

ORDER OF SERVICE – 7 DECEMBER 2025

GREYFRIARS KIRK



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Rev. Calum Macdougall
Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC
Dr. Caroline Cradock

Locum Minister
Reader
Director of Music



GREYFRIARS

life in all its fullness / beatha na lànachd

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday 7 December 2025 – Second Sunday of Advent

You are very warmly welcomed to Sunday Services at Greyfriars.
All our services are available for viewing at any time
on our YouTube channel at < bit.ly/greyfriarstv >.

Organ: A Fancy for a Double Organ

Orlando Gibbons

Introit: Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes;
and I shall keep it unto the end.

Psalms 119: 33

Thomas Attwood

Call to Worship

Minister: Advent, the season of patient waiting.

All: We wait to greet the promised Christ-child,
to be born at Bethlehem.

Minister: Advent, the season of awe and wonder.

All: We are filled with awe, as we wonder that
the Lord of all creation makes home among us.

Minister: Advent, the season for prayerful preparation.

All: We search our hearts, we reflect on our lives
and we lay our failings and errors before God.

Minister: Advent, the season of eager anticipation.

All: We prepare our hearts and minds to greet the Lord of life.

Minister: Let us worship God.

Hymn 334: On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Winchester New

Welcome to Greyfriars Kirk

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

The Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Leader: Last week, we lit the first candle, the Candle of Hope, reminding us that God's promises never fail. Today, we light the second candle - the Candle of Peace. Its steady flame calls us to rest in God's presence, even when the world feels restless

People: Peace is not simply the absence of conflict; it is the deep assurance that God is with us. It is the stillness that comes when we trust his love, and the courage to be peacemakers in our homes, our communities and our world.

Leader: The prophet Isaiah spoke of the one who would be called the Prince of peace, whose reign would bring justice, healing and wholeness.

People: In Jesus, that promise began to shine and it still shines today.

The Candle is lit

Leader: As this light grows brighter, may our hearts be filled with the peace that passes all understanding. Let us carry this peace into every place we go, so that the life of Christ may be seen in us.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, Prince Of Peace.

Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Supplication

The Rev. Calum Macdougall

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

at H. 222

Collect for the Day:

Almighty God, you sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah. Inspire the ministers and stewards of your truth to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Reflection – My Role in Greyfriars

Helen Scott – Shop Manager

The Word of God

Isaiah 11: 1 – 10 (OT p. 687)

Reader: Andrew Morrice

Romans 15: 4 – 13 (NT p. 174)

Hymn 473: Thy kingdom come! – on bended knee

Irish

Matthew 3: 1 – 12 (NT p. 2)

Reader: The Rev. Calum Macdougall

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

Sermon

The Rev. Calum Macdougall

Anthem:

This is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? And he confessed and denied not, and said plainly, I am not the Christ. And they asked him, What art thou then? Art thou Elias? And he said, I am not. Art thou the prophet? And he answered, No. Then said they unto him, What art thou? that we may give an answer unto them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord.

John 1: 19-23

Orlando Gibbons

Affirmation of Faith

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

We believe in God, the creator of heaven and earth, who brings life from what is barren and light into every shadow.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the promised One, foretold by prophets and proclaimed by John, who came to bring peace to the nations and to reconcile all people to God.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who stirs our hearts and minds to repentance, opens our eyes to God's kingdom among us and strengthens us to walk in the way of Christ,

We believe the day is coming when justice will flourish, peace will embrace the earth, and all creation will sing for joy. Until that day, we prepare the way of the Lord, living in hope, speaking peace and bearing the light of Christ to the world. 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

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Hymn 274: Comfort, comfort now my people

Genevan 42

Pastoral Prayer: Rebecca Grant

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 286: Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

Woodlands

Benediction

Amen
at H. 820

Organ: Toccata in F BuxWV157

Dietrich Buxtehude

NOTES

Forthcoming Services	Upcoming Events at Greyfriars
Today 12:30pm – Gaelic Service Thursday 11 December 1:10pm – Midweek Prayers Sunday 14 December 12:30pm – Gaelic Service 7:30pm - Refugio	Tuesday 09 December 7:30pm – Scottish Ensemble: Concert by Candlelight Wednesday 10 December 7:30pm – Captivate Theatre: A Christmas Carol Thursday 11 December 7:30pm – Maggies Carol Concert Friday 12 December 6:00pm – Written in Light: Ukrainian Charity Concert Saturday 13 December 7:30pm – The Edinburgh Singers: Christmas at Greyfriars
Find information on services and events 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 the Ministry Team before or after the service.

