

ORDER OF SERVICE - 9 FEBRUARY 2025

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Sue MacGregor
Dr. Caroline Cradock
Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Associate Minister
Director of Music
Today's Preacher



GREYFRIARS

life in all its fullness / beatha na lànachd

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 9 February 2025 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Racial Justice Sunday and Farewell to Reverend Sue C. MacGregor

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: Andante in G

S. S. Wesley

Introit:

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.

Psalms 5: 8, 4: 8

S. S. Wesley

Call to Worship

God of all people, You are the one who brought us into being, knitting and weaving us together and forming us before we were even born. You know us, each and every one – Your dear children, blessed to be bearers of Your image and likeness.

God of all nations, You stitch and sew this intricate image of You – like a garment of many colours, stitched, sewn and hemmed; each tone and hue painted with the tender care of You, the Artist, our Maker and Creator – clothing us all in Your love and mercy.

May Your dream for all Your dear children come true; may Your hope for all the earth to be renewed and reconciled be made real; may Your Kingdom come on this earth in this time, and be established for ever.

We call on You, O God, that on this Racial Justice Sunday You would bring together our hopes and fears, our prayers and our praise, and unite them, as we draw closer in communion with You and each other, for Your glory.

AMEN

Hymn 124: 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.

Lobe den Herren

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 and Call to Prayer

Prayers of Approach, Confession and Pardon

Collect for the Day:

Merciful Lord, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,, one God now and forever.

Amen

- Hymn 680:** You are called to tell the story,
passing words of life along,
then to blend your voice with others,
as you sing the sacred song.
Christ be known in all our singing,
filling all with songs of love.
2. You are called to teach the rhythm
of the dance that never ends,
then to move within the circle,
hand in hand with strangers, friends.
Christ be known in all our dancing,
touching all with hands of love.
3. You are called to set the table,
blessing bread as Jesus blessed,
then to come with thirst and hunger,
needing care like all the rest.
Christ be known in all our sharing,
feeding all with signs of love.
4. May the One whose love is broader
than the measure of all space
give us words to sing the story,
move among us in this place,
Christ be known in all our living,
filling all with gifts of love.

Regent Square

Ruth C. Duck

The Word of God

Isaiah 6: 1 - 8

Reader: Rev. Sue MacGregor

A Vision of God in the Temple

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.’

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: ‘Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!’

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: ‘Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.’ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I; send me!’

2 Corinthians 5: 16 to 6: 2

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

As God’s co-workers we urge you not to receive God’s grace in vain. For he says, “In the time of my favour I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you.” I tell you, now is the time of God’s favour, now is the day of salvation.

Hymn 344: And Jesus said: Don't be afraid –
I've come to turn your fear to hope,
I've come to take you through the deep,
to be your friend until the end,
so let your troubled heart find sleep.

Lace

2. And Jesus said: Don't be afraid –
I know your emptiness and grief,
I hear your words of unbelief,
but if you will, I'll heal your soul
and give your doubting heart relief.

3. And Jesus said: Don't be afraid –
I am the Way, I am the Light,
I am the Truth that holds you tight,
and in God's house you have a room,
a place of welcome and delight.

Shirley Erena Murray

Luke 5: 1 - 11

Reader: Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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

Anthem:

Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face; here would we touch and handle things unseen;
Here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace and all my weariness upon Thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God, here drink with Thee the royal wine of heaven;
Here would I lay aside each earthly load, here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

Horatius Bonar

Percy Whitlock

Sermon: 'Here am I; send me'

An Act of Commitment to Racial Justice

Dear people of God, we stand in the shadow of the prophets crying out for justice and peace. God calls us to be a people of reconciliation, serving a world in need. Courageous women and men have taken the risk of standing up and speaking out for the least and the lowest. This work involves risking ourselves for the sake of God's love and moving beyond ourselves in order to seek and serve Christ and one another. We are all called to the work and ministry of racial justice and reconciliation.

Will you persevere in prayer and fellowship?

All: *With the help of God, I will.*

Will you proclaim the good news of reconciliation in both word and deed?

All: *With the help of God, I will.*

Will you persevere in prayer and fellowship?

