

ORDER OF SERVICE – 25 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

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Thursday 25 December 2025 – Christmas Day

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: : Variations on 'In dulci jubilo'

Denis Bédard

Call to Worship

Minister: Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

All: *For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.*

Minister: Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

All: *A child has been born for us, a son given to us.*

Minister: Let us worship God. O come, all ye faithful.

Hymn 306: O come, all ye faithful

Adeste Fideles

The Lighting of the Christmas Candle

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Leader: Today we celebrate the gift of the Incarnation, Emmanuel, God with us. We celebrate the birth of Christ who is the Light of the World – a Light no darkness can extinguish. The Light of Christ can enter any darkness. As members of the Body of Christ, we live in the Light of Christ!

All: *“And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, glory as of the Father’s only Son, full of grace and truth.”* (John 1: 14)

Leader: Jesus, the Son of God, was born of Mary, to become human, as one of us. He lived among us, experiencing our joys and hopes, our struggles and challenges. He came to bring us out of the darkness into which we had fallen and into God’s eternal Light.

(we light the centre candle – the Christ candle)

Leader: Ever living God, as we light this fifth candle, we celebrate the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and the Light of the World. As his light shines in our hearts and in our homes, may we affirm the true meaning of Christmas – the gift of your love and grace. Thank you for the hope that this Advent and Christmas season brings into our lives. We welcome the birth of Jesus with open hearts and deepest gratitude.

All: *Light of light, you have come among us. Help us who live by your light to shine as lights in your world. Glory to God in the highest. Amen*

Hymn 323: The first Nowell the angel did say

The First Nowell

Prayers for Christmas Day

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

The Word of God

Luke 2: 1 - 20 (NT p. 62)

Reader: Van McKellar

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

Anthem:

Ding dong, merrily on high! In heav'n the bells are ringing;
ding dong, verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing.

Gloria, hosanna in excelsis! Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, let steeple bells be swungen,
And io, io, io, by priest and people sungen.

Gloria, hosannah in excelsis! Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

Pray ye dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers;
may ye beautifully rhyme your evetime song, ye singers.

Gloria, hosannah in excelsis! Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

George R. Woodward

arr. Charles Wood

Reflection

The Rev. Calum Macdougall

Hymn 320: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Antioch

Pastoral Prayer

Stephanie Rae

Hymn 301: Hark! the herald angels sing

Mendelssohn

The Collect for Christmas:

God our Father, your Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem. Grant that the light of faith may illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Benediction

Amen

Organ: In dulci jubilo BWV729

J.S. Bach

Forthcoming Services

Sunday 28 Dec	10.30 am: Holy Communion at St. Cuthbert's Parish Church. There will be no Gaelic service.
Thursday 1 Jan	No mid-week prayers this Thursday.
Sunday 4 Jan	9.15 am: Holy Communion at Greyfriars. 10.30 am: Morning Worship at Greyfriars. There will be no Gaelic service.
Thursday 8 Jan	1.10 pm: Mid-week Prayers
Sunday 11 Jan	10.30 am: Morning Worship 12.30 pm: Gaelic Service