



GREYFRIARS ST CUTHBERT'S

Sunday Service at Greyfriars Kirk

The Revd Dr George Whyte

Interim Moderator

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Reader

Dr Caroline Cradock

Director of Music

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday 20 September 2026

A warm welcome to Greyfriars St Cuthbert's.

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

This morning, the service is led by our Interim Moderator, the **Revd Dr George Whyte**.

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: Voluntary in D minor

Henry Purcell

Introit: Rejoice in the Lord alway, and again I say, Rejoice. Let your softness be known unto all men. The Lord is e'en at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in all prayer and supplication let your petitions be manifest unto God, with giving of thanks. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu. Amen.

Philippians 4: 4 – 7

Anon

Call to Worship

Revd Dr George Whyte

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.

People: *Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.*

Leader: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts
of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

People: *Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.*

Leader: Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually.

People: *Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.*

Leader: Let us worship God.

Hymn 132: Immortal, invisible, God only wise

St Denio

1. *Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*
2. *Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains, high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.*
3. *To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.*
4. *Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.*

Walter Chalmers Smith

Welcome to Greyfriars Kirk

Prayer of Approach, Adoration, Confession and Supplication

Revd Dr George Whyte

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison. at H. 777
(Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.)

Absolution

Collect for the Day:

*Almighty God, you created the heavens and the earth, and made us
in your image. Teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and to serve you with reverence and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ
our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and for ever.* Amen

Hymn 100: O Lord, thou art my God and King

Duke Street

1. *O Lord, thou art my God and King;
thee will I magnify and praise:
I will thee bless, and gladly sing
unto thy holy name always.*
2. *Each day I rise I will thee bless,
and praise thy name time without end.
Much to be praised, and great God is;
his greatness none can comprehend.*
3. *Race shall thy works praise unto race,
the mighty acts show done by thee.
I will speak of the glorious grace,
and honour of thy majesty.*
4. *Thy wondrous works I will record.
By many shall the might be told
of all thy awesome acts, O Lord,
and I thy greatness will unfold.*

Scottish Psalter

The Word of God

Exodus 16: 2 - 15 (OT p. 67)

Reader: Emma Richardson

Bread from Heaven

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, 'If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.' Then the Lord said to Moses, 'I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.'

So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, 'In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?' And Moses said, 'When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him — what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.' Then Moses said to Aaron, 'Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, "Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining."' And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked towards the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, "At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God." ' In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, 'What is it?' For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, 'It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.'

Philippians 1: 21 - 30 (NT p. 210)

Paul's Present Circumstances

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. (over)

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well — since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Amen

Hymn 167: Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Cwm Rhondda

1. *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till my want is o'er.*
2. *Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.*
3. *When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside!
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side!
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee.*

William Williams, tr. Peter Williams

The Labourers in the Vineyard

Jesus said, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

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

Anthem:

O sing joyfully unto God our strength: make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob. Take the song, bring hither the tabret: the merry harp with the lute. Blow up the trumpet in the new-moon: even in the time appointed, and upon our solemn feast-day. For this was made a statute for Israel: and a law of the God of Jacob.

Psalm 81: 1 - 4

Adrian Batten

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

Rev'd Dr George Whyte

Prayers of the People

Tom Richardson

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 518: Lift up your hearts!

Woodlands

1. *'Lift up your hearts!' We lift them, Lord, to thee;
Here at thy feet none other may we see;
'Lift up your hearts!' Ev'n so, with one accord,
we lift them up, we lift them to the Lord.*
2. *Above the level of the former years,
the mire of sin, the slough of guilty fears,
the mist of doubt, the blight of love's decay,
O Lord of light, lift all our hearts today.*
3. *Lift every gift that thou thyself hast given;
low lies the best till lifted up to heaven:
low lie the bounding heart, the teeming brain,
till, sent from God, they mount to God again.*
4. *Then, as the trumpet call in after years,
'Lift up your hearts!' rings pealing in our ears,
still shall our hearts respond with full accord,
'We lift them up, we lift them to the Lord!'*

Henry Montagu Butler

Benediction

Amen

Ae fond kiss, at H. 786

*May the God of peace go with us as we travel from this place;
May the love of Jesus keep us firm in hope and full of grace.*

Organ: Double voluntary

John Hingeston

NOTES

Forthcoming Services	Upcoming Events at Greyfriars
Today 10:30am – Sunday Service 12:30pm – Gaelic Service Thursday 24 September 1:05pm – Midweek Prayers Sunday 27 September 10:30am – Holy Communion at Greyfriars Kirk 12:30pm – Gaelic Service	Thursday 24 September 12:00pm – Greyfriars@12 Thursday 01 October 12:00pm – Greyfriars@12
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.