All: *With the help of God, I will.*

Will you acknowledge and address the prejudices
that keep you from loving all God's children?

All: *With the help of God, I will.*

Will you strive to see Christ in all persons, and value those with whom you disagree?

All: *With the help of God, I will.*

Will you seek to mend what is broken by human sin and greed?

All: *With the help of God, I will.*

Will you strive to speak words that liberate and heal and break the bonds of silence?

All: *With the help of God, I will.*

Will you seek the perfect love which casts out all fear?

All: *With the help of God, I will.*

Will you work towards dismantling the sin of abuse of power?

All: *With the help of God, I will.*

May Almighty God empower you to continue his work of reconciliation, give you the courage to overcome fears and embody love, give you grace to grow in self-awareness and personal integrity, and strengthen you to seek the unity that is in Christ, that we may rejoice with all God's children as disciples of God's Son.

All: *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: Margaret Wallace

***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

Presentation to the Reverend Sue MacGregor

- Hymn 606:** Lord, you sometimes speak in wonders, Stuttgart
unmistakable and clear,
mighty signs that show your presence,
overcoming doubt and fear.
2. Lord, you sometimes speak in whispers,
still and small and scarcely heard;
only those who want to listen
catch the all-important word.
3. Lord, you sometimes speak in silence,
through our loud and noisy day;
we can know and trust you better
when we quietly wait and pray.
4. Lord, you sometimes speak in Scripture,
words that summon from the page,
shown and taught us by your Spirit
with fresh light for every age.
5. Lord, you always speak in Jesus,
always new yet still the same:
teach us now more of our Saviour,
make our lives display his Name.

Christopher Martin Idle

Benediction

Choral Amen

Organ: 'Fanfare: Shine, Jesus, Shine'

Christopher Tambling

(Kirk Notices overleaf)

NOTES

Forthcoming Services

Today

10:30am – Main Service - Bert Kerrigan

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

Thursday 13 February

1:10pm – Midweek Prayers

Sunday 16 February

10:30am – Main Service – Rev. Dr. John Carswell

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

7pm – Refugio

Thursday 20 February

1:10pm – Midweek Prayers

Sunday 23 February

10am – TLC service at St Columba's by the Castle

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

Thursday 27 February

1:10pm – Midweek Prayers

Refreshments

You are warmly invited to join us after today's service at the back of the church to wish Sue farewell.

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

Our Associate Minister Rev Sue MacGregor has been called to the charge of Helensburgh Parish Church. Her final service with us is today. If you wish to contribute to her leaving collection please get in touch with Ellen in the Kirk office on 0131 225 1900 or contact@greyfriarskirk.com. Sue's induction at Helensburgh is at 7 pm on Tuesday 18 February and should be available to view on their Youtube channel, via their website <https://www.helensburghcos.org/>.

Wednesday 12 February – Open Lecture with Rev Dr Richard Frazer

This Wednesday at 7.00 pm, there will be an open lecture at St Giles Cathedral, organised by their under-40s group. Richard Frazer will be reflecting on the topic 'When Catastrophe Strikes, Go for a Walk,' based on a new edition of his book on pilgrimage, *Travels With a Stick*.

Upcoming Events

Thursday 13 February

12pm - Caitlin Scott Heathcote (oboe) & Anna Michels (piano)

Thursday 20 February

12pm - Greyfriars @ 12 concert: Wesley Hua (guitar)

Thursday 27 February

12pm - Magnus Turpie & Dominic Blaikie (accordion, fiddle & guitar)

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



Study Service

The Study Service this evening will be a Bible Study on Psalm 8: God's intense love for "man", his crown of creation. The Genesis story of God (chap 1.26-8) has sadly all too often been taken to be a warrant for complete human dominion over other life, whereas, in tune with the rest of the Old Testament, the context of the Genesis passage is that humankind are to be God's faithful stewards of a creation which he loves. But what is the Psalm's purpose in making so much of the weakness of a tiny baby?

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 >.

Charteris Community Coffee Mornings

The regular coffee mornings at the Greyfriars Charteris Centre, 140 Pleasance, will take place from 10.30am on Thursday week, 20 February, and fortnightly thereafter.

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.

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



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