

ORDER OF SERVICE - 24 SEPTEMBER 2023

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

MINISTRY TEAM

Rev Dr Richard Frazer
Gillian Couper
Sue MacGregor



Sunday 24 September 2023 – Seventeenth 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.

Organ: Le Banquet Celeste

Olivier Messiaen

Welcome and Call to Worship: Gillian Couper

Hymn 139:

Laus Deo

1. *Praise the Lord, you heavens, adore him; praise him, angels, in the height;
sun and moon, rejoice before him, praise him, all you stars and light.*
2. *Praise the Lord! for he has spoken; worlds his mighty voice obeyed;
laws which never shall be broken for their guidance has he made.*
3. *Praise the Lord! for he is glorious; never shall his promise fail;
God has made his saints victorious; sin and death shall not prevail.*
4. *Praise the God of our salvation! Hosts on high, his power proclaim;
heaven, and earth, and all creation, laud and magnify his name.*

from Psalm 148

Call to Prayer

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Pardon: Rev Dr Urzula Glienecke

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

Collect for the Day: *Almighty God, you created the heavens and the earth, and made us in your image. Teach us to discern your hand in all your works and to serve you with reverence and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.* Amen

Hymn 693:

Wetherby

1. *Help us forgive, forgiving Lord, the wrong that others do,
and when our hearts are pierced by pain, to bring the hurt to you.*
2. *For on the cross you bore for us the curse, the scorn, the hate,
and gave your life to lift from us sin's cruel and crushing weight.*
3. *Let grace unlock each prisoned heart, uncoil each fisted hand,
until from hate our hearts are freed, our hands in love extend.*
4. *And then, the broken circle closed, the broken friendships healed,
Lord, hold us fast within the bonds by your forgiveness sealed.*

Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr

The Word of God

Jonah 3: 10 - 4: 11

Reader: Irene Gill, elder of the
Parish Church of St Cuthbert

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, 'O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the Lord said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.' But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the Lord said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

Matthew 20: 1 - 16

Jesus said, 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

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

Anthem:

Ave verum corpus natum ex Maria Virgine, vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine.
Cujus latus perforatum vero fluxit sanguine: esto nobis praegustatum mortis in examine.
O clemens, O pie, O dulcis Jesu, Fili Mariae.

*(Jesu, Lamb of God, Redeemer, born the virgin Mary's Son, who upon the cross a victim hast for us
salvation won: from whose side, which man had pierced, truly flowed thy precious blood, by thy
sacred body broken be in life and death our food, O merciful and holy Jesus, gentle Son of Mary.)*

attr. Innocent VI

Edward Elgar

Sermon

Gillian Couper

The Nicene Creed:

*We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death
and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father
and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sin.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.*

Amen

Hymn:

Thaxted

*(and during which, **The Offering**)*

1. *Lord, your loving hand is seen in all that you have made so well;
O'er the hills the eagle soars with grace that words can never tell.
Deep within our soul we sense you like our pulse, so very near;
The hands that we hold in life shall chase away our fear.
Yet this world is full of scars and many painful tears are shed,
So we ask your Spirit now to show the paths that we should tread.*
2. *Lead us now to cherish what we have instead of wanting more.
Fire us with that love that Jesus had, who always blessed the poor.
Bend our wills to plough the soil and serve all life by Holy Law.
As we seek to explain the world, fill all our minds with awe.
And help us hear anew the prophet's wise and timely word,
Living justly, loving mercy and humbly seeking God.*

Richard Frazer

Holy Communion

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts. *We lift them to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessèd is he, O blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

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

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

The Distribution

Music for Reflection: Valse Op.64, No.1
and Hunting Song

Frederic Chopin
Robert Schumann
(Victoria Irvine, piano)

Pastoral Prayers of Thanks and Intercession: Alison Noble

Hymn 529:

Warrington

1. *Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go, my daily labour to pursue;
thee, only thee, resolved to know in all I think, or speak, or do.*
2. *The task thy wisdom has assigned, oh, let me cheerfully fulfil,
in all my works thy presence find, and prove thy good and perfect will.*
3. *Give me to bear thy easy yoke, and every moment watch and pray,
and so to things eternal look, and hasten to thy glorious day;*
4. *For thee delightfully employ whate'er thy bounteous grace has given,
and run my course with even joy, and closely walk with thee to heaven.*

Charles Wesley

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: Allegro Maestoso, from Sonata No.5 in D major

Felix Mendelssohn

(Kirk notices overleaf)

NOTES

Forthcoming Services

Today	12.30 pm: Gaelic Service
Thursday 28 September	1.10 pm: Midweek Prayers
Saturday 30 September	4.00 pm: Choral Evensong, with the Scottish Voices of the Royal School of Church Music.
Sunday 1 October	9.15 am: Holy Communion 10.30 am: Morning Worship 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service
Sunday 8 October	10.30 am: Harvest Sunday – see the NOTE below. 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service 3.00 pm: Pet Blessing Service

We warmly welcome the Rev Dr Urzula Glienecke, Associate Chaplain at the University of Edinburgh, to share in leading our worship this morning.

