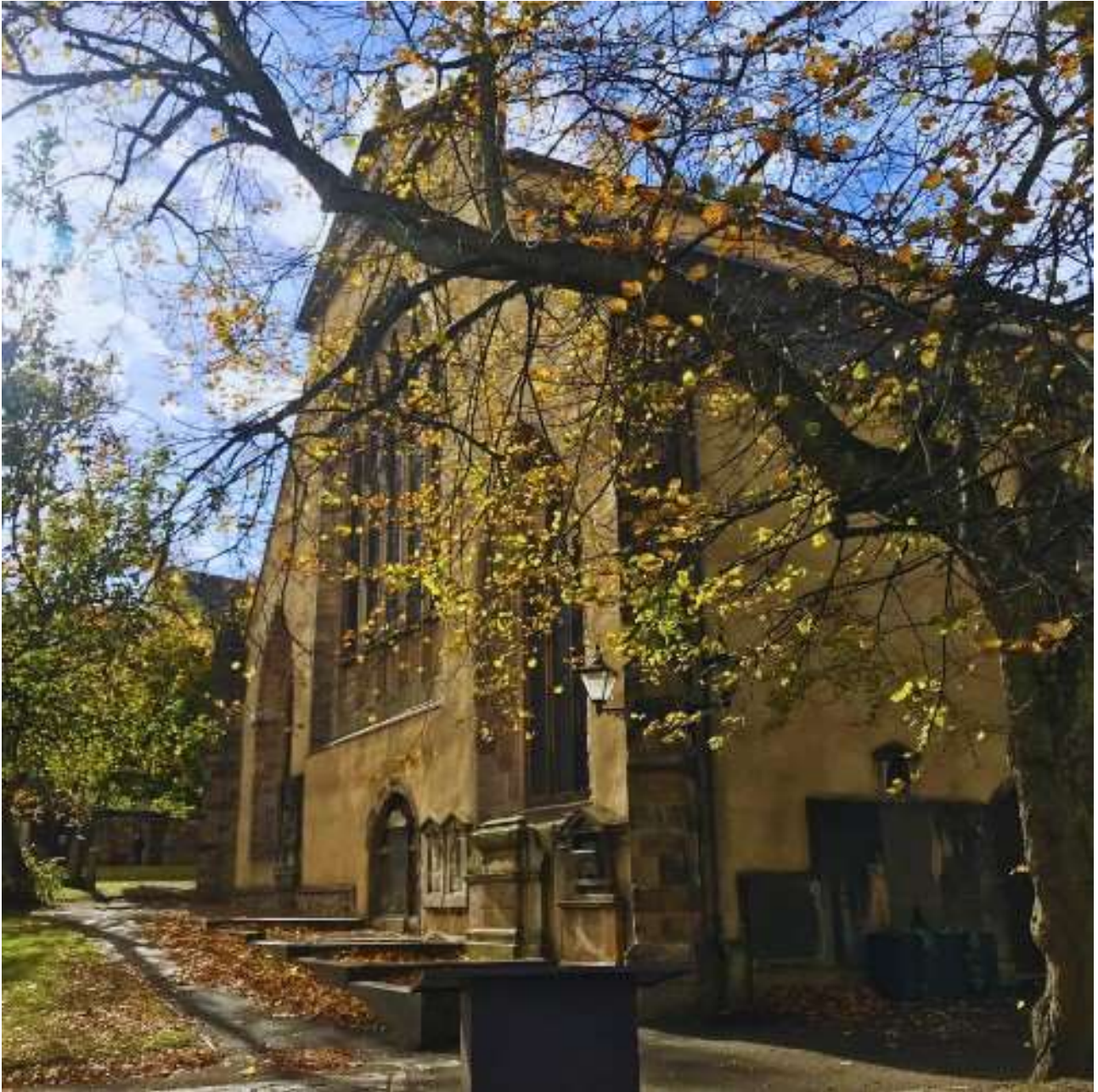


ORDER OF SERVICE - 12 JANUARY 2025

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Sue MacGregor
Dr. Caroline Cradock
Today's Preacher

Associate Minister
Director of Music
Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC



GREYFRIARS

life in all its fullness / beatha na lànachd

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 12 January 2025 – 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: O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig BWV618

J.S. Bach

Introit:

If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth.

John 14: 15 – 17

Thomas Tallis

Welcome and Call to Worship

Leader: When we pass through the cleansing waters of baptism
and the troubled waters of our lives, God declares:

All: I will be with you.

Leader: When we go through the fires that refine us
and the fires that threaten our livelihoods, God declares:

All: I will be with you.

Leader: Even when we travel to the far corners of the earth
or down into the depths of our souls, God declares:

All: I will be with you.

Leader: So come, let us worship God whose love never fails,
whose presence never leaves, whose mercies never end.

*All: Praise be to God who, in the form of Jesus, waded
into the waters of baptism to prove God's solidarity with us!*

Amen

Hymn 196: Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship.
Come, just as you are before your God, come.
One day every tongue will confess that Christ is Lord,
one day every knee will bow.
Still, the greatest treasure remains
for those who gladly choose him now.

Brian Doerksen

Because God was merciful, he saved us through the water of rebirth, and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit which he lavished upon us through Jesus Christ our Saviour

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 as your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Hymn: A voice was heard in Ramah
that could not be consoled,
as Rachel wept for children
she could no longer hold.
For Herod ruled the nation,
yet feared the Infant King.
How great the devastation
that fear and anger bring!

