

ORDER OF SERVICE - 26 JANUARY 2025

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Sue MacGregor
Dr. Caroline Cradock
The Rev. Dr. John Carswell

Associate Minister
Director of Music
Today's Preacher



GREYFRIARS

life in all its fullness / beatha na lànachd

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 26 January 2025 – Third 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: Variations on *Kelvingrove*

Denis Bédard

Call to Worship

Leaders: We, whose journeys are always beginning, gather as a community drawn together to celebrate the great mystery and joy of life.

We gather seeking meaning and wisdom for the days through which we are living.

All: *Hungry and thirsty, we gather and are drawn to our Source ... our Creator.
Let us worship God!*

Hymn 533: Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Kelvingrove

2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

4. Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

John L. Bell and Graham Maule

Welcome

Opening Prayers

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

Collect for the Day:

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit and make us worthy of your call; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

The Word of God

Numbers 9: 15 - 23

Reader: Angus Tod

The Cloud and the Fire

On the day the tabernacle was set up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the covenant; and from evening until morning it was over the tabernacle, having the appearance of fire. It was always so: the cloud covered it by day and the appearance of fire by night. Whenever the cloud lifted from over the tent, then the Israelites would set out; and in the place where the cloud settled down, there the Israelites would camp. At the command of the Lord the Israelites would set out, and at the command of the Lord they would camp. As long as the cloud rested over the tabernacle, they would remain in camp. Even when the cloud continued over the tabernacle for many days, the Israelites would keep the charge of the Lord, and would not set out. Sometimes the cloud would remain for a few days over the tabernacle, and according to the command of the Lord they would remain in camp; then according to the command of the Lord they would set out. Sometimes the cloud would remain from evening until morning; and when the cloud lifted in the morning, they would set out, or if it continued for a day and a night, when the cloud lifted they would set out. Whether it was two days, or a month, or a longer time, that the cloud continued over the tabernacle, resting upon it, the Israelites would remain in camp and would not set out; but when it lifted they would set out. At the command of the Lord they would camp, and at the command of the Lord they would set out. They kept the charge of the Lord, at the command of the Lord by Moses.

Hymn 286: Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Woodlands

2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy Name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

Timothy Dudley-Smith

Isaiah 49: 1 - 7

The Servant's Mission

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.' And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength — he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.' Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, 'Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

Acts 16: 6 - 15

Paul's Vision of the Man of Macedonia

Paul and Timothy went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

The Conversion of Lydia

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

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

Anthem:

O sing joyfully unto God our strength: make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob.
Take the song, bring hither the tabret: the merry harp with the lute. Blow up the trumpet
in the new-moon: even in the time appointed, and upon our solemn feast-day.
For this was made a statute for Israel: and a law of the God of Jacob.

Psalm 81: 1 - 4

Adrian Batten

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Hymn 333: I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord
(and during which, **The Offering**)

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my Word to them. Whom shall I send?

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

Daniel L. Schutte

Invitation to Holy Communion

During communion we offer a choice of drinking from a common cup (fermented wine) or from thimbles (pale non-alcoholic or dark fermented wine); the bread is gluten free.

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: Praeludium

Francis Jackson

The Peace

Pastoral Prayer: Alison Elliot

Hymn 682: Go in grace and make disciples,
baptize in God's holy name;
tell of death and resurrection,
Easter's victory now proclaim.
Christ's commission sends us forth
to the nations of the earth.
Go in grace and make disciples,
midwives for the world's rebirth.

Abbot's Leigh

2. Go and follow Christ's example,
not to vanquish, but to heal;
mend the wounds of sin's divisions,
servant love to all reveal.
Roles and ranks shall be reversed,
justice flow for all who thirst.
Go and follow Christ's example,
forge a world of last made first.

3. Go in Pentecostal spirit,
many tongues and many gifts;
feed the hearts of hungry people,
spread the gospel that uplifts.
As disciples, teach and learn,
till the day of Christ's return.
Go in Pentecostal spirit,
let God's flame of witness burn.

