



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, Greyfriars

Mr Graham MacLagan

Director of Music, St. Cuthbert's

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday 27 September 2026

A warm welcome to Greyfriars St Cuthbert's.

Today is the **Eighteenth 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

This morning we welcome members of our Local Partner churches, Augustine United and St. Columba's by the Castle, joining us for worship.

Organ: Méditation

Maurice Duruflé

Introit:

Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies and Thy loving kindness, which hath been ever of old. O remember not the sins and offences of my youth: but according to Thy mercy think Thou on me, O Lord, for Thy goodness.

Psalm 25: 5 - 6

Richard Farrant

Call to Worship

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Leader: Come, people of God, from different backgrounds
and traditions

People: *but our faith is united in our love for Jesus Christ.*

Leader: Come to this place where we can share the richness
of God's grace,

People: *where our minds are focused and relieved
by God's forgiveness.*

Leader: Come to this place where the Spirit calls us to act together

People: *in the knowledge that as we serve others, we serve You.*

Leader: Come to this place which values reconciliation,

People: *where we bring our joys and our sorrows, our hopes
and our doubts.*

Leader: Come to this open table we gather round
remembering Your Sacrifice,

People: *that sacrifice giving the peace the world cannot, and the gift of
eternity*

Leader: So let us worship God together.

1. *Almighty Father of all things that be,
our life, our work, we consecrate to thee,
whose heavens declare thy glory from above,
whose earth below is witness to thy love.*
2. *For well we know this weary, fallen earth
is yet thine own by right of its new birth,
since that great cross upreared on Calvary
redeemed it from its fault and shame to thee.*
3. *Thine still the changeful beauty of the hills,
the purple valleys flecked with silver rills,
the ocean glistening 'neath the golden rays;
they all are thine, and voiceless speak thy praise.*
4. *Thou dost the strength to worker's arm impart;
from thee the skilled musician's mystic art,
the grace of poet's pen or painter's hand
to teach the loveliness of sea or land.*
5. *Then grant us, Lord, in all things thee to own,
to dwell within the shadow of thy throne,
to speak and work, to think, and live, and move,
reflecting thine own nature which is love.*
6. *That so, by Christ redeemed from sin and shame,
and hallowed by thy Spirit's cleansing flame,
ourselves, our work, and all our powers may be
a sacrifice acceptable to thee.*

Ernest Dugmore

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: *Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered by your Holy Spirit into one, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever* Amen

The Word of God

Exodus 17: 1 – 7 (OT p. 68) Read by a member of Augustine United,
United Reformed Church

Water from the Rock

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Imitating Christ's Humility

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Amen

Hymn 21 (Psalm 25):

Gairlochside

1. *Lord, teach me all your ways, reveal your paths to me;
and lead me in your saving truth, show me what I should be.*
2. *Remember, Lord, your love, your care from ages past;
and in that love remember me, in kindness hold me fast.*
3. *Forget my youthful faults, forgive my sinful ways;
within the kindness of your love remember me always.*
4. *God, who is just and good, shows all who sin his way;
he leads the humble in right paths, their teacher day by day.*
5. *All pathways of the Lord are kindly, true, and sure
to those who keep his covenant and in his ways endure.*

Scottish Psalter.

The Authority of Jesus Questioned

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

The Parable of the Two Sons

What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him'

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

Anthem: Turn back, O man, forswear thy foolish ways.
Old now is earth, and none may count her days,
yet thou, her child, whose head is crowned with flame,
still wilt not hear thine inner God proclaim:
'Turn back, O man, forswear thy foolish ways!'
Earth might be fair and all men glad and wise,
age after age their tragic empires rise,
built while they dream, and in their dreaming weep.
Would man but wake from out his haunted sleep,
Earth might be fair and all men glad and wise.
Earth shall be fair and all her people one,
nor till that hour shall God's whole will be done.
Now, even now, once more from earth to sky
peals forth in joy man's old undaunted cry —
'Earth shall be fair and all her folk be one.'