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. If you are new to the Kirk, visiting after some time away, or do not know anyone yet, please feel welcome to introduce yourself to the welcomers on the door and ministry team before or after the service; and if you would like to join in the friendly conversations at the tables over coffee or tea, we look forward to getting know you.

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.

Harvest Sunday

On 8 October, we will be collecting donations of household goods once more for the local food bank, located at Greyfriars' ecumenical partners St Columba's by the Castle, on Johnstone Terrace, as part of the Edinburgh Food Project, co-ordinated by the Trussell Trust. It's a critical service for many in the community. Baskets will be placed in the Kirk, where items can be dropped off before or after the service. The Edinburgh Food Project website is regularly updated to let donors know the sort of items that are required at present, as well as other ways you can support the Project: <https://edinburghfoodproject.org/donate-food/>. Unopened and in-date items will be gratefully received. If anyone would like to volunteer to deliver items from the Kirk to the Food Bank, please contact Gillian Coupar at parishassociate@greyfriarskirk.com. The food bank will be open on Tuesday 10 October from 2 pm to 4 pm. The Greyfriars flower team will incorporate some of the fruits of harvest into their seasonal display too, the fresh produce of which will be donated to the kitchen at the Grassmarket Community Project.

Concerts and Events at Greyfriars

Check out <https://greyfriarskirk.com/events/> for information on all our upcoming events and concerts. The programme of lunchtime concerts continues at 12 noon this Thursday, 28 September, with a piano recital by Christopher Baxter.

Concerts and Events elsewhere

Augustine United Church – <https://www.augustine.org.uk/about-us/diary/>

St Columba's by the Castle – <https://www.stcolumbasbythecastle.org.uk/>

St Cuthbert's – <https://stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk/>

Grassmarket Community Project – <https://grassmarket.org/whats-on/>

Greyfriars Charteris Centre – <https://www.charteriscentre.com/>, especially the Coffee Mornings from 10.30 am to 12 noon on Thursday week, 5 October, and fortnightly thereafter.

St Giles Cathedral – organ recital by Henry Wallace at 6.00 pm next Sunday, 1 October, as part of the "St Giles at Six" series.

News from the Ministerial Team

This week, the Presbytery of Edinburgh and West Lothian approved our application to appoint a locally funded Associate Minister. This is a major step forward in securing Richard Frazer's succession and developing our relationship with St Cuthberts.

Henry Wallace's last Sunday with us as organist and choirmaster will be 1st October, and we will welcome our new organist Dr Caroline Cradock on Sunday 8th October. Her most recent appointment has been Assistant Organist at St John's Episcopal Church at the West End.

St Cuthberts and Greyfriars – Joint Events in 2023

The working group representing the two uniting churches will be organising events to enable members of the congregations to get to know each other – sharing elements of worship, enjoying social events and learning about each other's churches. More details will follow in the coming weeks. If you have suggestions for other joint events and activities, please let Gillian know: parishassociate@greyfriarskirk.com or contact the Kirk Office.

26 Oct, 7.00 pm – Community Ceilidh at Greyfriars Charteris Centre, 140 The Pleasance. This is open to everyone, including congregations and local community. It's a relaxed occasion, dancing encouraged but not obligatory! A Greyfriars & St Cuthberts table will allow folk to get to know each other over a glass of wine or cuppa at the start. Admission is free, but please book for it on Eventbrite – details next week.

8 Nov, 7.00 pm – Oasis Quiz at St Cuthberts. St Cuthbert's annual quiz is run for the local business community, as well as for congregations and anyone who wants to join in. As well as a social occasion, it raises funds each year for Fresh Start. Greyfriars are invited to form some quiz teams (max 5 per team) and join in too!

17 Dec, 7.00 – 8.00 pm – Nine Lessons and Carols at St Cuthberts. This traditional Nine Lessons and Carols Christmas service with carols and readings telling the Christmas story takes place each year; this year will involve readers and singers from both congregations. There will be mince pies and refreshments afterwards.

In other news, we will be arranging the next series of **Anam Cara** (Soul Space renamed!) at the Greyfriars Charteris Centre over the coming months. And St Cuthberts' own **soul space** will be running too: this provides a quiet space for contemplation, with short reflections based around themes at 1.00 pm and 4.30 pm. The next two are "A House of Welcome" on 6 Sep and "A Booth in Nineveh" on 4 Oct. Pick up a leaflet from the livestreaming desk for more info.

(over)

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>.

Concert Stewarding: Between October and December we are hosting no fewer than 12 concerts in the Kirk, ranging from household names like the Sixteen, the Scottish Ensemble and the SCO Chorus through to the equally professional Edinburgh Royal Choral Union, the music societies of Edinburgh University and Heriot Watt University, and many others, appealing to all tastes in music. Each concert needs three volunteer Stewards. Besides offering a Greyfriars friendly face, their essential task, is to sit by the exits in case of emergency. There is nothing arduous, as all the scene-shifting afterwards is now done by our loyal paid staff. It's a great opportunity to hear some wonderful performances at no cost, while supporting Greyfriars Outreach. Contact Steve Lister on 0131 225 1900 or outreach@greyfriarskirk.com, or speak to Jo Elliot.

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

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.