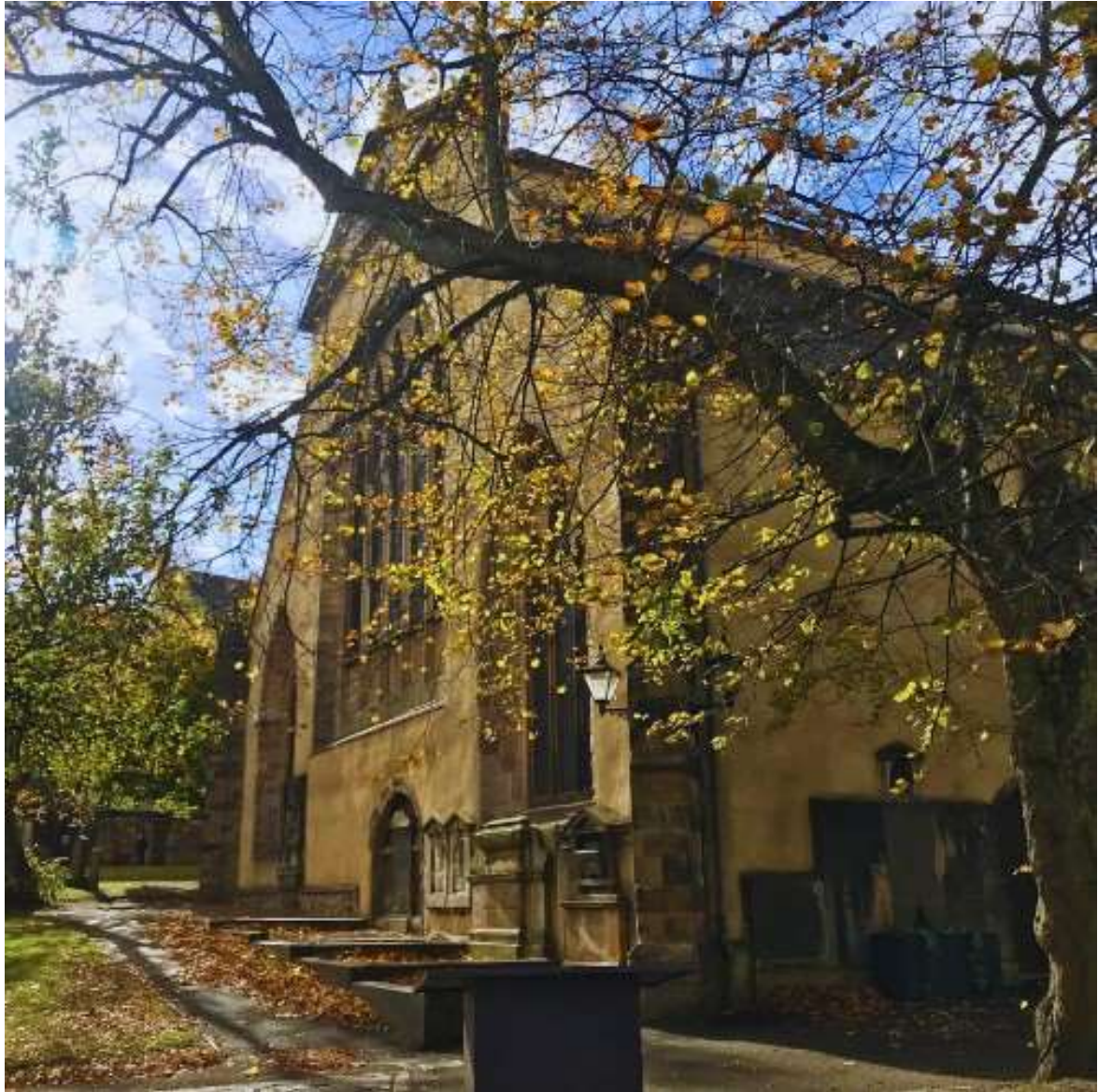


ORDER OF SERVICE - 8 SEPTEMBER 2024

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

Today's Worship Leaders:

Sue MacGregor	Preacher
Stuart Nicoll	Reader
Iain Whyte	Reader
Rosemary Scott	Prayer
Michael Anderson	Organist



GREYFRIARS

life in all its fullness / beatha na lànachd

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 8 September 2024 – Sixteenth 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 < <https://bit.ly/greyfriarstv> >.

This morning we welcome our Lord Provost, the Rt. Hon. Robert Aldridge, together with the Edinburgh Captain Robbie Houston, Edinburgh Lass Kirsty Symon, and office bearers and members of the Edinburgh March Riding Association, for the traditional ceremony of the Kirking of the Captain for next Sunday's Riding of the Marches.