Mary Louise Bringle

Benediction

Amen
(at H821)

Organ: Choral and *Menuet gothique*, op.25

Léon Boëllmann

NOTES

Forthcoming Services

Today

10:30am – Main Service

This morning we welcome as our preacher the Rev Dr John Carswell who is Director of the Craighead Institute in Glasgow and was until recently minister of Cadzow Parish Church in Hamilton.

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

Thursday 30 January

1:10pm – Midweek Prayers

Sunday 2 February

9:15am – Early Communion - Sue MacGregor

10:30am – Main Service - Sue MacGregor

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

Thursday 6 February

1:10pm – Midweek Prayers

Sunday 9 February

10:30am – Main Service - Bert Kerrigan

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

Thursday 13 February

1:10pm – Midweek Prayers

Sunday 9 February

As most of you will know, our Associate Minister Sue MacGregor has been called to the vacant charge of Helensburgh Parish Church. Her final service at Greyfriars will be on **Sunday 9 February at 10:30am**. We hope to see as many of you there as possible as we wish her well and give a small presentation. Sue is leaving with our congratulations and thanks for all she has done for us, first as a probationer and more recently in her role of Associate Minister of Greyfriars Kirk.

If you wish to contribute to her leaving collection or sign the card, please get in touch with Ellen in the Kirk office; call 0131 225 1900 or email < contact@greyfriarskirk.com >.

Upcoming Events

Thursday 6 February

12pm - Greyfriars @ 12 Concert:
Michael Turpie (small pipes)
& Linda Campbell (accordion)

Thursday 13 February

12pm - Greyfriars @ 12 Concert:
Caitlin Scott Heathcote (oboe)
& Anna Michels (piano)

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



(over)

Study Service

The topic two weeks ago on the reason and significance of Jesus' baptism was so rich, with so many points which we wanted to discuss further, that it has been agreed to have a second session on it (Matthew, chs. 3 and 4). What did Jesus mean by the need to "fulfil all righteousness", and why was Jesus sent into the wilderness immediately after his baptism? When and how was that baptism of his finished?

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 >.

Discipleship News

Some members of the congregation are working to try and establish a Growth Group. The group will aim to focus on developing discipleship and worship opportunities, and on sharing those which we already have, such as our study service, midweek prayers and a fortnightly discussion group, for and with our congregation and the wider community. We are going to have an initial meeting on **Wednesday 5 February** at **10:30 am** at the **GCP Cafe**. All are invited. It will be a wonderful opportunity to catch up and share ideas!

There have also been some congregation members who have expressed a need for a prayer group, especially as Greyfriars and St Cuthbert's work towards their union. We are going to meet up **after service today, just for fifteen minutes or so, at 11:45 am in the coffee area**. If you are not able to stay behind today, or are worshiping from home and are interested in a potential prayer group, or if you would like to get involved with the growth group and are not able to attend on the 5th, then please email Shirley Bell on shirley12bell@gmail.com.

Volunteers

With our slimmed-down ministry team we are more than ever dependent on members of the congregation for the various essential roles to support our worship week by week. We are keen to expand the various rotas. Do get in touch if you can help, even if only once in a while.

For bible reading and pastoral prayers, contact

Naomi Stewart < naomistewart23@gmail.com >;

for welcoming at the door, contact either Jo Elliot < sessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.com >

or Bob Bradley < robertbradley152@gmail.com >;

for catering, contact Isobel Hutchings < bertishutchings@btinternet.com >;

for live streaming, contact Peter Rae < peterwhrae@btinternet.com >;

for midweek prayers, contact Shirley Bell < shirley12bell@gmail.com >;

and for choir and music, Caroline Cradock < organist@greyfriarskirk.com >.

Many thanks.

Charteris Community Coffee Mornings!

The regular coffee mornings at the Greyfriars Charteris Centre, 140 Pleasance, will continue at 10.30 am on Thursday week, 6 February, and fortnightly thereafter.

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 ministry team before or after the service.

Ministry team and Pastoral Care

Our Associate Minister is the Rev Sue MacGregor and our Church of Scotland Reader is Prof Bert Kerrigan. 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.