

ORDER OF SERVICE - 12 MAY 2024

# GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME  
TO WORSHIP

**MINISTRY TEAM**

Sue MacGregor  
Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC  
Gillian Couper



## SUNDAY WORSHIP

**Sunday 12 May 2024 – Sunday after Ascension**

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](https://bit.ly/greyfriarstv).

The organist and choir leader for this morning's service is our organ scholar Calum Landon.

**Organ:** Trio Sonata No. 2, 2nd movement – BWV 526

J. S. Bach

**Call to Worship:** Sue MacGregor

**One:** Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

**All:** *For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.*

**One:** God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

**All:** *Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises!*

**One:** For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

**All:** *God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne. Let's worship together!*

**Hymn 436:**

Guiting Power

1. *Christ triumphant, ever reigning, Saviour, Teacher, King!  
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining, hear us as we sing:  
Yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name!*
2. *Word incarnate, truth revealing, Son of Man on earth!  
Power and majesty concealing by your humble birth:*
3. *Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated, victim crucified!  
Death is by the cross defeated, sinners justified:*
4. *Priestly king, enthroned for ever high in heaven above!  
Sin and death and hell shall never stifle hymns of love:*
5. *So, our hearts and voices raising through the ages long,  
Ceaselessly upon you gazing, this shall be our song:  
Yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name!*

Michael Saward

**Welcome and Call to Prayer**

**Prayers of Approach, Confession and Pardon:** Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

**One:** Lord, in your mercy,

**All:** *hear our prayer.*

## The Word of God

### Acts 1: 1 - 11

Reader: Rus Loten

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

### Ephesians 1: 15 - 23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

### Hymn 441:

Bonnie George Campbell

1. *Blessing and honour and glory and power, wisdom and riches and strength evermore  
give to the Lord who our battle hath won, whose are the Kingdom, the crown, and the throne.*
2. *Into the heaven of the heavens hath he gone, sitteth he now in the joy of the throne;  
weareth he now of the Kingdom the crown, singeth he now the new song with his own.*
3. *Soundeth the heaven of the heavens with his name; ringeth the earth with his glory and fame;  
ocean and mountain, stream, forest, and flower echo his praises and tell of his power.*
4. *Ever ascendeth the song and the joy; ever descendeth the love from on high;  
blessing and honour and glory and praise – this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.*
5. *Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb; take we the robe and the harp and the palm;  
sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain, dying in weakness, but rising to reign.*

Horatius Bonar

## **Luke 24: 44 - 53**

Then Jesus said to the eleven, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.' Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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

**Anthem:** God is gone up with a merry noise and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.  
Thou art gone up on high, thou hast led captivity captive, and received gifts for men.  
O sing praises unto our God, O sing praises unto our King.  
Alleluia. God is gone up on high.

Psalms 47: 5–6, 68: 18

Arthur Hutchings

## **Sermon**

Sue MacGregor

### ***Collect for the Day:***

*Almighty God, your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things. Grant that your Church on earth may be filled with his presence and that he may remain with us always, to the end of the world; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.*

*Amen*

### **The Offering**

*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.*

**Prayer of Dedication and Pastoral Prayer:** Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

***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 456:**

*Nun Danket*

1. *Christ is the world's true light, its captain of salvation,  
the daystar clear and bright of every race and nation;  
new life, new hope awakes, where people own his sway;  
from bondage freedom breaks, and night is turned to day.*
2. *In Christ all races meet, their ancient feuds forgetting,  
the whole round world complete, from sunrise to its setting:  
when Christ is throned as Lord, we shall forsake our fear,  
to ploughshare beat the sword, to pruning-hook the spear.*
3. *One Lord, in one great name unite us all who own you;  
cast out our pride and shame that hinder to enthrone you;  
the world has waited long, has travailed long in pain:  
come, heal its ancient wrong, come, Prince of Peace, and reign.*

George Wallace Briggs

**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:** Dieu parmi nous

Olivier Messiaen

(Kirk notices overleaf)

# NOTES

## Forthcoming Services

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Today</b>           | 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Thursday 16 May</b> | 1.10 pm: Midweek Prayers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Sunday 19 May</b>   | 10.30 am: Holy Communion with our ecumenical partner churches, Augustine United and St Columba's by the Castle.<br>12.30 pm: Gaelic Service, attended by the newly-appointed Moderator, the Right Rev. Dr Shaw James Paterson.<br>7.00 pm: Refugio – Holy Communion with silence and symbol. |
| <b>Sunday 26 May</b>   | 10.30 am: Morning Worship (see note on <b>Edinburgh Marathon</b> below)<br>12.30 pm: Gaelic Service                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Sunday 2 June</b>   | 9.15 am: Holy Communion<br>10.30 am: Morning Worship<br>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 by Gift Aid, Card or Standing Order

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.

