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*

Christ the King: Sunday 22 November 2026

A warm welcome to Greyfriars St Cuthbert's.

Today is the **Sunday of Christ the King**, and the liturgical colour for this day in the church year is **white**.

This morning, the service is conducted by **Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC**.

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 Flor Peeters

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

Leader: Come, people of God, and lift your hearts in praise!

People: *We come to worship Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords.*

Leader: The kingdoms of this world rise and fall,
but the reign of Christ endures forever.

People: *His kingdom is a kingdom of justice, mercy, and peace.*

Leader: The King calls us to follow Him -- not with fear, but with joy.

People: *We gladly bow before Him, offering our lives in service and love.*

Leader: Lift up your voices, for the King is on His throne!

People: *We proclaim: "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"*

Leader: Come, let us worship Christ our King.

People: *We will worship Him in spirit and in truth, now and forever.*

Hymn 129: The Lord is King! Church Triumphant

1. *The Lord is King! Lift up your voice!*
Let earth and all the heavens rejoice.
From world to world the joy shall ring,
'The Lord omnipotent is King!'

2. *The Lord is King! Who then shall dare*
resist his will, distrust his care,
or murmur at his wise decrees,
or doubt his royal promises?

3. *The Lord is King! Child of the dust,*
the judge of all the earth is just;
holy and true are all his ways:
let every creature speak his praise.

4. *Come, make your wants, your burdens known;*
Christ will present them at the throne;
for he is at the Father's side,
the Man of Love, the Crucified.

5. *One Lord, one empire, all secures;*
he reigns, and life and death are yours:
through earth and heaven one song shall ring,
'The Lord omnipotent is King!'

from Psalm 148 Josiah Conder

Welcome to **Greyfriars Kirk**

Prayer of Approach, Adoration, Confession and Supplication

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. *at H. 776*
(Lord, have mercy.)

Collect for the Day: *Almighty and everlasting God, it is your will to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, our Lord and King. Grant that the peoples of the earth, now divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his gentle and loving rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen*

Hymn 63 (Psalm 100)**:** All people that on earth do dwell Old 100th

1. *All people that on earth do dwell,*
   sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
   Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell,
   come ye before him and rejoice.
2. *Know that the Lord is God indeed;*
   without our aid he did us make;
   We are his folk, he doth us feed,
   and for his sheep he doth us take.
3. *Oh, enter then his gates with praise,*
   approach with joy his courts unto;
   praise, laud and bless his name always,
   for it is seemly so to do.
4. *For why? The Lord our God is good,*
   his mercy is for ever sure;
   His truth at all times firmly stood,
   and shall from age to age endure. Scottish Psalter

The Word of God

Ezekiel 34: 11 – 16 and **20 - 24** (OT p. 833) Reader: Isobel Hutchings

God the True Shepherd

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.

I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Ephesians 1: 15 - 23 (NT p. 205)

Thanksgiving and Prayer

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Amen

Hymn 457: All hail the power of Jesus' Name! Miles Lane

1. *All hail the power of Jesus' Name! Let angels prostrate fall;*
   bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.
2. *Crown him, you martyrs of your God, who from his altar call;*
   praise him whose path of pain you trod,
   and crown him Lord of all.
3. *Let every tongue and every tribe, responsive to the call,*
   to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.
4. *Oh, that with yonder sacred throng, we at his feet may fall,*
   join in the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.

Edward Perronet

Matthew 25: 31 – 46 (NT p. 30) Reader: Prof. Bert Kerrigan KC

The Judgment of the Nations

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’

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

Sermon

A Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation

Anthem: Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and stand with fear and trembling, and lift itself above all earthly thought. For the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Christ our God, cometh forth to be our oblation, and to be given for food to the faithful. Before him come the choirs of angels, with every principality and power; the Cherubim with many eyes, and wingèd Seraphim, who veil their faces as they shout exultantly the hymn, Alleluia.

Liturgy of St James Edward Bairstow

Affirmation of Faith

Leader: We proclaim Jesus Christ, the Alpha and the Omega,
the ruler of all creation.

People: *Christ is King! His reign is justice, mercy, and peace.*

Leader: His kingdom is not built on power as the world
understands it, but on love that serves,
truth that frees, and grace that redeems.

People: *We belong to His kingdom and follow His ways.*

Leader: Through His life, death, and resurrection, Christ has
conquered sin and death and calls us to live in His light.