Passion Chorale

2. O God, we hear the crying
for little ones of yours;
for many still are dying
in conflicts and in wars —
in every troubled nation,
on every violent street,
how great the lamentation
when fear and anger meet!
3. Whenever one is weeping,
the whole world suffers, too.
Yet, Jesus, as we serve them,
we're also serving you.
So may we not ignore them,
nor turn our eyes away,
but help us labour for them
to bring a better day.
4. O Prince of Peace, you lead us
in ways of truth and grace.
May we be brave to practice
your peace in every place —
to love each fear-filled nation,
to serve each troubled street.
How great the celebration
when peace and justice meet!

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

The Word of God

Psalm 29

Reader: Nigel Robb

The Voice of God in a Great Storm

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendour. The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon. He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox. The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire. The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, 'Glory!' The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for ever. May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!

Acts 8: 14 - 17

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Hymn 147: All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing
alleluia, alleluia!
Bright brother sun with golden beam,
clear sister moon with softer gleam:
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Lasst uns Erfreuen

2. Swift rushing wind, so wild and strong,
high clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise him, alleluia!
New-breaking dawn, in praise rejoice,
and lights of evening find a voice:
3. Cool flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for your Lord to hear,
alleluia, alleluia!
Fire, with your flames so fierce and bright,
giving to all both warmth and light:

4. Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfolds God's blessings on our way,
O praise him, alleluia!
All flowers and fruits that in you grow,
let them his glory also show:
5. And all who are of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O praise him, alleluia!
All who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care:
6. And you, most kind and gentle death,
waiting to hush our fading breath,
O praise him, alleluia!
You homeward lead the child of God,
and Christ our Lord the way has trod:
7. Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

St Francis of Assisi,
tr. William Henry Draper

Luke 3: 15 – 17 and 21 - 22

Reader: Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

The Baptism of Jesus

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. 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: We wait for thy loving kindness, O God, in the midst of thy temple. Alleluia.
O God, according to Thy name, so is Thy praise unto the world's end.
Thy right hand is full of righteousness. Alleluia.
O Lord, send us now prosperity. Amen, amen.

Psalms

William McKie

Sermon: 'The Holy Spirit Descends'

The Body of Christ continues to be renewed and refreshed. As members, we belong to the baptized and covenantal life in Christ. We gather today to affirm our faith and renew our commitments as followers of Jesus.

Affirmation of Faith:

Leader: O God, because you are the source of all life and love and being, we call you Creator.

All: *Because we know the history of your presence among your covenanted people and honour their tradition, we call you Lord.*

Leader: Because our Saviour, Jesus Christ, your obedient child, knew you intimately and spoke of you so, we call you Father.

All: *Because you are present in each act of birth, and because you shelter, nurture and care for us, we call you Mother.*

Leader: Because you hold us up and give us strength and courage when we are weak and in need, we call you Sustainer.

All: *Because we have known you in our pain and suffering, we call you Comforter.*

Leader: Because beyond pain lies your promise of all things made new, we call you Hope.

All: *Because you are the means of liberation and the way to freedom, we call you Deliverer.*

Leader: Because you have chosen to come among us and share our common lot, making the hard choices, suffering and dying; because you rose victorious, bringing new life, we call you Redeemer.

All: *Confident that you will hear, we call upon you with all the names that make you real to us, the names which create an image in our minds and hearts, an image which our souls can understand and touch. And yet we know that you are more than all of these. Blessing and power, glory and honour be unto you, our God.*

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 Prayer and Pastoral Prayer: Rosemary Scott

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 502:** Take my life, Lord, let it be
consecrated, glad, and free;
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.
2. Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of your love;
take my feet, that I may run
bearing news of Christ your Son.
3. Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my intellect, and use
every power as you shall choose.
4. Take my will – your will be done,
may my will and yours be one;
take my heart – it is your own,
it shall be your royal throne.
5. Take my love – my Lord, I pour
at your feet its treasure-store;
take myself, and I will be
all for you, eternally.
- Nottingham
- Frances Ridley Havergal

Benediction

Amen

Organ: Andante maestoso (on an old Irish church melody)

C.V. Stanford

(Kirk notices overleaf)

NOTES

Forthcoming Services

Today

10:30am – Main Service

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

Thursday 16 January

1:10pm – Midweek Prayers

Sunday 19 January

10:30am – Main Service with the Rev. Matthew Bicket

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

7pm – Refugio – Holy Communion
with silence and symbol

Thursday 23 January

1:10pm – Midweek Prayers

Sunday 26 January

10:30am – Main Service

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

Upcoming Events

Thursday 6 February

12pm - Greyfriars @ 12
Concert

*More information on
services and events can be
found on our [website](#) or by
scanning the QR code:*



Refreshments

You are warmly invited to join us after today's service for a chat over tea or coffee and biscuits, 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 the ministry team before or after the service.

Study Service - Sunday 12 December, The Baptism of Jesus

The Study Service this evening will be a Bible Study on Matthew 3: the Baptism of Jesus - Why was Jesus baptised and what is baptism? 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 >.

Prayers for Christian Unity Event

Chapel of St Albert, George Sq. Lane, 18th January at 3pm

Join local Christians for an ecumenical service based on the biblical text for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, John 11:17-27. The theme for the week, "Do you believe this?" (v. 26), takes its cue from the dialogue between Jesus and Martha when Jesus visited the home of Martha and Mary in Bethany following the death of their brother Lazarus. The service is written by the World Council of Churches, and all are welcome.

Greyfriars & St Cuthbert's Update

You can find the "working toward union" newsletter online or can pick up from the table under the organ gallery at the back of the Kirk. Members of the working group are keen to hear from anyone with any questions, suggestions, or concerns, or just to have a chat and find out more. Please speak to Gillian Couper (co-chair) gcouper@churchofscotland.org.uk; Jo Elliot, sessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.com; Anne Bradbury, Maggie Cormack, Jamie Sutherland or Catherine Alexander.

Ministry team and Pastoral Care

Our Associate Minister is the Rev. Sue MacGregor. 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.