Some people have experienced difficulties setting up new **standing orders** in favour of the Kirk using their online banking. Frustratingly, the problem originated when we were required to change the name of the Kirk's bank account, and it seems to affect payments from some but not all bank accounts. If this affects you, the solution is please to fill in a Giving form (available from Richard Leaver at the Kirk office, [FinanceAdministrator@greyfriarskirk.com](mailto:FinanceAdministrator@greyfriarskirk.com)), for us to process with the Kirk's bank the old-fashioned way.

## Edinburgh Marathon – Sunday 26 May

For this year's Edinburgh Marathon, both Forrest Road and George IV Bridge will be closed to vehicles all day. However, the one-way restriction on Candlemaker Row will be **suspended**, which will allow vehicles to access the Kirk from the Cowgate or Grassmarket. Access on foot to avoid crossing the race route will be via Guthrie Street, Cowgate, and Candlemaker Row, or via George Square, Middle Meadow Walk and Forrest Road.

## Study Service

This evening's Study Service will be the opening Bible Study of a series on Colossians: {week 1) Colossians 1: The Mystery of Christ; (week 2) Colossians 2: The Mystery of Christ and Christian Life; (week 3) Colossians 3: The Mystery of Christ and our being "hid with Christ in God"; and (week 4) Colossians 4: The Mystery of Christ and its revelation in human word. What does Paul mean by "mystery"? Why does he use that word and what is its place in his letter?

The Study Service meets by Zoom from 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm. For the Zoom link, email Bob Walker at [bob@hebrides.u-net.com](mailto:bob@hebrides.u-net.com).

## Concerts and Events at Greyfriars

Check out <https://greyfriarskirk.com/events/> for information on all our upcoming events and concerts. The regular lunchtime concerts continue this Thursday, 16 May, at 12 noon with a piano recital by Ailsa Aitkenhead.

## 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 regular Coffee Morning from 10.30 am to 12 noon this Thursday, 16 May, and fortnightly thereafter.

## BBC Songs of Praise

All are invited to join Steph MacLeod for a celebration of modern Christian music at Charlotte Chapel (formerly St. George's West) in Shandwick Place at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 28 May. The event will be recorded for a future broadcast in the BBC Songs of Praise series. To book your free ticket, visit [www.lostintv.com](http://www.lostintv.com) or phone (020) 8530 8100.

## 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

The joint working group are producing a newsletter each month to share things that have been achieved to date, what we are working on, and where we are on the journey toward union. Please take a copy of the **third** edition which is available today on the table under the organ gallery, or you can find it on the Kirk web site. There is also a suggestions box on the table for your feedback, or for any of your suggestions or concerns. Please put your name on the back of the slip so that we can respond directly back to you. And, of course, anyone is welcome to get in touch with Gillian at [parishassociate@greyfriarskirk.com](mailto:parishassociate@greyfriarskirk.com) or with Jo at [sessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.com](mailto:sessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.com) to chat about things, or to leave a message with the Kirk office at 0131 225 1900 for either Gillian or Jo to call them back.

There will be 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.

(over)

## **News from the Ministry team, and Pastoral Care**

The Greyfriars ministry team are Sue MacGregor, Probationer Minister; Gillian Couper, Parish Associate; and Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC, Reader. Later this year, Sue MacGregor will begin a three-year appointment as our Associate Minister, taking us beyond the point of union with St Cuthbert's, when a minister will be recruited to the new united charge.

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: to hear about how things are going at Greyfriars, to seek support or pastoral care, or simply to 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 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](mailto:parishassociate@greyfriarskirk.com); Sue at [probationerminister@greyfriarskirk.com](mailto:probationerminister@greyfriarskirk.com); and Bert at [kerrigan@kerrigankc.com](mailto:kerrigan@kerrigankc.com).