Session Meeting Minute Taker

Are you interested in what happens at a Kirk Session Meeting? The Session Clerk Team are looking for a volunteer to take the Kirk Session Meeting minutes. Kirk Session meetings are usually on a Tuesday or Wednesday evening and occur 6 - 10 times per year depending on the level of activity. This is a great opportunity to understand how the church is governed by the Trustees. Please do speak to any member of the team for more details. The team members are - Nigel Robb, Anne Bradbury, Hilary Clydesdale, and Christine McGuinness.

Visitor numbers over the summer months

I'm delighted to share some information on our weekly activity when we are open to visitors. Please note: these numbers do not include attendance at events and concerts.

- We welcomed a whopping **29,668 visitors** in the Kirk.
- The shop made over **£19,000** in sales
- I'm also delighted to say that visitors gave **£14,470** in donations. It's around 50p per visitor, around double what folk were giving last year.

I have written to the volunteers who are involved to thank them for their efforts, and to Meg Daniels our Visitor Experience Team Leader for all her hard work in improving the visitor experience.

Nigel Robb, Session Clerk

Greyfriars@12: Autumn Series

In this series, you can expect performances by bassoonists, pianists and saxophonists. The next concert is on Thursday 24 September. Remember – you can sign up to the Greyfriars@12 newsletter to receive series updates first. Get in touch with Deborah in the Kirk Office if you wish to be on the mailing list –

communications@greyfriarskirk.com

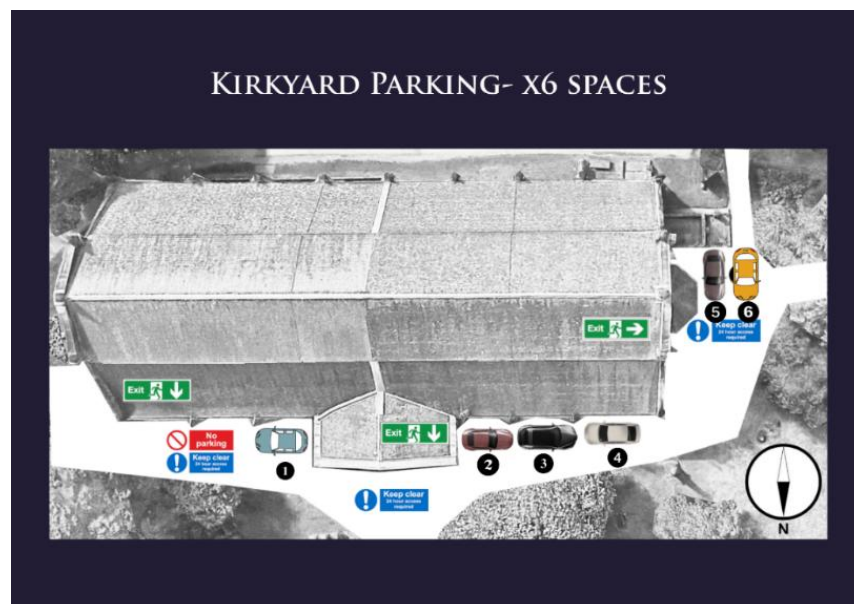
'Making Money Work for Good': Event at Edinburgh New Town Church

At Edinburgh New Town Church in George Street, on Wednesday 30 September from 11:30 to 13:00, contributors from Ethical Futures, Rathbones Greenbank and Shared Interest will discuss 'Making Money Work for Good'.

All are invited to join the conversation with these experts in ethical finance and responsible investment, exploring how the choices we make with money can benefit people, communities and the planet. The discussion should be of interest to any individuals thinking about their own pensions, savings and investments, as well as to those responsible for the church's money and anyone working in the field of finance.

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.

Collection for Edinburgh Food Bank

At our Harvest Service on Sunday 04 October, we will be collecting for the Edinburgh Food Project. Donations can be brought either next Sunday, or on the day of the service. You can find a list of the items they need the most on the noticeboard in the Kirk kitchen, and it includes: Tinned foods: vegetables, fruit, spaghetti, fish, and cold meats; pasta; custard, rice pudding; and toiletries.

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

(over)

Ministry team and Pastoral Care

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.