

The Parish Church of St Cuthbert

Dr Hazel Hastie MSc CQSW PhD AIWS Interim Moderator

The Revd Suzie Stark BD(Min) Locum Minister

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The Fourth Sunday of Easter Good Shepherd Sunday The 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day

Sunday 11 May 2025

A warm welcome to worship.

Today is the **Fourth Sunday of Easter**, also known as **Good Shepherd Sunday**, and the liturgical colours for this ongoing celebration of our Lord's Resurrection are **white** and **gold**. As the nation has united this week to remember the end of the Second World War in Europe 80 years ago, we also mark this anniversary in our worship today.

Hymns are unannounced and sung standing unless otherwise indicated. Please ask one of the Duty Elders if there is not a hymnbook (purple Church Hymnary) near your seat.

The text of the **Psalm** can be found in this Order of Service. The **Alleluia**, the **Creed** and the **Lord's Prayer** can also be found in the hymnbook at the numbers indicated in this Order of Service. **Bible Readings** are taken from the New Revised Standard Version.

Congregational responses are printed in **bold**. The congregation is encouraged to join in with the saying of **'Amen'** at the end of prayers.

Please join us after the service in the Lammermuir Hall for tea and coffee.

Please note this service is being filmed and broadcast live on the church's website and YouTube channel. If you do not wish to be seen, please make your wishes known.









APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

we will remember them.

Text: Laurence Binyon (1869-1943) Music: George Guest (1924-2002)

OPENING SENTENCES

Look after the flock of God whose shepherds you are.

So when the chief Shepherd appears,

you will receive glory, a crown that never fades.

1 Peter 5: 2,4

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

702 Lord, in love and perfect wisdom

CALL TO PRAYER

please remain standing

PRAYERS OF APPROACH

AND CONFESSION

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

please be seated

ABSOLUTION

COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

God of peace,

who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus,

the great Shepherd of the sheep,

through the blood of an eternal covenant,

make us perfect in goodness so that we may do your will;

and create in us what is pleasing to you; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR VE DAY

O God of truth and justice,
we hold before you those men and women
who have died in active service,
particularly in the Second World War,
whose sacrifice brought Victory in Europe.
As we honour their courage and cherish their memory,
may we put our faith in your future;
for you are the source of life and hope,

now and for ever. Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you and also with you.

HYMN

272 Father of peace, and God of love!

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON

Acts 9: 36-43

EPISTLE

Revelation 7: 9-17

PSALM 23

1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want. He makes me down to lie in pastures green: he leadeth me the quiet waters by. Hymn 14

- 2 My soul he doth restore again; and me to walk doth make within the paths of righteousness, ev'n for his own name's sake.
- 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear none ill:
 for thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me comfort still.
- 4 My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes; my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me: and in God's house for evermore my dwelling-place shall be.
- 6 To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the God whom we adore, be glory, as it was, and is, and shall be evermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

St John 10: 22-30

ALLELUIA

Alleluia, Alleluia,

Jesus, risen Lord of life! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Church Hymnary, Fourth Edition, Hymn 428 (refrain)

Music: Bernadette Farrell (b.1957)

descant by Graham Maclagan

THE SERMON

The Revd Suzie Stark

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM

Psalm 23 - please see text earlier in service.

Music: 'Brother James' Air', James Leith MacBeth Bain (1860-1925), arranged by Alan Bullard (b.1947)

THE APOSTLES' CREED

the text can be found at Hymn 628

HYMN

551 In heavenly love abiding

PRAYERS OF

One of the following responses may be used:

INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer. Lord, hear us: Lord, graciously hear us.

The OFFERING is collected, and received during the singing of:

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Hymn 807

praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

SURSUM CORDA

The Lord be with you. and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYERS OF

THANKSGIVING and

THE LORD'S PRAYER

the text can be found at Hymn 652, second form (b)

DISMISSAL HYMN

704 I vow to thee, my country

ACT OF COMMITMENT

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God

and our fellow men and women:

Lord God our Father,

we pledge ourselves to serve you

and all humankind, in the cause of peace,

for the relief of want and suffering, and for the praise of your name.

