

ORDER OF SERVICE - 7 JANUARY 2024

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

MINISTRY TEAM

Prof Bert Kerrigan KC
Sue MacGregor
Gillian Couper



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 7 January 2024 – 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.

Organ: The Holy Boy

John Ireland

Introit:

*As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold,
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onwards, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.
As with joyful steps they sped, Saviour, to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before thee, whom heaven and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy-seat.
As they offered gifts most rare at thy homely cradle bare,
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.
Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;
and, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.*

William Chatterton Dix

arr. David Willcocks

Welcome and Call to Worship: Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Hymn 167:

Cwm Rhondda

- 1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till my want is o'er.*
- 2. Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield.*
- 3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside!
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side!
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee.*

William Williams

Call to Prayer

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Pardon

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

Collect for the Day:

Eternal Father, at the baptism of Jesus you revealed him to be your Son, and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful to their calling in your service through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Reflection

'Going Forward in Faith 2024'

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

The Word of God

Acts 19: 1 - 7

Reader: Catherine Alexander

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied – altogether there were about twelve of them.

Mark 1: 4 - 11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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

Anthem: The Three Kings

Three kings from Persian lands afar to Jordan follow the pointing star:
and this the quest of the travellers three, where the new-born King of the Jews may be.
Full royal gifts they bear for the King; gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

How brightly shines the morning star!

With grace and truth from heav'n afar our Jesse tree now bloweth.

The star shines out with a steadfast ray; the kings to Bethlehem make their way,
and there in worship they bend the knee, as Mary's child in her lap they see;
their royal gifts they show to the King; gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

Of Jacob's stem and David's line,

for thee, my Bridegroom, King divine, my soul with love o'erfloweth.

Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem the kings are trav'ling – travel with them!

The star of mercy, the star of grace, shall lead thy heart to its resting-place.

Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring; offer thy heart to the infant King. Offer thy heart!

Thy word, Jesu, inly feeds us,

Rightly leads us, life bestowing. Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing.

Peter Cornelius, *tr.* H.N. Bate

arr. Ivor Atkins

Sermon

'In you I am well pleased'

Affirmation of Faith:

*I affirm my faith which is grounded in love. Love for God the Creator, love for Jesus His Son our Saviour. Love for the Holy Spirit as it guides me and prompts me.
Love for those who have made me what I am and love for those who sustain me.
Love for my neighbour and for all with whom I come into contact.*

I affirm my belief in God who sent His Son to be born into an ordinary family of parents of faith.

*I affirm my faith in my belief in Jesus Christ my Saviour whose ministry on earth was brief
but whose actions and teachings reflected His love for humankind –
that love which I try to reflect.*

I believe that he died for me and for the redemption of all my sins.

I believe that he rose from the dead and is with God His Father.

I believe that by His dying and Resurrection I may have eternal life.

I believe that I will be judged in love as I account for my life and will receive forgiveness for sins.

I believe in the spiritual union of the living and the dead.

I believe that His Church exists to serve all humanity and to provide me with a spiritual home.

I pledge my time, my talents and of my wealth to maintain our fellowship.

In fellowship with all present I say, Amen.

The Offering

St Magnus

*To Father, Son and Holy Ghost, the God whom we adore,
be glory, as it was, and is, and shall be evermore.*

Offertory and Pastoral Prayers

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 542:

Winscott

1. *Lord, speak to me, that I may speak in living echoes of your tone;
as you have sought, so let me seek your erring children lost and lone.*
2. *O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wandering and the wavering feet;
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed your hungering ones with manna sweet.*
3. *O strengthen me, that, while I stand firm on the rock, secure and free,
I may stretch out a loving hand to wrestlers with the troubled sea.*
4. *O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious things which you impart;
and wing my words, that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.*
5. *O fill me with your fullness, Lord, until my very heart o'erflow
in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.*
6. *O use me, Lord, use even me, just as you will, and when, and where,
until at last your face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.*

Frances Ridley Havergal

Benediction

Organ: *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*

*Dietrich Buxtehude
(Kirk notices overleaf)*

NOTES

Forthcoming Services

Today	12.30 pm: Gaelic Service
Thursday 11 January	1.10 pm: Midweek Prayers
Sunday 14 January	10.30 am: Morning Worship 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service
Sunday 21 January	10.30 am: Morning Worship 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. 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 or by card

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.

If you would prefer to make your offering by card, rather than cash, there is now a card reader at the kitchen hatch at the back of the church, which links to the Kirk's bank account. Thank you so much for your support, which we depend on to maintain the life of the Kirk.

Concerts and Events at Greyfriars

Check out <https://greyfriarskirk.com/events/> for information on all our upcoming events and concerts. The regular lunchtime concerts will resume on Thursday 1 February at 12 noon with a piano recital by Alexander Kwon.

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/>

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 & St Cuthbert's Update

At the working group meeting on 5 December, the focus was on output from the Kirk Session away day in November. The first part of that away day was a "getting to know" each other and it was reassuring to understand we have similarities in many aspects of what we do and how we do it. Moving forward, we will produce a monthly newsletter which will share things that have been achieved to date, what we are working on, and where we are on the journey toward union. The first edition will be shared in January, with the Order of Service, and will also be available online. Please do take one, or ask for a copy if you would like to take one for others who either can't come to a service or tend not to access things online.

Meantime, a suggestions box has been placed on a table under the organ for your feedback, suggestions and concerns. Please do put your name on the back of the slip so that we can respond directly back to you. And of course, Gillian and Jo warmly welcome anyone to get in touch if they would like to chat. Leave a message with the Kirk office at 0131 229 1900 for one of them to call you back, or email Jo at sessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.com, or Gillian at parishassociate@greyfriarskirk.com, or join us for coffee after a service.

We will be planning more joint services and events with St Cuthbert's in 2024, so do attend a service at St Cuthbert's sometime to get to know the folk there.

News from the Ministry Team, and Pastoral Care

Recently, we have welcomed Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC to join the Greyfriars ministry team, alongside Sue MacGregor, Probationer Minister and Gillian Couper, Parish Associate.

The Rev Karen Campbell, minister at Marchmont St Giles, has been appointed as Interim Moderator of the Greyfriars Kirk Session.

Sue, Gillian and Bert are pleased to hear from anyone in the congregation or community, if you would like to get in touch for any reason. Whether you'd like to hear about how things are going at Greyfriars, seek support or pastoral care, or simply share a cup of tea and a chat, you will be very welcome. If you know of anyone who you think might appreciate some contact or help from the ministry team too, please do let them know. You can reach them through the church office, 0131 225 1900, or by email: Gillian at parishassociate@greyfriarskirk.com; Sue at probationerminister@greyfriarskirk.com; and Bert at kerrigan@kerrigankc.com.