

ORDER OF SERVICE - 7 SEPTEMBER 2025

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC
Dr. Caroline Cradock

Reader
Director of Music



GREYFRIARS

life in all its fullness / beatha na lànachd

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 7 September 2025 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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: Aria

Flor Peeters

Introit:

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
in pastures green: he leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again; and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness, ev'n for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear none ill:
for thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me:
and in God's house for evermore my dwelling-place shall be.

Psalm 23

James Bain

Call to Worship

Leader: We come to worship in this historic Kirk, one of the Old Toun Churches, on this special Civic Occasion.

People: We are conscious of the close connection over the years between this church, the first to be built in Edinburgh after the Reformation, and the City of Edinburgh Council.

Leader: Over the centuries that bond has always been strong and we rejoice that the City of Edinburgh has gone from strength to strength.

People: The centrality of the Christian Faith is echoed in the City Motto 'Except The Lord, In Vain' from Psalm 21 "Except the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain."

Leader: Throughout the years the City has been protected. Today's Service commemorates the historic Riding Of The Marches to ensure that all was well within the boundaries of our great City and entrusting that the Flag will fly proudly and remain safe in the keeping of those to whom it is entrusted.

People: As we come to worship we give thanks for our history: we pray for our City and we look forwards to its continuing with God's blessing in the future as it has enjoyed in the past.

Leader: So let us worship God.

Hymn 210: Awake, my soul

Morning Hymn

Welcome, Kirking of the Captain, and Blessing of the Common Riding

Lord Provost:

Adam Geehan, it is with great pleasure that I now complete your installation as Edinburgh Captain 2024 by entrusting you with the City of Edinburgh Banner, and charge you to inspect the boundaries of our Capital City. I ask that you return this Banner to me in one week from today, unsullied and unstained.

Captain Adam Geehan:

My Lord Provost, on behalf of the people of the City of Edinburgh, and by the trust invested in me, I promise to return the city banner to you in one week's time at the Mercat Cross, unsullied and unstained.

Prayer of Blessing

Prayer of Approach, Adoration, Confession and Supplication

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.
(Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.)

Collect for the Day: *Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people, that richly bearing the fruit of good works, we may by you be richly rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen*

The Word of God

Deuteronomy 30: 15-20 (OT p. 200) Reader: Iain Whyte, Chairman,
Edinburgh March Riding Association

1 Corinthians 13: 1-13 (NT p. 186) Reader: Stuart Nicoll, Director,
Edinburgh March Riding Association

Hymn 402: 'Take up your cross', the Saviour said Breslau

Luke 15: 25-33 (NT p. 84) Reader: Prof. Bert Kerrigan QC

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

Sermon

Anthem: Come down, O Love Divine, seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.
O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes, in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
Let holy charity mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.
And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling;
for none can guess its grace, till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling. Amen

Bianco da Siena, *tr.* Richard Littledale

William Harris

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

Old 100th, at H. 807

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Offertory Prayer

Hymn 644: O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end

Wolvercote

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

Hymn 529: Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go

Song 34

Benediction

Amen
at H. 820

Organ: Choral and Menuet gothique, op.25

Léon Boëllmann

NOTES

Forthcoming Services

Today

9.15 am – Holy Communion

10.30 am - Morning Worship
with the Lord Provost
and members of the Edinburgh
March Riding Association

12.30 pm – Gaelic Service

Thursday 11 September

1:10pm – Midweek Prayers

Sunday 14 September

10:30am – Morning Worship

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

Sunday 21 September

10:30am – Morning Worship
with Holy Baptism

12:30pm – Gaelic Service

Find information on services
and events on our website,
or by scanning the QR code.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 9 September

12:00pm - Composers Orchestra
Concert

Friday 12 & Saturday 13 September

11:00am-4:00pm – Art Exhibition
by local artist, Angel
Kwan



This morning we are very pleased to welcome the Right Honourable Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Councillor Robert Aldridge, together with Adam Geehan and Kirsten Lees, who are the Captain and Lass for next Sunday's Edinburgh March Riding, and other officebearers and members of the Edinburgh March Riding Association, to take part in the traditional ceremony of the Kirking of the Captain.

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.

The Church Hymnary – Third Edition

We have a large collection of copies of The Church Hymnary – Third Edition, which have been stored on shelves since we started using the fourth edition some years ago.

If anyone would like a copy, they will be available at the back of the church, under the organ after the service. We shall be retaining some copies but have more than we need. It seems appropriate that we offer these where they can be used, rather than sitting on shelves.

Car Parking

There will be someone at the gate between 10:10 and 10:25 on Sunday mornings to allow access for those who need to park due either to their involvement in the service and its related activities or to limitations in mobility. After the service the Beadle will have a key to let you out, but we would ask for patience as the system beds in.

Participate in Doors Open Day

This year, we will be participating in Edinburgh's Doors Open Day on Sunday 28 September, from 2:00 - 5:00pm. We will be opening our doors to visitors on Sunday afternoon to give them the opportunity to hear our wonderful Peter Collins Organ, undertake tours with our volunteers, enjoy a hot beverage, as well as some games for kids.

We hope to see you there and if you would like to get involved with the day's activities, please get in touch with Mark and Deborah in the Kirk office at communications@greyfriarskirk.com

Grassmarket Community Project

Coffee Saints is open in the Grassmarket Community Project for tea, coffee, brunch or lunch. If you are looking for something to eat or drink, or to meet friends in town, why not support this part of our outreach initiative?

Charteris coffee mornings

The regular fortnightly coffee mornings have resumed – the next is on Thursday 18 September, at the Greyfriars Charteris Centre, 140 Pleasance, from 10.30 am

Volunteers – Sunday Worship

We're looking to expand the number of volunteers who undertake essential roles in support of our weekly worship. There are various opportunities to assist and become more involved in worship. Please use the relevant contact information below to get in touch if you can help, even if only occasionally.

Bible reading and pastoral prayers Stephanie Rae stephanierae@btinternet.com	Welcoming team Jo Elliot sessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.com Nigel Robb nigel.d.robb@ntlworld.com
Catering team Isobel Hutchings bertishutchings@btinternet.com	Tech team Peter Rae peterwhrae@btinternet.com
Midweek Prayers Gillian Couper Gcouper@churchofscotland.org.uk	Choir and music Caroline Cradock organist@greyfriarskirk.com
Flower team Mary Macpherson marybmacpherson@outlook.com or Clem Bradley clementinabradley@gmail.com	Pastoral care visiting team Nigel Robb nigel.d.robb@ntlworld.com

Safeguarding

Your Church of Scotland Safeguarding Officer is Alison Noble.

You can contact Alison in person, via the church office, or by email: safeguarding@greyfriarskirk.com. There are posters displayed in the Kirk office and in the kitchen with more information.

Ministry team and Pastoral Care

We are in the process of seeking a new locum minister. In the meantime, you are very welcome to get in touch with our ministry team for any reason - whether to hear how things are going at Greyfriars, to seek support or pastoral care, or simply to share a cup of tea and a chat.

We would also like to hear from anyone who would like to join the Pastoral Care Visiting Team and offer to visit those who cannot attend Church.

Our Church of Scotland Reader, Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC, is available to meet with you. Please contact the Kirk office by phone on 0131 225 1900, or by email to 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.