



GREYFRIARS ST CUTHBERT'S

Sunday Service at Greyfriars Kirk

The Revd Dr George Whyte

Interim Moderator

The Revd Calum Macdougall

Locum Minister

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Reader

Dr Caroline Cradock

Director of Music

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday 16 August 2026

A warm welcome to Greyfriars St Cuthbert's.

Today is the **Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**, and the liturgical colour for this period of Ordinary Time in the church year is **green**.

This morning, we welcome **The Revd Calum Macdougall** to lead our worship.

Hymns are sung standing, unless otherwise indicated. If you didn't collect one on the way in, please ask one of our Elders for a hymnbook.

Bible Readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version. If you didn't collect one on the way in, please ask one of our Elders for a copy.

Congregational responses are printed in *italics*. The congregation is encouraged to join in with the saying of '**Amen**' at the end of prayers.

Please join us after the service under the Peter Collins Organ for tea and coffee.

All our services are available for viewing at any time on our YouTube channel. If you do not wish to be seen on the broadcast, please make your wishes known.



The Church of Scotland

Edinburgh: Greyfriars St Cuthbert's Church of Scotland
Scottish Charity Number SC003761

www.greyfriarskirk.com
www.stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk

Organ: Cloister-Garth

Herbert Brewer

Introit: Cantate Domino canticum novum, laus eius in ecclesia sanctorum. Laetetur Israel in eo qui fecit eum, et filii Sion exultent in rege suo.

(Sing to the Lord a new song, and his praise in the assembly of the saints. Let Israel rejoice in Him who made them, and the children of Zion be joyful in their King.)

Psalm 149: 1-2

Giuseppe Pitoni

Call to Worship

The Rev. Calum Macdougall

Leader: Let God's grace shine upon us, and let God's presence be known among all people.

People: *We lift our voices, asking God to guide every nation with wisdom and mercy.*

Leader: Let the world rejoice, for God judges with fairness and leads with steadfast love.

People: *We celebrate the One who shepherds every land and every people.*

Leader: The earth has received God's blessing; creation itself responds with praise.

People: *We join creation's song, giving thanks for God's goodness.*

Leader: Let every tribe, every tongue, and every heart turn toward the Lord.

People: *We worship with gladness, for God's light reaches to the ends of the earth.*

Leader: Let us worship God.

Hymn 127: O worship the King

Hanover

1. *O worship the King, all glorious above;
O gratefully sing his power and his love;
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendour and girded with praise.*
2. *O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
his chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.*
3. *The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old,
hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.*
4. *Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.*
5. *Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend!*
6. *O measureless might, ineffable love!
While angels delight to hymn thee above,
the humbler creation, in lowlier ways,
with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.*

Robert Grant,
from Psalm 104

Welcome to Greyfriars Kirk

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Prayer of Approach, Adoration, Confession and Supplication

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

(Lord, have mercy.)

at H. 776

Collect for the Day:

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and sent into our hearts the Spirit of your Son. Give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that all people may know the glorious liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Hymn 624: In Christ there is no east or west

McKee

1. *In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.*
2. *In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close-binding humankind.*
3. *Come, brothers, sisters of the faith,
whate'er your race may be:
whoever does my Father's will
is surely kin to me.*
4. *In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north,
all Christ-like souls are one in him,
throughout the whole wide earth.*

John Oxenham

The Word of God

Genesis 45: 1 - 15 (OT p. 45)

Reader: Angus Tod

Joseph Reveals himself to his Brothers

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, 'Send everyone away from me.' So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?' But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come closer to me.' And they came closer. He said, 'I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there — since there are five more years of famine to come — so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty." And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honoured in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.' Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

(over)

Romans 11: 1 - 2a and **29 - 32** (NT p. 171)

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

The gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all. Amen

Hymn 718: We cannot measure how you heal The Banks o' Doon

1. *We cannot measure how you heal
or answer every sufferer's prayer,
yet we believe your grace responds
where faith and doubt unite to care.
Your hands, though bloodied on the cross,
survive to hold and heal and warn,
to carry all through death to life and cradle children yet unborn.*
2. *The pain that will not go away,
the guilt that clings from things long past,
the fear of what the future holds, are present as if meant to last.
But present too is love which tends
the hurt we never hoped to find,
the private agonies inside, the memories that haunt the mind.*
3. *So some have come who need your help
and some have come to make amends
as hands which shaped and saved the world
are present in the touch of friends.
Lord, let your Spirit meet us here
to mend the body, mind, and soul,
to disentangle peace from pain
and make your broken people whole.*

John L. Bell and
Graham Maule

The Canaanite Woman's Faith

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Calum Macdougall

Anthem: Give us the wings of faith to rise within the veil, and see the saints above, how great their joys, how bright their glories be. We ask them whence their victory came; they, with one united breath, ascribe the conquest to the Lamb, their triumph to his death.

They marked the footsteps that he trod, his zeal inspired their breast, and, following their incarnate God, they reached their promised rest.