Clifford Bax

Gustav Holst

The Apostles' Creed

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

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

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Prayers of Intercession

led by Rev Fiona Bennett (Augustine URC)
and rev Juliet Stephenson (St Columba's SEC)

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During communion, we offer a choice of drinking
from a common cup (fermented wine) or from thimbles
(pale non-alcoholic or dark fermented wine); all the bread is gluten free.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation

Hymn 664: Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face
(verses 1-4 only)

Tune: Ellers,
at H. 221

1. *Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;
here would I touch and handle things unseen,
here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,
and all my weariness upon thee lean.*
2. *Mine is the sin, but thine the righteousness;
mine is the guilt, but thine the cleansing blood;
here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace --
thy blood, thy righteousness, O Lord my God*
3. *Here would I feed upon the bread of God,
here drink with thee the royal wine of heaven;
here would I lay aside each earthly load,
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.*
4. *This is the hour of banquet and of song;
this is the heavenly table spread for me;
here let me feast, and, feasting, still prolong
this hallowed hour of fellowship with thee.*

Horatius Bonar

The Grace
The Narrative of the Institution
Taking of the Bread and Wine

Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.	<i>And also with you.</i>
Lift up your hearts.	<i>We lift them to the Lord.</i>
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	<i>It is right to give our thanks and praise.</i>

Prayer

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessèd is he, O blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer

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

The Breaking of Bread

Jesus, Lamb of God,	<i>have mercy on us.</i>
Jesus, bearer of our sins,	<i>have mercy on us.</i>
Jesus, redeemer of the world,	<i>grant us peace.</i>

The Distribution

Music for Reflection: Chanson de Matin

Edward Elgar

The Peace

Prayer

Hymn 458: At the name of Jesus

Camberwell

1. *At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him King of Glory now;
'tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning was the mighty Word.*
2. *Brothers, sisters, name him with love strong as death,
but with awe and wonder and with bated breath!
He is God the Saviour, he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped, trusted, and adored.*
3. *In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue
all that is not holy, all that is not true;
let his grace support you in temptation's hour,
and his will enfold you in its light and power.*
4. *In his Father's glory Christ shall come again,
angel hosts proclaiming his return to reign.
For all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him King of Glory now.*

Caroline Maria Noel

Benediction

*Amen
at H. 820*

Organ: Tuba Tune

C.S. Lang

NOTES

Forthcoming Services	Upcoming Events at Greyfriars
Today 10:30am – Sunday Service 12:30pm – Gaelic Service Thursday 1 October 1:05pm – Midweek Prayers Sunday 4 October 10:30am – Holy Communion at Greyfriars Kirk 12:30pm – Gaelic Service 3:00pm – Pet Blessing	Thursday 1 October 12:00pm – Greyfriars@12 Clare Hoffmann & Chris Bevan Thursday 08 October 12:00pm – Greyfriars@12 Ensemble Delta Saturday 17 October 3:00pm – The Sixteen
Find information on services and events on our website, or by scanning the QR code.	

Communion Today

Communion will be served to you as you sit in your seats. The bread is gluten free. The wine in the Common Cup, and the darker wine around the outside of the trays of thimbles is alcoholic, the lighter coloured in the centre of the trays is non-alcoholic wine. Please pass the elements along the rows. Should you not wish to partake, please pass the elements along to your neighbour.

Union Update

There are two important steps in the process to call a new minister which will be taken in the next few weeks. Please see the next 2 pages for details. If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Session Clerk Team.

Nigel Robb – sessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.com

Christine Stevenson –

deputysessionclerk_cs@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk

Hilary Clydesdale - dpsessionclerk-hc@greyfriarskirk.com

Anne Bradbury - dpsessionclerk-ab@greyfriarskirk.com

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.

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



ELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of this congregation of Greyfriars St Cuthbert's will be held in the Parish Church of St Cuthbert on Sunday 25th October at the close of morning worship for the purpose of appointing a Nominating Committee.

The task of the Nominating Committee will be to nominate one person to this congregation to be the new Minister.

At that meeting, the congregation shall be invited to elect thirteen people who are on the Electoral Roll of this congregation Greyfriars St Cuthbert's to serve on the Nominating Committee. If you wish to propose anyone to serve on the Committee you may do so at the meeting providing the person has indicated a willingness to serve.



