



The Parish Church of St Cuthbert

Dr Hazel Hastie MSc CQSW PhD AIWS *Interim Moderator*

The Revd Suzie Stark BD(Min) *Locum Minister*

Mr Graham MacLagan BMus PGDE CertTh *Director of Music*

The First Sunday of Lent

Sunday 22 February 2026

A warm welcome to worship.

Today is the **First Sunday of Lent**, and the liturgical colour for this penitential season of the Church Year is **purple**. During this season of self-denial, preparation, and penitence, no Alleluias are sung, and the music and organ playing is more subdued.

This morning, we welcome the congregation and choir of **Greyfriars Kirk** for this joint service as we anticipate our union, along with the **Revd Calum Macdougall**, Locum Minister, **Prof Bert Kerrigan KC**, Reader, and **Dr Caroline Cradock**, Director of Music.

The **Sacrament of Holy Communion** is celebrated this morning, and all are welcome to respond to Jesus' gracious invitation to 'Take, eat' at His Table.

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 **Creed** and the **Lord's Prayer** can also be found in the hymnbook at the numbers indicated. **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.

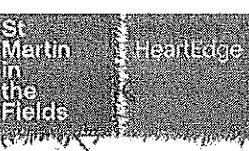


The Church of Scotland

www.stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk


GREYFRIARS
an inspiring community


eco
congregation


St Martin
in the
Fields
Heartedge

Scottish Charity Number SC010592

APPROACH TO GOD

During Lent, there are no organ voluntaries before the service. You are invited to gather in silence, and use this time before worship for prayer and reflection.

INTROIT

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have sinned against thee. To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory, lift we, our weeping eyes, in holy pleadings, listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.

Text: The Lent Prose, 10th century

Music: plainsong

OPENING SENTENCES

Because Jesus himself passed through the test of suffering, **he is able to help those who are in the midst of their test.**

Hebrews 2: 18

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

337 Forty days and forty nights

CALL TO PRAYER

please remain standing

PRAYERS OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

*during which the KYRIE ELEISON is sung by all.
This can be found at Hymn 648.*

ABSOLUTION

COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted, as we are, but did not sin. Give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

HYMN

483 Father of heaven, whose love profound

THE WORD OF GOD

OLD TESTAMENT Genesis 2: 15-17 & 3: 1-7

EPISTLE Romans 5: 12-19

- PSALM 32 **1 O blessed is the man to whom
is freely pardonèd
all the transgression he hath done,
whose sin is coverèd.** Tune at Hymn 461
- 2 Bless'd is the man to whom the Lord
imputeth not his sin,
and in whose sp'rit there is no guile,
nor fraud is found therein.**
- 3 I thereupon have unto thee
my sin acknowledgèd,
and likewise mine iniquity
I have not coverèd:**
- 4 I will confess unto the Lord
my trespasses, said I;
and of my sin thou freely didst
forgive th' iniquity.**
- 5 Unto the man that wicked is
his sorrows shall abound;
but him that trusteth in the Lord
mercy shall compass round.**
- 5 To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
the God whom we adore,
be glory, as it was, and is,
and shall be evermore. Amen.**

The Scottish Psalter, 1929, Psalm 32: 1-2, 5, 10

THE GOSPEL St Matthew 4: 1-11

THE SERMON The Revd Calum Macdougall

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks, so longeth
my soul after thee, O God. My soul is athirst for God,
yea, even for the living God. When shall I come to
appear before the presence of God? My tears have
been my meat day and night, while they daily say unto
me, "Where is now thy God?"

Text: Psalm 42: 1-3
Music: Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

THE NICENE CREED

the text can be found at Hymn 649

THE OFFERING

Our offerings are collected. We stand as our offerings are processed to, and presented at, the Holy Table.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

COMMUNION HYMN

667 Now, my tongue, the mystery telling

Tune at Hymn 666

THE GRACE

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

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.

PRAYER OF
THANKSGIVING

during which the SANCTUS and BENEDICTUS are sung by all. These can be found at Hymn 651.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

AGNUS DEI

sung by all. This can be found at Hymn 653.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to respond to Jesus' gracious invitation to 'Take, eat' at His Table. Please follow the directions of the Minister and the Elders.

THE PEACE

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

DISMISSAL HYMN

548 Approach, my soul, the mercy-seat

DISMISSAL and BLESSING

plainsong Amen

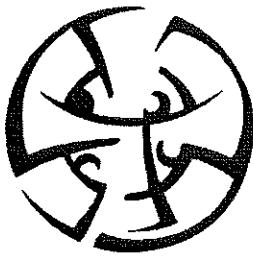
ORGAN RECESSIONAL

Erbarm dich mein, o Herre Gott BWV721

Have mercy on me, O Lord God

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

If you are able, you are encouraged to remain seated in the sanctuary for the Organ Recessional, which concludes our worship.



Weekly Intimations

Prayerful Practice

As we take our first quiet steps into Lent, we turn our hearts toward our God who meets us in the wilderness. Amid all that feels dry or uncertain, may a deeper trust take root within us. Holy God, walk with us in these forty days; steady our hearts, soften what has grown rigid, and awaken in us the courage to follow the way of Christ with honesty and hope.

Today: Greyfriars-St Cuthbert's Joint Service & Lunch

Please join us after the service for a joint luncheon of soup and sandwiches. All are warmly invited.

Sunday 1st March, 9.30am: Holy Communion in Memorial Chapel

Please join us on the first Sunday of March for our monthly early morning service of Holy Communion in the Memorial Chapel. All are welcome.

Wednesday 4th March, 12.30pm-4.30pm: soul space reflection

Please join us for our monthly reflective worship space. There will be a reflection at 1pm on the theme of Absolution. All are welcome

Tuesday Coffee Morning, 10.30am – noon

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

Saturday Coffee Mornings

28 th February	11am-2pm
28 th March	10am-1pm
25 th April	11am-2pm

First Aid Volunteers

If anyone has friends with first aid training who might be able to help us for an evening event on 10th April, please let them know, and ask that they contact the office at office@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk. Many thanks.

Bottle Tops

Please note that we are no longer collecting bottle tops. Since the change in plastics, these can now be recycled with your milk bottle. Many thanks.

Stamps

The Church of Scotland will cease to collect used stamps by February this year. Other charities are still collecting them, including RNIB, who can be contacted directly for details on RNIBstamps@rnib.org.uk.

St Cuthbert's Bible Fellowship Group

All are welcome to participate in this group every Thursday during term time at 7.30pm. The topic for this term is the Letter to the Romans. The focus of the group is on fellowship. Meetings are on Zoom and details are 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

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.

