



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 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday 6 September 2026

A warm welcome to Greyfriars St Cuthbert's.

Today is the **Fifteenth 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 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: Toccata in D minor, BWV565

J.S. Bach

Call to Worship

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Leader: We come to worship in this historic Kirk, one of the Old Toun Churches, on this Civic Occasion.

People: *We are conscious of the close connection over the years between this church, the first to be built in Edinburgh after the Reformation, and the City of Edinburgh Council.*

Leader: Over the centuries that bond has always been strong and we rejoice that the City of Edinburgh has gone from strength to strength.

People: *The centrality of the Christian faith is echoed in the City motto 'Except the Lord, in Vain' from Psalm 127: "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it."*

Leader: Throughout the years the City has been protected. Today's Service commemorates the historic Riding Of The Marches to ensure that all was well within the boundaries of our great City and entrusting that the Flag will fly proudly and remain safe in the keeping of those to whom it is entrusted.

People: *As we come to worship we give thanks for our history; we pray for our City and we look forwards to its continuing with God's blessing in the future as it has enjoyed in the past.*

Leader: So let us worship God.

Hymn 706: For the healing of the nations

Triumph

1. *For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.*
2. *Lead us forward into freedom, from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.*
3. *All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common search for justice may we hallow life's brief span.*
4. *You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service earth its destiny may find.*

Fred Kaan

Welcome to Greyfriars Kirk

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Kirking of the Captain, and Blessing of the Common Riding

Lord Provost:

Jonathan Cooper, it is with great pleasure that I now complete your installation as Edinburgh Captain 2026 by entrusting you with the City of Edinburgh Banner, and charge you to inspect the boundaries of our Capital City. I ask that you return this Banner to me in one week from today, unsullied and unstained.

Captain Jonathan Cooper:

My Lord Provost, on behalf of the people of the City of Edinburgh, and by the trust invested in me, I promise to return the city banner to you in one week's time at the Mercat Cross, unsullied and unstained.

Prayer of Blessing

Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

Prayer of Approach, Adoration, Confession and Supplication

The Rev. Calum Macdougall

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

Collect for the Day: *Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people, that richly bearing the fruit of good works, we may by you be richly rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.* Amen

The Word of God

Exodus 12: 1 - 14 (OT p. 62)

Reader: Iain Whyte, Chairman,
Edinburgh March Riding Association

The First Passover instituted

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and

you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Romans 13: 8 - 14 (NT p. 173)

Reader: Stuart Nicoll, Director,
Edinburgh March Riding Association

Love for One Another

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

An Urgent Appeal

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. Amen

Hymn 79 (Psalm 119): Teach me, O Lord, the perfect way

York

1. *Teach me, O Lord, the perfect way of thy precepts divine,
and to observe it to the end I shall my heart incline.*
2. *Give understanding unto me, so keep thy law shall I;
yea, ev'n with my whole heart shall I observe it carefully.*
3. *In thy law's path make me to go; for I delight therein.
My heart unto thy gracious word, and not to greed, incline.*
4. *Turn thou away my sight and eyes from viewing vanity;
and in thy good and holy way be pleased to quicken me.*
5. *Confirm to me thy gracious word, which I did gladly hear,
even to thy servant, Lord, for I thy holy name revere.*
6. *Turn thou away my feared reproach; for good thy judgments be.
Lo, for thy precepts I have longed; in thy truth quicken me.*

Scottish Psalter

Matthew 18: 15 - 20 (NT p. 21)

Reader: The Rev. Calum Macdougall

Reproving Another Who Sins

Jesus said, 'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

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

Sermon

The Rev. Calum Macdougall

Anthem:

This sanctuary of my soul, unwitting I keep bright and whole,
unlatched and lit, if Thou should'st care to enter or to tarry there.

With parted lips and outstretched hands, and listening ears,
thy servant stands. Call Thou early, call Thou late, to Thy great
service dedicate. My soul, keep bright and whole.