Isaac Watts

Ernest Bullock

Affirmation of Faith

The Rev. Calum Macdougall

*We believe in God the creator, who is eternally creative and invites us
to affirm and explore who we are, with all our differences;
and who is the source of our faith.*

*We believe in God the Saviour revealed in the world as Jesus Christ
who died and is risen, the one Lord of the church.*

*We believe in God the Reconciler, the Holy Spirit, who is always
with us bearing witness with our spirits that we are
the children of God.*

*We believe that human smallness will never diminish God's vastness;
that human frailties will never overcome God's will
for wholeness; that human sin can never crush
God's power for new life even in the face of death.*

*We commit ourselves individually and as a community to the way
of Christ; to take up the cross; to seek abundant life
for all humanity; to struggle for peace with justice
and freedom; to risk ourselves in faith, hope, and love,
praying that God's kingdom may come.* *Amen*

The Offering

Gonfalon Royal, at H. 810

*Sing to the Lord of heaven and earth,
whom angels serve and saints adore,
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest
to whom be praise for evermore. Amen.*

Offertory Prayer

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Prayers of the People

Stephanie Rae

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 231: For the fruits of all creation

East Acklam

1. *For the fruits of all creation, thanks be to God;
for these gifts to every nation, thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.*
2. *In the just reward of labour, God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvest we are sharing, God's will is done.*
3. *For the harvest of the Spirit, thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit, thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.*

Frederick Pratt Green

Benediction

Amen
at H. 820

Organ: Introduction and fugato

Herbert Brewer

NOTES

Forthcoming Services	Upcoming Events at Greyfriars
Today 10:30am – Sunday Service 12:30pm – Gaelic Service Thursday 20 August 1:05pm – Midweek Prayers Sunday 23 August 10:30am – Sunday Service 12:30pm – Gaelic Service	Today 3:00pm– Fringe: Get Up and Gospel! 7:30pm – Fringe: Everett Choral Celebration Concert Tuesday - Friday 18-21 August Various times – Fringe: Barnsley Youth Choir Sunday 23 August 4:00pm – Fringe: Sing It!
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.

Additional items on show in the Kirk

During this busy festival month, we do our best to make sure the Kirk is as close to our usual church service set-up as possible. On occasion, there may be the odd bit of staging or technical equipment on display following events or in advance of them. We thank you for your patience with this during these few weeks each year.

Union update following the first meeting of the new Kirk Session

The first meeting of the Edinburgh: Greyfriars St Cuthbert's (Church of Scotland) Kirk Session was held at St Cuthbert's on the evening of 4th August.

The majority of the meeting was taken up with planning the way ahead and the following appointments have been made:

Locum Minister (from 8th September 2026) Rev Dr George Whyte	Session Clerk Team Session Clerk Professor Nigel D Robb, TD Depute Session Clerks Christine Stevenson Anne Bradbury Dr Hilary Clydesdale
Treasurer Malcolm Beveridge	Presbytery Elder Jim McLean
Safeguarding Officers Greyfriars: Alison Noble St Cuthbert's: TBC	Convener of the Finance Management Group Andrew Campbell

We have also convened a small group to produce the Parish Profile, which is one of the first stages in seeking to call a new minister. George Whyte has produced a draft timeline for us to work to, and we will provide more detail as the work progresses.

Any Congregational Meetings that are needed for decision making will be organised to follow joint services.

We will keep you informed as we move forward. We are at the beginning of a new and challenging phase in our history. We have much to integrate and develop as a new congregation.

We ask for patience and understanding as we move forward and we will continue to provide updates on the progress which is being made.

Nigel

Professor Nigel D Robb, TD

Session Clerk

Edinburgh: Greyfriars St Cuthbert's (Church of Scotland)

Change to Midweek Prayers start time

The start time for our service of Midweek Prayers has been moved forward by five minutes, to allow a little longer before we re-open to visitors at 1.30 pm. Join us every Thursday from 1:05 pm to 1:25 pm.

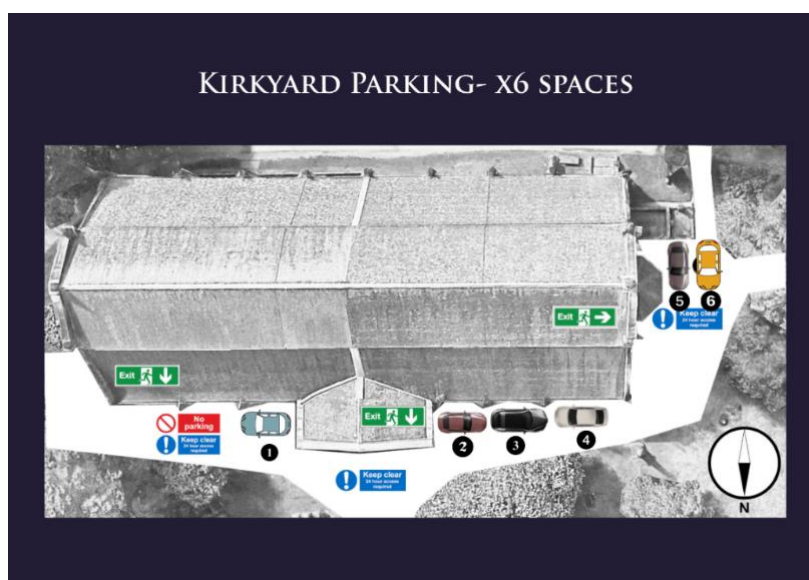
Beadle

We're sad to share the news that our Beadle, Peter will be leaving us at the end of September. He has become a strong asset of the Greyfriars Family, and we wish him well on his new adventures down south.

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

Car Parking

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 capacity is **6 cars** parked in the Kirkyard.



To gain access through the gate, please call 07598 470 320 and a keyholder will let you in and advise you of which space to park in.

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.

Volunteers – Sunday Worship

Welcoming members of the congregation and visitors is an imperative part of our Sunday Worship. As in all things, many hands make light work. If you could give a Sunday every one to two months to help us with welcoming, please have a chat with Nigel Robb about this: sessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.com

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, or you can donate by card through our new card readers by the main doors, which allow you to choose the amount.

Many thanks.