Rev Dr George J Whyte, Interim Moderator

Please, therefore, give due consideration to who you would like to represent the congregation in this process. We have the responsibility of electing a committee who can represent the breadth of congregational life as they interact with ministers who apply for the charge. So, we need a good spread of ages, a reasonable gender balance and people from the different groups, activities and places of worship which form our "community of communities". Nominations (and seconding) will be received on the day from anyone whose name appears on the Electoral Register (the list of communicant members and adherents prepared by the Kirk Session). If you wish to check on whether your name is on the Register please contact the Session Clerk at

sessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.com

Should you wish to nominate someone who is unable to attend on the day, please bring written confirmation of their willingness to serve.'

When the meeting has finished nominating potential Committee members and there are more than thirteen names a vote will be held by ballot where each person present whose name is on the Electoral Register will be able to vote for up to thirteen of the persons nominated. The count will be held immediately afterwards, and the names of the Nominating Committee will be read out.

***Greyfriars St Cuthberts Edinburgh Intimation 27th
September & 4th October 2027***

This is an intimation that a meeting of the Kirk Session of this congregation is to be held at St Cuthbert's Church on 6th October 2026 at 1900hrs.

In recognition of the diversity of views within the Church about the historic and current doctrine and practice of the Church in relation to human sexuality and in the interests of the peace and unity of the Church, departure from the practice of the Church in relation to human sexuality is permitted in certain circumstances.

The purpose of the Kirk Session meeting just intimated will be for the Kirk Session to decide whether or not to depart from the Church's practice in relation to human sexuality in order for applications for the proposed appointment of a Minister to the congregation to be considered from, amongst others, individuals who are in a same sex civil partnership or a same sex marriage.

The decision will be determined by the votes of a majority of those present and entitled to vote.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George J Whyte'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'George' and the last name 'Whyte' clearly distinguishable.

Rev Dr George Whyte

Interim Moderator

St. Columba's - Sunday Forum

Trials and Tribulations: A Brief Exploration of Clinical Research with Dr Katie Brooks - Sunday 11 October

Join us with Coffee from 11.30am, with the forum beginning shortly afterwards.

From vaccines and antibiotics to the latest treatments for cancer and rare diseases, clinical research has transformed healthcare and improved countless lives. But how did clinical trials develop, what challenges have they faced, and where might they be heading in the future?

In this accessible and thought-provoking talk, **Dr Katie Brooks** will explore the origins of clinical research, the key milestones and setbacks that have shaped its development, and the opportunities and ethical questions arising from advances in science and technology today.

About the speaker

Katie is an Associate Medical Writing Director at PPD. After studying Natural Sciences at Cambridge and completing a PhD in Immunology at Edinburgh, she moved from laboratory research into medical writing, where she has worked since 2008. She specialises in immune therapies for rare diseases.

All are warmly welcome to join us for what promises to be a fascinating exploration of how clinical research has shaped modern medicine and continues to influence the future of healthcare.

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

At Edinburgh New Town Church, 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.

Harvest thanksgiving

On Sunday 4th October we will be celebrating Harvest Thanksgiving. There will be a table for donations at the door as you enter. We will be taking all donations to the foodbank at St Columba's by the Castle on Monday 5th August. The food bank prefers to have non-perishable items. Any fresh items will be donated to the Grassmarket Community Project.

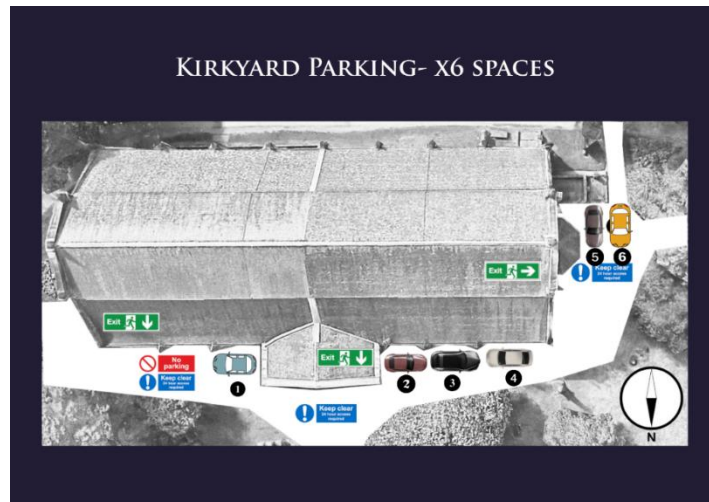
Safeguarding

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.

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.

Volunteers – Sunday Worship

Welcoming members of the congregation and visitors is an important 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 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.