Organ: Aria

Andrew Carter

Call to Worship

Hymn 124:

1. *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
praise God, my soul, for in him are your health and salvation;
come all who hear, into his presence draw near, joining in glad adoration.*
2. *Praise to the Lord, who in all things is wondrously reigning,
shields you from harm and is gently but firmly sustaining.
Have you not seen how your heart's wishes have been granted by God's wise ordaining?*
3. *Praise to the Lord, who with blessing and power will defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you;
ponder anew what the Almighty can do: God will for ever befriend you.*
4. *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 God's people again: gladly for ever adore him.*

Joachim Neander, tr. *Catherine Winkworth

Welcome, Kirking of the Captain, and Blessing of the Common Riding

Lord Provost:

Robbie Houston, it is with great pleasure that I now complete your installation as Edinburgh Captain 2023 by entrusting you with the City of Edinburgh Banner, and charge you to inspect the boundaries of our Capital City. I ask that you return this Banner to me in one week from today, unsullied and unstained.

Captain Robbie Houston:

My Lord Provost, on behalf of the people of the City of Edinburgh, and by the trust invested in me, I promise to return the city banner to you in one week's time at the Mercat Cross, unsullied and unstained.

Prayer of Blessing

Stand firm in the faith; be valiant, be strong. Let everything you do be done in love. May the blessing of flowers, seeds, and autumn fruit; of sunshine, mist, clouds and rain; of God, who is Creator, Saviour, and Spirit keep you going . . . joyful, shining and repurposed for all that lies ahead. Let this be so, here and now. Amen

Hymn 181:

Lucerna Laudoniae

1. *For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Christ, our God, to you we raise this our sacrifice of praise.*
2. *For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light:*
3. *For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:*
4. *For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:*
5. *For each perfect gift and sign of your love so freely given,
graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven:
Christ, our God, to you we raise this our sacrifice of praise.*

Folliott Sanders Pierpoint

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Pardon

Collect for the Day:

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people, that richly bearing the fruit of good works, we may by you be richly rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

The Word of God

Proverbs 22: 1 - 2, 8 - 9 and 22 - 23

Reader: Stuart Nicoll, Director, EMRA

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favour is better than silver or gold. The rich and the poor have this in common: the Lord is the maker of them all. Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail. Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor. Do not rob the poor because they are poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate; for the Lord pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them.

James 2: 1 - 10 and 14 - 17b

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Hymn 544:

1. *When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there?*
 When I needed a neighbour, were you there?
 And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?
2. *I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there?*
 I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?
3. *I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there?*
 I was cold, I was naked, were you there?
4. *When I needed a shelter, were you there, were you there?*
 When I needed a shelter, were you there?
5. *When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there?*
 When I needed a healer, were you there?
6. *Wherever you travel I'll be there, I'll be there,*
 wherever you travel I'll be there.
 And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, I'll be there.

Sidney Carter

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go — the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

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

Anthem: O Lord, open thou our lips, and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise. O Lord, make haste to help us. Glory be to the Father, glory be to the Son, glory be to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Praise ye the Lord. The Lord's name be praised.

Book of Common Prayer

Andrew Carter

Sermon

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.*

Offertory Prayer and Pastoral 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. 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

(over)

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

Benediction

*Amen
at Hymn 821*

Organ: Trumpet Tune

Andrew Carter

NOTES

Forthcoming Services

Today, Sunday 8 September

10:30am – Sunday Worship with the Kirking of the Captain, Edinburgh March Riding Association

12pm – Gaelic Service

Thursday 12 September

1:10pm – Midweek Prayers

Sunday 15 September

10:30am – Sunday Worship where we will welcome visiting preacher, Rev Sara Embleton

12pm – Gaelic Service

7pm – Refugio, reflective service with short communion

Thursday 19 September

1:10pm – Midweek Prayers

7pm – Ordination Service

Upcoming Events

Thursday 12 September

Greyfriars @ 12: Astro & Stella
(voice, guitar, piano)

Thursday 19 September

Greyfriars @ 12: Chris Flynn
(trumpet)

Saturday 21 September

Simple Music Ensemble
Concert

Thursday 26 September

Greyfriars @ 12: Alasdair
Morton-Teng (cello) and Jia
Ning Ng (piano)

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, or are visiting after some time away, please feel welcome to introduce yourself to the welcomers on the door and ministry team before or after the service.

We look forward to getting know you.

Study Service - Sunday 8 September

Ephesians 3: Gentile inclusion in Christ's faith. Chapter three is where Paul describes Jesus as the “one new man” in whom Jew and Gentile are reconciled and the nations become full participants in the heritage of Israel. Sadly this has not yet happened in world history, but has indeed happened “in Christ himself” and is for Paul what the incarnation of Jesus heralds.

The Study Service meets by Microsoft Teams from 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm. For details of the link, email Bob Walker at < bob@hebrides.u-net.com >.

(over)

Thursday 19 September – Ordination Service



We are looking forward to the ordination of Sue MacGregor as our Associate Minister at a special service in the Kirk at **7pm on Thursday 19 September**. There will be refreshments afterwards catered by our Grassmarket Community Project, and to let us know likely numbers in advance, please sign up (free) by scanning the QR code, or call Ellen McFadzen at the office on 0131 225 1900. The service will also be live

streamed

Sunday 22 September – Road Closures

Please note there is a Men's 10k and Women's 10k taking place in Edinburgh on Sunday 22 September and the road closures will affect surrounding areas such as the Grassmarket. As far as we can tell, there will be normal access via Forest Road. You can view the Road Closure guidance here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zLBfZfMBCGuR9YLmCGKYW-P_18QCuwSC/view or by scanning the QR code.