People: *We live as citizens of His eternal reign.*

Leader: The Holy Spirit unites us as His body, sending us
to seek the lost, lift the lowly, and work for reconciliation.

People: *We serve in His name until He comes again.*

Leader: One day, every knee will bow and every tongue
confess that Jesus Christ is Lord

People: *to the glory of God the Father — Amen!*

The Call for the Offering

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the God whom we adore,
be glory, as it was, and is, and shall be evermore.

St. Magnus, *at H. 806*

Offertory Prayer

Prayers of the People Jo Elliot

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 449: Rejoice, the Lord is King Darwall's 148th

1. *Rejoice! The Lord is King, your Lord and King adore.*
   Mortals, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore:

   Lift up your hearts, lift up your voice;
   rejoice; again I say: Rejoice!

2. *Jesus the Saviour reigns, the God of truth and love;*
   when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above:

3. *His kingdom cannot fail; he rules both earth and heaven;*
   the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given:

4. *He sits at God's right hand till all his foes submit,*
   and bow to his command, and fall before his feet:

5. *Rejoice in glorious hope, for Christ, the Judge, shall come,*
   and take his servants up to their eternal home:

   We then shall hear the archangel's voice;
   the trump of God shall sound: Rejoice!

Charles Wesley

Benediction *Amen*

at H. 819

Organ: Processional William Mathias

NOTES

Forthcoming Services	Upcoming Events at Greyfriars
Today **10:30pm – Sunday Service** **12:30pm – Gaelic Service** **Thursday 26 November** **1:05pm – Midweek Prayers** **Sunday 29 November** **10:30am – Holy Communion at Greyfriars** **12:30pm – Gaelic Service**	**Tuesday 24 November** **2:30pm – Guided Historic Kirk Tour** **Thursday 26 November** **12:00pm – Greyfriars@12** **Friday 27 November** **12:00pm – Guided Historic Kirk Tour** **7:30pm – Dunedin Consort Concert** **Saturday 28 November** **7:30pm – Edinburgh Symphony Orchestra Concert**
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.

Friday email to the congregation

The Session Clerk Team are sending out a weekly email to the congregation on a Friday. This email provides a reminder of upcoming services, information on current church business such as the Vacancy, and opportunities for the congregation to get together outside of services.

If you are not receiving this email, please inform Deborah in the Greyfriars office (communications@greyfriarskirk.com) or Oscar at St Cuthbert's (office@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk).

Bible Study Service

Greyfriars St Cuthbert's member, Bob Walker runs a regular Bible Study, taking place roughly every other Sunday.

Details on how to join in can be received on request to Bob via email bob@hebrides.u-net.com

Kirk Shop – Sunday opening for Christmas

After the service on the 29th of November and 6th of December, the shop will be open for the congregation. Why not pick up some presents or tree decorations and support the church in the process? Generous discounts will be on offer.

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 helps us with welcoming, please have a chat with Nigel Robb about this: sessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.com