C.H. Sorley

Charles Wood

The Apostles' Creed

The Rev. Calum Macdougall

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

Hymn 179: Ye holy angels bright

Darwall's 148th,
at Hymn 449

1. *Ye holy angels bright, who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song, or else the theme
too high doth seem for mortal tongue.*
2. *Ye blessèd souls at rest, who ran this earthly race,
and now, from sin released, behold the Saviour's face,
his praises sound, as in his light
with sweet delight ye do abound.*
3. *Ye saints, who toil below, adore your heavenly King,
and onward as ye go, some joyful anthem sing;
Take what he gives and praise him still
through good and ill, who ever lives.*
4. *My soul, take now thy part, triumph in God above,
and with a well-tuned heart sing out the songs of love.
Let all thy days till life shall end,
whate'er he send, be filled with praise.*

Richard Baxter

Prayers of the People

Sharon Barnes

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 436: Christ triumphant, ever reigning

Guiting Power

1. *Christ triumphant, ever reigning, Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining, hear us as we sing:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name!*
2. *Word incarnate, truth revealing, Son of Man on earth!
Power and majesty concealing by your humble birth:*
3. *Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated, victim crucified!
Death is by the cross defeated, sinners justified:*
4. *Priestly king, enthroned for ever high in heaven above!
Sin and death and hell shall never stifle hymns of love:*
5. *So, our hearts and voices raising through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing, this shall be our song:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name!*

Michael Seward

Benediction

Amen

Hymn 786:

Ae fond kiss

*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: Fugue in D minor, BWV565

J.S. Bach

NOTES

Forthcoming Services	Upcoming Events at Greyfriars
Today 9:15am – Early Communion 10:30am – Sunday Service: Kirking of the Captain 12:30pm – Gaelic Service Thursday 10 September 1:05pm – Midweek Prayers Sunday 13 September 10:30am – Sunday Service 12:30pm – Gaelic Service	Thursday 10 September 12:00 – Greyfriars@12 Thursday 17 September 12:00 – Greyfriars@12
Find information on services and events on our website, or by scanning the QR code.	

This morning we are very pleased to welcome the Right Honourable Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Councillor Robert Aldridge, together with Jonathan Cooper and Amy Joanne Mole who are the Captain and Lass for next Sunday's Edinburgh March Riding, and with other office bearers and members of the Edinburgh March Riding Association, to take part in the traditional ceremony of the Kirking of the Captain.

Thank you, Rev. Calum MacDougall

Today, we say farewell to our Locum Minister, Rev. Calum Macdougall. He will be greatly missed by the Greyfriars community, although we look forward to welcoming him back as an attendee of our services in the future.

After today's service, when we meet for a chat over tea or coffee and biscuits, there will be a short presentation for Calum.

Greyfriars@12: Autumn Series

As the seasons change, we're looking forward to our lunchtime concerts starting up again.

In this series, you can expect performances by bassoonists, pianists and saxophonists. The first concert on Thursday 10 September will be in memory of congregational member and long-standing Greyfriars@12 supporter, Melvyn Noble.

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

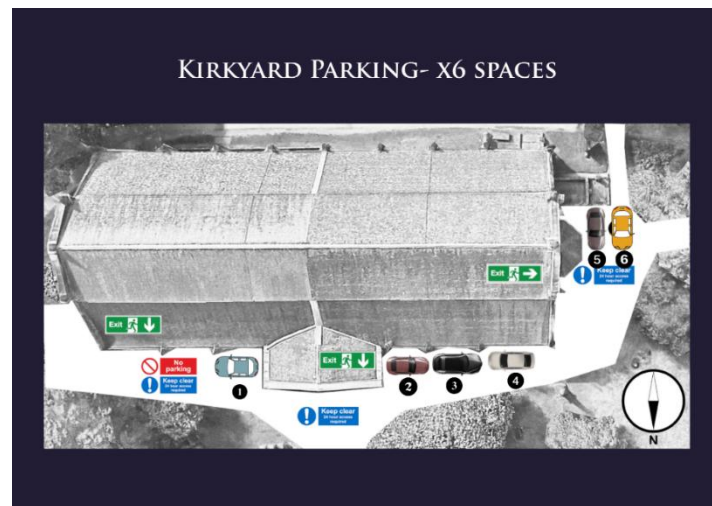
Augustine United Harvest Lunch

Our TLC partner, Augustine United on George IV Bridge, will be celebrating Harvest next Sunday, 13 September, and sharing a delicious lunch after the service. Pat will be preparing a vegetarian buffet for everyone to enjoy.

Booking is essential – please call 0131 220 1677 to register and let us know of any other dietary requirements you have. The cutoff date for registering is this Wednesday, 9 Sept.

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 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.