Events elsewhere

Greyfriars Charteris Centre: The regular **Coffee Mornings** are taking a summer break. They will restart, from 10.30 am to 12 noon as usual, on Thursday week, 5 September, and continue fortnightly.

Grassmarket Community Project: Tea Dance - Join us for an afternoon of foot-tapping live music, afternoon tea and exciting raffles. Reunite with your old pals and make new ones! **Wed 25 Sep** 1-4pm at Coffee Saints, 2a Little King Street Edinburgh EH1 3AR. TICKETS are £15PP (includes afternoon tea and a raffle ticket) and available from COFFEE SAINTS.

Murder Mystery Dinner - Join us for an evening of suspense, intrigue, and detective work at the Grassmarket Centre. Put on your detective hat and get ready to solve a thrilling mystery with your friends. **Friday 27 September** 6:30pm – 11pm. Tickets available from grassmarket.org/murder-mystery-dinner-at-gcp/ or by scanning the QR code:



Saturday 28 September – Doors Open Day at The Parish Church of St Cuthbert

There will be a special peal of Bells during the morning. You are all invited to join Sue at 2pm when we will have an opportunity to visit the Belfry of St Cuthbert's (we may even get the chance to ring a bell!)

Saturday 28 September, 10am – 4pm at St Cuthbert's.

Saturday 14 September - Taize Prayers Service

Taking place on 14th September in the **Chapel of St Albert the Great 7pm**. Part of an ongoing series with the next one being held here at Greyfriars on 12 October. More information to come!

We're looking for a Tech Team Volunteer

We are looking for a volunteer to join the team streaming the Sunday services for a time commitment of on average one Sunday per month. The candidate should be comfortable using PC applications such as Word and Excel and full training will be given. The on-line services are much appreciated by those members of our congregation who are housebound or are away from home, and the "tech volunteers" have fun doing the streaming!

If you are interested, please contact Ellen McFadzen (communications@greyfriarskirk.com) in the Kirk Office or chat to a volunteer: Peter Rae, Mike Gregson, Hilary Clydesdale.

Welcome to Mark Harrison

Our Operations Manager Steve Lister has announced his intention to retire at the end of September after 12 years in which he has transformed our Outreach activities. We have recruited as his successor Mark Harrison, who comes to us from Conifox, which is an adventure playpark at Kirkliston. He previously spent almost 20 years in Orkney as General Manager of the Pickaquooy centre in Kirkwall, a sports, arts, conference and social facility. Over the next few weeks, Mark is being briefed by Steve, and starts with us on Tuesday 1st October.

Greyfriars & St Cuthbert's Update

After a lull for a couple of months, while the review of charge at St Cuthbert's progresses and the working group started to investigate various aspects of church life and how these might be brought together, we are pleased to publish the next "working toward union" newsletter, which you can see online at www.greyfriarskirk.com/greyfriars-st-cuthberts-union/ or can pick up from the table under the organ gallery at the back of the Kirk. While we have always understood that progress toward union in our particular context would take a bit of time to work through, we appreciate too the importance of travelling on the journey together and ensuring everyone is able to contribute thoughts or have space to talk things through. We hope the information that has been provided so far has been of interest. As ever, members of the working group are very keen to hear from anyone with any questions, suggestions, or concerns, or if you would like to just have a chat and find out a bit more. Please speak to either: Gillian Couper, working group co-chair, at gcouper@churchofscotland.org.uk; or Jo Elliot, sessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.com; or reach out to any other member of the working group – Anne Bradbury, Maggie Cormack, Jamie Sutherland or Catherine Alexander

The Edinburgh Kiltwalk 2024

This year's Kiltwalk will be on Sunday 15 September. It is Scotland's most-loved walking event with thousands of people taking part and an unbelievable atmosphere. There are three distances available, the 5-mile Wee Wander, the 14 mile Big Stroll or the 21 mile Mighty Stride.

Hannah Crooks, a volunteer with Community Fundraising Scotland, is offering free places on the Kiltwalk to charity walkers who pledge to raise £100 for Shelter Scotland. Each walker will get a fundraising pack with a Shelter Scotland t-shirt to walk in, top fundraising tips, and training guides. Email Hannah at CommunityScotland@shelter.org.uk to get a free sign-up code for your chosen distance, and to say how many people will be walking with you.

News from the Ministry team, and Pastoral Care

Ministry at Greyfriars Kirk is led by our Associate Minister Sue MacGregor, with assistance from Gillian Couper, Elder and Candidate for the Ministry; from Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC, Reader, Church of Scotland; and from other members of the congregation.

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. Please contact the Kirk office by phone (0131 225 1900) or by email to either < minister@greyfriarskirk.com > or < contact@greyfriarskirk.com >.

Giving by 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.



Alternatively, you can scan the QR code that will take you to our donation page.