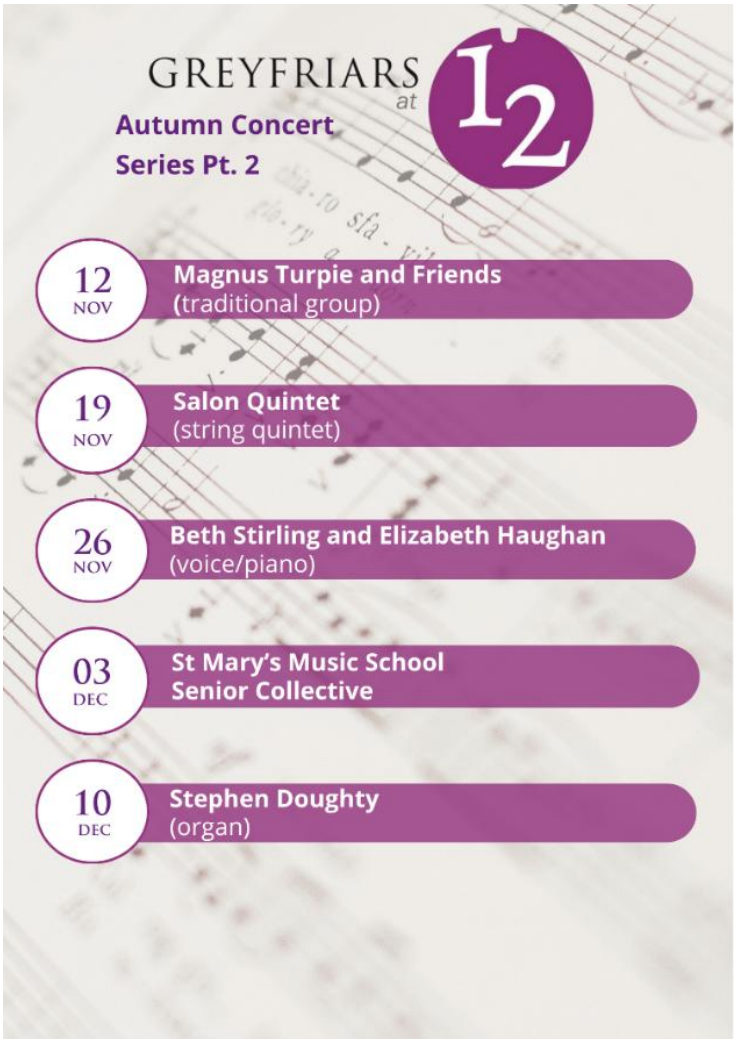
Guided Historic Kirk Tours

Over the last few months, a small and dedicated group of our Welcomers have been working on a new tour of the Kirk for our visitors. They successfully launched these tours back in August and would love to welcome members of the congregation along to experience one!

You can simply turn up on the day, or you can reserve a spot via Eventbrite – contact Deborah in the Kirk Office for further details. This week, you can join a tour on Tuesday 24 Nov at 2:30pm, or on Friday 27 Nov at 12:00pm.

Greyfriars@12: Autumn Series

Part two of the Autumn Series continues this Thursday, 26 November – we hope to see you there!

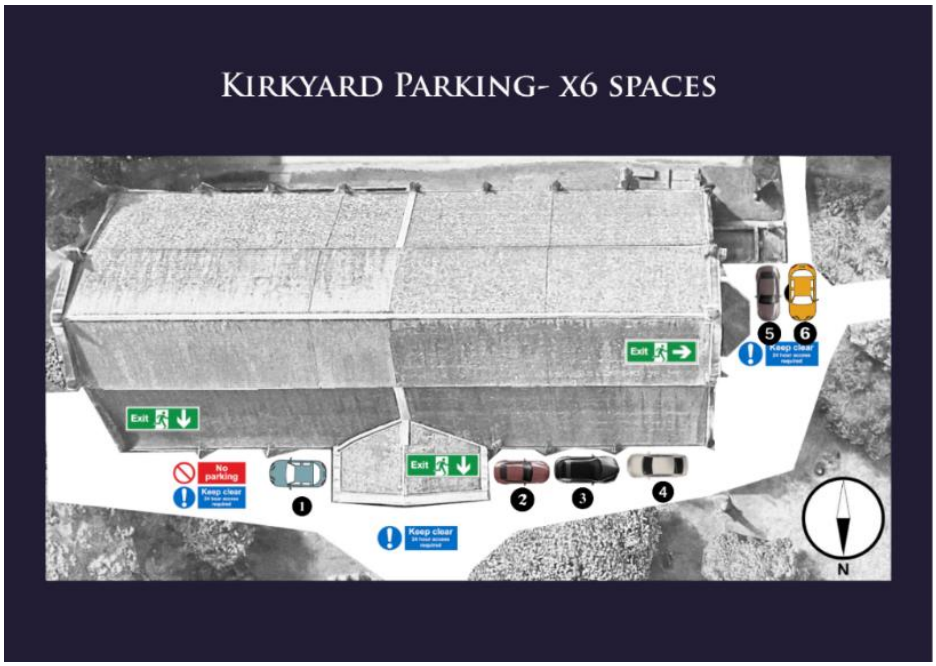




Car Parking

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.



Ministry team and Pastoral Care

If you are in need of pastoral care or would like to hear how things are going at Greyfriars, please feel free to get in touch via the Kirk Office.

Currently we have the services of our locum minister for 2 days a week, but we will do our best to manage the pastoral needs of our congregation.

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.

Phone: 0131 225 1900

Email: communications@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. Many thanks.