Guide us by your Spirit;

give us wisdom; give us courage; give us hope; and keep us faithful

now and always. Amen.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM God save our gracious King, long live our noble King;

God save the King! Send him victorious, happy and glorious, long to reign over us: God save the King!

> Text: Author unknown, from the version of 1745 Music: Origin unknown, popularised in 1745

BLESSING

God grant to the living, grace;

to the departed, rest;

to the Church, The King, the Commonwealth,

and all humankind, peace and concord;

and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting;

and the blessing of God Almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

rest upon you and remain with you now and evermore.

Dresden Amen

Music: Johann Naumann (1741-1801)

ORGAN RECESSIONAL

Nimrod *from* Enigma Variations

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)



The Parish Church of St Cuthbert, Edinburgh 11th May 2025

Weekly Intimations

Today, 12noon: Holy Communion, Anam Chara Chapel

All are welcome to join us for a short service of Holy Communion after today's Service in the Anam Chara Chapel at 12noon.

Tonight, 7.30pm: Scottish Sinfonia Spring Concert

To close our season, we feature the music of these shores, including two 'Classic FM top twenty' favourites: Vaughan Williams' eloquent depiction of the lazy motion of a lark in flight, in which we feature our superb leader Richard Gratwick, and Elgar's well loved 'Enigma' Variations, in which he immortalised his friends in delighted miniatures - including, of course - "Nimrod", which was a key factor in spreading this wonderful work worldwide.

Sunday 25th May, 10.30am: Joint service at Greyfriars

Please note there will be no service at St Cuthbert's on the 25th May, as our Worship is joined with Greyfriars on that Sunday. Please do come along as we continue our journey towards Union.

Saturday Coffee Morning Dates and Times

Saturday 31st May – 11am-2pm

Saturday 28th June - 11am-2pm

Saturday 26th July – 11am-2pm

Tuesday Coffee Morning, 10.30am - noon

Pop along for a coffee and a chat in the Lindisfarne Room.

Prayer Circle

Prayer requests should be made to Irene Gill on 226 2727. For longer term prayer, please add names to the purple book in the vestibule. If you could be part of the Prayer Circle and spend time praying for others, please contact Irene.

Life and Work - May Edition

The May edition of Life and Work is now available from the magazine table in the corner of the Lammermuir Hall.

Saturday 10th May – Friday 15th May: Christian Aid Book Sale at the Edinburgh New Town Church

This year's Christian Aid book sale will take place from Saturday 10th May until Friday 16th May (excluding Sunday 11th). All donations can be dropped off at 13 George Street in the two weeks prior to the commencement of the sale. Further information can be requested from the Christian Aid Committee – please email ca@edinburghnewtownchurch.org.uk

Steps to Hope

Our charity partner continues to provide, on Sunday and Monday evenings, a hot home-cooked meal for people who find themselves in difficult situations. Would you be interested or do you know of anyone who would like the opportunity to support the local community and volunteer to assist with the Sunday Meals at St Cuthberts? The main duty is to open and close the building to ensure that our Charity Partners can continue to provide their meal service. Please get in touch with the church office for more details.

Bible Fellowship group

Bible Fellowship Group meet on Thursday nights during May and June via Zoom from 7.30pm. All are invited to participate or simply listen in. Our current discussions are the prophecies that were fulfilled by Jesus on the Cross and through the Empty tomb. Zoom details from martin.pearce2109@outlook.com

FreshStart

FreshStart are very grateful for all our donations of household items and non-perishable food. Please continue to place your donations in "The Big White Box" in the vestibule. If you are unable to deliver them, please telephone Jim McLean on **0131 332 5114** and leave a message with your name, phone number and that the call is about FreshStart, or email jamesangusmclean@gmail.com

Saturday 17th May, 7.30pm: Jubilo Spring Concert

Jubilo will be performing Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms and West Side Story Suite, and Duke Ellington's Sacred Concert. We'll be accompanied by Morley Whitehead on Organ and The Razz Big Band. Tickets are just £15 and available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/jubilo or on the door.

