

ORDER OF SERVICE - 6 APRIL 2025

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME
TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. W. John Carswell
Dr. Caroline Cradock
Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Locum Minister
Director of Music
Reader



GREYFRIARS

life in all its fullness / beatha na lànachd

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 6 April 2025 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

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: Verily, verily I say unto you: except ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man,
and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh,
and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.
For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.
He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.

John 6: 53 ff.

Thomas Tallis

Call to Worship

Leader: Spring has broken out bringing with it new life.

People: Let us find that new life in our spiritual lives.

Leader: Break open our hearts this morning to hear your Word, O God.

People: Let our fears be vanquished, our doubts removed and our spirits restored.

Leader: Come and Let us Worship with great joy.

People: Let us drop the things of the past which weighed us down.

Leader: God is about to do something new in our lives.

People: Let God's will become strong in our lives.

Leader: Feel the awe and joy of God's love for us:

People: Let us open our minds, our spirits, our souls to God's lavish love. Amen.

Hymn 396: And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused him pain –
for me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Sagina

2. 'Tis mystery all: the Immortal dies!
Who can explore his strange design?
In vain the first born seraph tries
to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
let angel minds inquire no more.
3. He left his Father's throne above, –
so free, so infinite his grace –
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race:
'tis mercy all, immense and free;
for, O my God, it found out me!
4. Long my imprisoned spirit lay
fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quickening ray;
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
my chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.
5. No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

Charles Wesley

Welcome and Introduction

Prayers

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

Collect for the Day:

God of the covenant, in the glory of the cross your Son embraced the power of death and broke its hold over your people. In this time of repentance, draw all people to yourself, that we who confess Jesus as Lord may put aside the deeds of death and accept the life of your kingdom.

Amen

Hymn 483: Father of heaven, whose love profound
a ransom for our souls has found,
before your throne we sinners bend:
to us your pardoning love extend.

Rivaulx

2. Almighty Son, incarnate Word,
our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord,
before your throne we sinners bend:
to us your saving grace extend.

(over)

3. Eternal Spirit, by whose breath
our souls are raised from sin and death,
before your throne we sinners bend:
to us your quickening power extend.
4. Jehovah — Father, Spirit, Son —
mysterious Godhead, Three in One,
before your throne we sinners bend:
grace, pardon, life to us extend.

Edward Cooper

The Word of God

Isaiah 43: 16 - 21

Reader: Anne Bradbury

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

Psalms 126

A Harvest of Joy

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.' The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb. May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

Hymn 560: Jesus, the very thought of thee
with sweetness fills my breast;
but sweeter far thy face to see,
and in thy presence rest.

St. Agnes

2. Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,
nor can the memory find
a sweeter sound than thy blest name,
Saviour of humankind.

3. O hope of every contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
to those who fall, how kind thou art!
how good to those who seek!
4. But what to those who find? Ah, this
nor tongue nor pen can show;
the love of Jesus, what it is
none but his loved ones know.
5. Jesus, our only joy be thou,
as thou our prize wilt be;
Jesus, be thou our glory now,
and through eternity.

Latin, 12th c, *tr.* Edward Caswell

John 12: 1 - 8

Reader: Rev. Dr. W. John Carswell

Mary Anoints Jesus

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

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

Sermon: 'Restoring our Fortunes'

Anthem: Drop, drop, slow tears, and bathe those beautiful feet,
which brought from heaven the news and Prince of Peace.
Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat;
to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.
In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears;
nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

Phineas Fletcher

Orlando Gibbons

Affirmation of Faith

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind.

It brought out the sweet perfume of those who adored and the stench of those who deceived.

His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and personal hope

for women and men when the Gospel is proclaimed and believed.

The Lord has indeed done great things for us and has restored our fortunes.

In this experience, the Spirit of God brings forgiveness to all, moves people to respond

in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. 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: Jo Elliot

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 187: There's a wideness in God's mercy, All for Jesus

like the wideness of the sea;

there's a kindness in his justice,

which is more than liberty.

2. There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than in God's heaven:
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly justice given.

3. For the love of God is broader
than the grasp of mortal mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.

4. if our love were but more simple,
we would take him at his word;
and our lives be filled with glory
from the glory of the Lord.

Frederick William Faber

Benediction

Amen

Organ: *Pange lingua* en taille à 4

Nicolas de Grigny

NOTES

Forthcoming Services

Sunday 6 April

9:15am – Early Communion

10:30am – Main Service

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

Thursday 10 April

1:10pm – Midweek Prayers

Sunday 13 April – Palm Sunday

10:30am – Main Service

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

Thursday 17 April

1:10pm – Midweek Prayers

Upcoming Events

Monday 7 April

12pm – A Recital by Linda Campbell & Friends

Saturday 12 April

7:30pm – SCOC Concert

Monday 14 April

6pm – The Crown College Bible Choir

Thursday 17 April

12pm – **Greyfriars @ 12 Concert:** Louise Martyn (soprano) & Nadanai Laohakunakorn (piano)

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



Palm Sunday Service 13th April

Next Sunday, 13th April, is Palm Sunday. This marks the time that Jesus arrived in Jerusalem in the days before his trial and crucifixion. As part of that service, we will be hearing the story of Barabas. John Carswell will be presenting the Gospel reading in a dramatised form, which will help us engage with the narrative.

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.

Stated Annual meeting – postponed by one week

Our 2025 meeting will now take place at **12 noon** on **Sunday 13 April**, in the Session Room. Besides adopting the 2024 statutory accounts, the meeting will also be an opportunity for an update on our progress towards the union with St. Cuthbert's, and for questions and discussion. Here is the link to the audited accounts for 2024 for adoption at the meeting: <https://greyfriarskirk.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Kirk-2024-signed-accounts.pdf>

(over)

Kirk Porch

Our new operations manager has been developing ideas about how we better utilise the Greyfriars Kirk porch as a means of engaging the high numbers of visitors who pass through the Kirkyard. The proposals, which are now supported by the Finance Management Group, include the installation of back-to-back commercial digital screens in the East window of the porch, which will allow us to share information about events and to signpost visitors as to what they can experience in the Kirk itself. We anticipate that these screens and other improvements to the porch set up will increase visitor numbers and their donations to the Kirk over time.

Our congregation members have generously supported capital projects in the past and we would be most grateful for any individuals who might wish to contribute to the costs of this project. If you are interested in hearing more and would be willing to support this initiative then please get in touch with our Finance Convener Andrew Campbell financeconvener@greyfriarskirk.com

Parking

The kirkyard is owned and managed by City of Edinburgh Council and it is only with their continuing goodwill that we can park there for Sunday services and for evening meetings. Their particular concern is over uncontrolled parking which blocks our fire exit and access for emergency vehicles. Parking is therefore limited to those with mobility difficulties or leading services, and to a maximum of six cars

So these are the ground rules:

- No parking in the kirkyard unless you are leading worship or music or if you need disabled access by reason of impaired mobility
- Never have more than 6 cars parked in the kirkyard
- Default is that we cannot park in the kirkyard

City centre parking (for instance in Candlemaker Row) remains free on a Sunday until 12.30 pm and every day after 6.30 pm.

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 fortnightly coffee mornings have resumed – the next is on Thursday, 17 April, at the Greyfriars Charteris Centre, 140 Pleasance, from 10.30 am.

Ministry team and Pastoral Care

Our Locum Minister is the Rev. Dr. W. 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.