Church shop open today!

This morning, during the reflection, we will hear more about the church shop, which is open when we are open to visitors. After the service today, the shop will be open for the congregation. Why not pick up some presents or tree decorations and support the church in the process? Generous discounts are on offer.

The shop will also be open after the service on the 21st December.

Beadle

Our longstanding beadle Damian Ryan is moving on after almost 7 years and today is his last Sunday with us.

We have been immensely grateful for his steady friendship and support over all this time, not only at Sunday services with his mastery of the sound system but also through covid as we installed the live streaming and learned how to operate it. We wish him all the best in his future career.

With Damian's departure, we are looking to recruit a new Beadle. If you, or someone you know, may be interested in the position and in finding out more information, please contact our Operations Manager, Mark Harrison at outreach@greyfriarskirk.com.

Advent morning retreat with St Columba's by the Castle

St Columba's will be hosting a retreat morning for Advent running on 13 December from 10 am to 1 pm. To register your interest, please email rector@stcs.org.uk, or you can find out more on their website: <https://www.augustine.org.uk/advent-retreat-13th-dec-2025-10am-1pm/>

Charteris coffee mornings

The regular fortnightly coffee mornings have resumed – the next one (the last before Christmas) will be this Thursday, 11 December, from 10.30 am at the Greyfriars Charteris Centre, 140 Pleasance.

10% off at Coffee Saints in the Grassmarket Community Project

Our cafes Coffee Saints in Candlemaker Row and in Little King Street are keen to welcome congregation members for coffee, brunch or lunch 7 days a week.

Cards entitling you to the discount for the **whole of 2026** are now available at the serving hatch at the back of the church; please take one with the compliments of GCP and fill in your name to validate it.

Car Parking

In order to help us manage access to the Kirkyard can anyone who requires access to park please arrive between 10:10 am and 10:25 am. If there is no one at the gate then please call, and someone will come down to unlock the gate and let you in. Parking in the Kirkyard is prioritised for those leading worship, music, involved in catering, or for those requiring disabled access by reason of impaired mobility. The ideal capacity is 6 cars parked in the kirkyard. Use the map below to understand where vehicles need to be safely parked.



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

Join us for Advent Study

Due to IT issues, last week's Advent Study did not go ahead - these have now been resolved. Please do join us today at 6.00 pm.

Our Locum Minister, the Rev. Calum Macdougall, will be running an Advent Study, starting this evening and running for two more Sundays until 21 December. The sessions will start at 6.00 pm, last for one hour, and will take place online via zoom. The chosen book is "Waiting for tThe Light" by William Delia, which is available from Amazon on Kindle or as a paperback.

Everyone interested is very warmly invited to take part in the Advent Study using the zoom link below (scan the QR code from the printed copy of the Order or click the link in the online copy on our website).



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86949388553?pwd=96Mw881riFicJFaEAFmTtl7Skalya8.1>

Volunteers – Kirk weekday welcomers

We're looking for friendly volunteers to join our Welcomers team.

Greyfriars Kirk welcomed over 100,000 visitors last year, a feat that wouldn't be possible without our fantastic welcomer volunteer team. As the first point of contact for visitors, our Welcomers help to enhance each visitor's experience by sharing knowledge, facilitating conversations, and assisting with purchases in the gift shop.

If you enjoy extending a warm welcome to others and have an interest in the Kirk's history, please get in touch with the Kirk office: volunteering@greyfriarskirk.com

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 deputysessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.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 Clem Bradley clementinabradley@gmail.com	Pastoral care visiting team Nigel Robb deputysessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.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

You can contact our Locum Minister, Calum Macdougall, to discuss pastoral matters with him either by email: MMacdougall@churchofscotland.org.uk or arrange to meet with him by calling the Kirk office on 0131 225 1900.

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.

Please contact the Kirk office to arrange a meeting with a member of the Ministry team.

Phone: 0131 225 1900

Email: contact@greyfriarskirk.com.

Offerings by Gift Aid:

The Gift Aid scheme allows us to reclaim tax on offerings, by 25p in the £. If you are a UK taxpayer, please take advantage by using one of the envelopes in the backs of the chairs.



It is important to **fill in your name** (and address if you are not already on our list) – we have been getting some blank envelopes back which cannot be used for tax reclaim.

Alternatively, you can scan the QR code that will take you to our donation page.

Many thanks