hilton

Matthew 15: 21 – 28: The Canaanite Woman's Faith

Jesus went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

Hymn 596:

Veni Spiritus

- 1 *Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew,
that I may love as you have loved, and do as you would do.*
2. *Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with yours to do and to endure.*
3. *Breathe on me, Breath of God, fulfil my heart's desire,
until this earthly part of me glows with your heavenly fire.*
4. *Breathe on me, Breath of God; so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life of your eternity.*

Edwin Hatch

Sermon – 'Walking with God'

The Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

*I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.*

Amen

Hymn 522:

*The Bard of Armagh
(and during which, **The Offering**)*

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.*
4. *The Church is wherever God's people are praising,
knowing we're wanted and loved by our Lord.
The Church is where we as Christ's followers are trying
to live and to share out the good news of God.*

Carol Rose Ikeler

As the Offering is brought forward:

Old 100th

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession and Commemoration

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.* Amen

Hymn 553:

Saffron Walden

1. *Just as I am, without one plea, but that your blood was shed for me,
and that you call us, 'Come to me', O Lamb of God, I come.*
2. *Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come.*
3. *Just as I am you will receive, will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because your promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come.*
4. *Just as I am – your love unknown has broken every barrier down –
now to be yours, and yours alone, O Lamb of God, I come.*
5. *Just as I am, of that free love the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
here for a season, then above, O Lamb of God, I come.*

Charlotte Elliott

Benediction

Amen

Organ: Prelude and Fugue in E minor

Nicolaus Bruhns

(Kirk notices overleaf)

NOTES

Forthcoming Services:

Today	12.30 pm: Gaelic Service
Thursday 24 August	1.10 pm: Midweek Prayers
Sunday 27 August	10.30 am: Morning Worship 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service
Sunday 3 September	9.15 am: Holy Communion 10.30 am: Morning Worship, with the Lord Provost and the leading participants in this year's Riding of the Marches. 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service

Refreshments

You are warmly invited to join us after the service for biscuits and tea or coffee, served at the back of the church beneath the organ.

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.

News from the Ministerial Team

Sadly, our organist Henry Wallace is retiring at the beginning of October, leaving not just one but two big pairs of shoes to fill as we also lose Amelia from the choir. After 22 years they will leave a huge gap, but hopefully their musical legacy will be one that a successor will be keen to fill, and advertising for the organist/choirmaster post is under way.

Concerts & Events at Greyfriars

Check out <https://greyfriarskirk.com/events/> for information on all our upcoming events and concerts. You will see that the Kirk is having a very busy August with nearly twenty concerts during the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, ending with a lunchtime concert at 12 noon on Thursday 31 August, a choral recital by the *a capella* trio Simmerdim.

Concerts & Events elsewhere

St Cuthbert's, like Greyfriars, is busy with Fringe concerts too, including: Craig Herbertson's "Craig on a Cliff" (24 & 25 Aug, 6 pm), Alastair Savage & Alice Allen's "Scotland and Beyond" (26 Aug, 6 pm) and Scottish Sinfonia (27 Aug, 7:30 pm). Tickets are available from the Fringe box office. And for lots of other great things going on, check out our other partners: www.augustine.org.uk/about-us/diary — www.stcolumbasbythecastle.org.uk — www.grassmarket.org/whats-on and www.charteriscentre.com.

Our Grassmarket Project are entering a team in this year's **Kiltwalk**, which will be on Sunday 17 September; please pick up a leaflet from the table near the door, and consider making a donation or agreeing a sponsorship, to help them raise funds for their valuable outreach to the marginalised and disadvantaged in Edinburgh.

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.

Volunteering opportunities

Sunday morning catering: the catering team would love some new volunteers to help with the cuppas after the morning service! As we are now providing biscuits (sweet and savoury), with home baking optional, this only requires minimal time to serve and clear — men would be welcome! Please speak to Isobel Hutchings or Margaret Wallace, or email officeassistant@greyfriarskirk.com.

Welcoming weekday visitors to the Kirk: it would be great to see members of our congregation engaging with the public and spreading our message. Welcomers are our friendly faces who greet visitors from all over the world, answering their questions and making their visit memorable. The usual time commitment is one day a week for 4 hours between 11 am and 4 pm. To know more, please contact Steve or Ellen in the office: 0131 225 1900, or email Ellen at communications@greyfriarskirk.com, or see the full description on <https://volunteergreyfriars.com>.

St Cuthberts & Greyfriars Working Group – Working Toward Union

Another good meeting was held by the working group on 10 August and lots of good ideas were raised, including opportunities for worship and social events together. More to follow on that soon, once Christine Stevenson, an elder at St Cuthberts, and Gillian Couper, who are joint chairs of the group, put their heads together and bring follow up news and create the website pages on both Greyfriars Kirk and St Cuthberts websites, where documents, news items and updates will be shared and remain available as things progress. So, as they say, “watch this space” and more coming soon . . . As ever though, if you’d like to raise questions or chat to someone about the proposed union, please get in touch with Gillian (parishassociate@greyfriarskirk.com) or Jo Elliot (sessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.com) by email; or leave a message with the Kirk office by phone (0131 225 1900) and Jo or Gillian will get in touch. They will be very pleased to hear from you.

Pastoral Care and Staying in Touch

It is great to share news, keep in touch and find support whenever this is welcome or required. 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 either by email: parishassociate@greyfriarskirk.com or phone: 07808 472 464.

If you would like to speak to the minister, Richard will be very pleased to hear from you too, either by email: minister@greyfriarskirk.com or phone: 07715 069 041.