

ORDER OF SERVICE - 2 MARCH 2025

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. John Carswell
Dr. Caroline Cradock

Locum Minister
Director of Music



GREYFRIARS

life in all its fullness / beatha na lànachd

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 2 March 2025 – Transfiguration

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: Récit de Tierce en taille

Nicolas de Grigny

Introit: Jesu, the very thought of thee with sweetness fills the breast;
but sweeter far thy face to see, and in thy presence rest.

attr. St. Bernard of Clairvaux,
tr. Edward Caswall

Edward Bairstow

Call to Worship

Leader: The LORD is king; let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

People: The LORD is great in Zion; God is exalted over all the peoples.

All: Let us praise your great and awesome name. Holy is the LORD

Hymn: The LORD is king, enthroned in might
on wings of cherubim;
he reigns in holiness and might,
bow down to worship him!
Beyond all majesty and praise
his holy name confess;
the king of everlasting days,
who rules in righteousness.

Ellacombe

2. Of old to priests and prophets known
with trembling fear and awe,
he gave his people, set in stone,
his statutes and his law.
By those who called upon his name
the voice of God was heard,
his presence shown in cloud and flame
when they obeyed his word.

3. O magnify the God of grace
who hears his people's cry,
and come with songs before his face,
exalt his name on high!
To see at last, by grace restored
from sin and all its stains,
the holy mountain of the Lord
where God in glory reigns.

Timothy Dudley-Smith

Welcome and Introduction

Opening Prayers

Collect for the Day:

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ, whose compassion illumines the world. Transform us into the likeness of the love of Christ, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who live and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit.
Amen

- Hymn 356:** Meekness and majesty, manhood and deity,
in perfect harmony – the man who is God:
Lord of eternity, dwells in humanity,
kneels in humility and washes our feet.

This is your God

Oh, what a mystery – meekness and majesty:
bow down and worship, for this is your God, this is your God!

2. Father's pure radiance, perfect in innocence,
yet learns obedience to death on a cross:
suffering to give us life, conquering through sacrifice –
and, as they crucify, prays 'Father, forgive'.
3. Wisdom unsearchable, God the invisible,
love indestructible in frailty appears:
Lord of infinity, stooping so tenderly,
lifts our humanity to the heights of his throne.

Graham Kendrick

The Word of God

Exodus 34: 29 - 35

Reader: Andrew Morrice

The Shining face of Moses

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

2 Corinthians 3: 12 - 4: 2

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

Hymn 336: Christ is our light! the bright and morning star
covering with radiance all from near and far.
Christ be our light, shine on, shine on we pray
into our hearts, into our world today.

Highland Cathedral

2. Christ is our love! baptized that we may know
the love of God among us, swooping low.
Christ be our love, bring us to turn our face
and see in you the light of heaven's embrace.
3. Christ is our joy! Transforming wedding guest!
Through water turned to wine the feast was blessed.
Christ be our joy; your glory let us see,
as your disciples did in Galilee.

Leith Fisher

Luke 9: 28 – 43a

The Transfiguration

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah' — not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, 'Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It throws him into convulsions until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.' Jesus answered, 'You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.' While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

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

Sermon

The gift of inestimable worth: A living relationship with God

Anthem:

Accompanist: Andre Theng

Mine eyes for beauty pine, my soul for Goddes grace:
no other care nor hope is mine, to heaven I turn my face.
One splendour thence is shed, from all the stars above:
'tis namèd when God's name is said, 'tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.
And every gentle heart, that burns with true desire,
is lit from eyes that mirror part of that celestial fire.

Robert Bridges

Herbert Howells

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

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:** Catherine Alexander

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 132:** Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains, high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
2. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
3. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

St. Denio

Walter Chalmers Smith

Benediction

(sung) Amen

Organ: Chorale improvisation on 'Nun Danket Alle Gott'

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

(Kirk notices overleaf)

NOTES

Forthcoming Services

Today

9:15am – Early Communion

10:30am - Main Service

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

Thursday 6 March

1:30pm – Midweek Prayers

Sunday 9 March

10:30am – Main Service for the
First Sunday of Lent

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

Thursday 13 March

1:30pm – Midweek Prayers

Sunday 16 March

10:30am – Main Service

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

7pm – Refugio: Holy Communion
with silence and symbol

Upcoming Events

Sunday 2 March

4pm – Songbirds Concert

Friday 7 March

7:30 - Dunedin Consort Concert

Saturday 8 March

7:30pm – ESO Concert

Thursday 13 March

12pm Greyfriars @ 12 Concert: Clyde Winds
(wind quintet)

Friday 14 March

7:30pm – RSNO Concert

Saturday 15 March

7:30pm – ERCU 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 ministry team before or after the service.

Concert this afternoon in the Kirk

Songbirds is a women's choir including members of St Columba's by the Castle. This afternoon, at 4 pm in the Kirk, they present The Four Loves, a programme exploring different expressions of love, in reflective and beautiful choral music for upper voices by composers Rheinberger, Eric Whitacre and Brahms.

Charteris Community Coffee Mornings

The regular fortnightly coffee mornings have resumed – the next is this Thursday, 6 March, at the Greyfriars Charteris Centre, 140 Pleasance, from 10.30 am.

Thanks from Sue MacGregor

As a farewell present, besides flowers, a GCP chopping board and picture of St Bride, our collection added up to £725 for Sue. She has thanked us:

"Dear Friends. This short note is to say a very heartfelt 'thank you' to everyone at Greyfriars and in the wider circle of friends for your send-off as I start a new chapter in my ministry with the Church of Scotland over in the West. Thank you for your huge generosity in contributing to a leaving gift as well as the presents at my last service. I was truly over the moon that some of you came along to my recent induction to the charge of Helensburgh Parish Church and were able to mingle with the local congregation. Having the support of familiar faces alongside the new church family I am getting to know was a big boost to morale as I made the move out of Edinburgh. I have been very busy setting up my workplace and the manse, but also making time to go and explore some of my surroundings. Given my experiences so far of local weather (when the sun is out, it is about to rain) I would like to buy a good waterproof jacket and other outdoor essentials! I wish you all a Spirit-filled Lent and every blessing for the warmer spring-time ahead. Thank you again and God Bless."

Soul Space – Wednesday 5th March 2025, 12.30pm-5pm at St Cuthbert's

Our next soul space will be held this coming Wednesday. All are welcome. The theme will be "God be in my Mouth", and there will be reflections at 1pm and 4.30pm.

Ash Wednesday Service – 5th March 2025, 4pm at St Cuthbert's

All are warmly welcomed to a short service for Ash Wednesday. This will be a joint service led by Rev. Suzie Stark of St Cuthbert's, and Rev. Dr. John Carswell of Greyfriars. This will take place in the Memorial Chapel at 4pm and all are welcome. During this service, the Imposition of Ashes will be offered.

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.

(over)

Ministry team and Pastoral Care

Our Locum Minister is the Rev. Dr. John Carswell and our Church of Scotland Reader is Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC. 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.