



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 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday 23 August 2026

A warm welcome to Greyfriars St Cuthbert's.

Today is the **Thirteenth 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 for those who are able, unless otherwise indicated. If you didn't collect one on the way in, please ask one of our Welcomers for a hymnbook.

Bible Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version. If you didn't collect one on the way in, please ask one of our Welcomers 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: Aria

Charles Callahan
Organist: Simon Walker

Introit:: Ave verum corpus natum ex Maria Virgine,
vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine,
cuius latus perforatum vero fluxit sanguine,
esto nobis praegustatum mortis in examine.
O clemens, O pie, O dulcis Jesu, Fili Mariae.

*(Jesu, Lamb of God, Redeemer, born the Virgin Mary's Son,
who upon the cross a victim hast for us salvation won:
from whose side, which man had piercèd,
truly flowed thy precious blood,
by thy sacred body broken be in life and death our food.
O merciful and holy Jesus, gentle Son of Mary.*

attr. Innocent VI

Edward Elgar

Call to Worship

Leader: Welcome to this place where worship of God
has happened for centuries.

People: *We too joyfully join in to that long tradition.*

Leader: Welcome to this place where new life
has been brought for baptism.

People: *May we have an uncomplicated faith
which others can understand.*

Leader: Welcome to this place where young and old
can show mutual respect.

People: *May we ensure that no one comes and leaves
without feeling at home.*

Leader: Welcome to this place where the Gospel
of Jesus Christ is celebrated.

People: *May we come expectantly and leave contentedly.*

Leader: So let us glorify God, Father Son and Holy Spirit
as we now worship.

Hymn 198: Let us build a house

Two Oaks

1. *Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive;
built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.*
2. *Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: all are welcome in this place.*
3. *Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space,
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
all are welcome in this place.*
4. *Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: all are welcome in this place.*
5. *Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
all are welcome in this place.*

Marty Haugen

Welcome to Greyfriars Kirk

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Prayer of Approach, Adoration, Confession and Supplication

Rev. Calum Macdougall

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

(Lord, have mercy.)

at H. 776

Collect for the Day:

Almighty God, you have taught us that without love all our doings are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Hymn 187: There's a wideness in God's mercy

All for Jesus

1. *There's a wideness in God's mercy, 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

The Word of God

Exodus 2: 1 - 10 (OT p. 52)

Reader: Anne Bradbury

Birth and Youth of Moses

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

Romans 12: 1 - 8(NT p. 172)

The New Life in Christ

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Amen

Hymn 691: Be still, my soul

Finlandia

1. *Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side:
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
leave to your God to order and provide;
in every change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.*
2. *Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
to guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake,
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
his voice, who ruled them while he lived below.*
3. *Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart
and all is darkened in the vale of tears,
then you shall better know his love, his heart,
who comes to soothe your sorrows, calm your fears.
Be still, my soul: for Jesus can repay
from his own fullness all he takes away.*
4. *Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgotten, love's pure joy restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessèd we shall meet at last.*

Katharina von Schlegel, tr. Jane Laurie Borthwick

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Calum Macdougall

Anthem: Mine eyes for beauty pine, my soul for Goddes grace:
no other care nor hope is mine, to heaven I turn my face.
One splendour thence is shed, from all the stars above:
'tis namèd when God's name is said,
'tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.
And every gentle heart, that burns with true desire,
is lit from eyes that mirror part of that celestial fire.

Robert Bridges

Herbert Howells

Affirmation of Faith

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church,
apostolic and universal, whose faith let us now declare:

*We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power and love,
whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will
is ever directed to his children's good.*

*We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift
of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby
we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and
find strength and help in time of need.*

*We believe that this faith should manifest itself In the service of love
as shown perfectly in the example of our Lord and Saviour,
to the end that the kingdom of God
may come upon the earth.*

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.*

Dedication of the Offering

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Prayers of the People

Alison Noble

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 251: I, the Lord of sea and sky

Here I am, Lord

1. *I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*
2. *I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my Word to them. Whom shall I send?*
3. *I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

Daniel L. Schutte

Benediction

Amen
at H. 820

Organ: Fanfare

John Cook

NOTES

Forthcoming Services	Upcoming Events at Greyfriars
Today 10:30am – Sunday Service 12:30pm – Gaelic Service Thursday 27 August 1:05pm – Midweek Prayers Sunday 30 August 10:30am – Communion at St Cuthbert’s 12:30pm – Gaelic Service: Visit from Interim Moderator	Today 4:00pm – Fringe: Sing It! Great Yorkshire Choir Monday 24 & Tuesday 25 August 7:00pm – EIBF: Nonomiya/Song of Rona Island Wednesday 26 August 7:30pm- Fringe: Perth Youth Orchestra Thursday 27 August 7:00pm – EIBF: Delusions Friday 28 August 7:00pm – EIBF: Seasonal Quartet Saturday 29 August 7:30pm – Fringe: Cadenza at the Fringe
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.

St Cuthbert's Belfry Visit

The award-winning St Cuthbert's Bell Ringers invite anyone who is interested to visit the Belfry after our Joint Service on 30th August. Please gather outside the Church Office on the first floor as soon as possible after the Service and one of the Bell Ringers will guide you up to the Belfry. Please note this entails climbing a staircase and a narrow, steep spiral staircase.

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

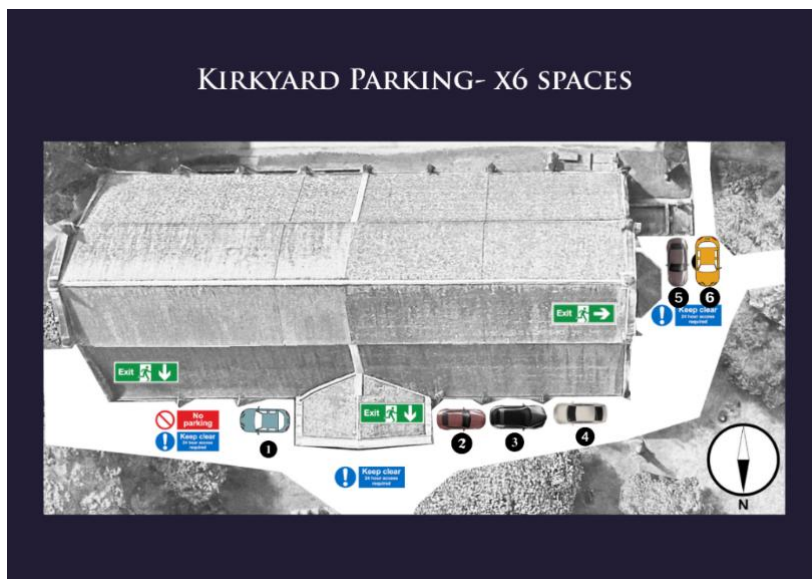
Professor Nigel D Robb, TD

Session Clerk

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

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.