



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 after Christmas The Sacrament of Holy Communion Sunday 28 December 2025

Welcome to worship.

Today is the **First Sunday after Christmas**, and the liturgical colours for this season of ongoing celebration of our Lord's Nativity are **white** and **gold**.

This morning, we welcome the congregation and choir of **Greyfriars Kirk** for this joint service as we anticipate our union. **The choir** are on leave and will return on Sunday 11 January 2026.

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

Bible Readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version. Please ask one of the Duty Elders if you would like a copy.

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

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.

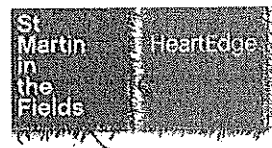


The Church of Scotland

www.stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk



GREYFRIARS
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Scottish Charity Number SC010592

APPROACH TO GOD

OPENING SENTENCE	<p>This is how God showed his love among us: he sent his only Son into the world, that we might have life through him. Hallelujah!</p> <p>1 John 4: 9</p>
CALL TO WORSHIP	Let us worship God.
GATHERING HYMN	313 See! In yonder manger low
CALL TO PRAYER	please remain standing
PRAYERS OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION	<p><i>during which the KYRIE ELEISON is sung by all.</i> <i>This can be found at Hymn 648.</i></p>
COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	<p>Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen.</p>

THE WORD OF GOD

OLD TESTAMENT	Isaiah 63: 7-9	
EPISTLE	Hebrews 2: 10-18	
PSALM 148	<p>O praise, O praise the Lord! Praise him from heavens' height! All angels, give him praise; praise him, you hosts of light. Praise him, sun, moon and stars on high, You highest heavens and cloudy sky.</p>	Tune at Hymn 449

The Lord praise from the earth,
you creatures of the deep,
fire, hail, snow, clouds and winds,
which his commandments keep.
You hills and trees, beasts wild and tame,
small creatures, birds, exalt his name.

His glory shines abroad
above the earth and heaven;
and he to his own folk
a mighty king has given.
Let Israèl give praise to God;
they are his people. Praise the Lord!

'Sing Psalms', The Free Church of Scotland, 2003,
Psalm 148: 1-4, 7-10, 13b-14

THE GOSPEL St John 1: 1-14

ALLELUIA *the music can be found at Hymn 751*

THE SERMON The Revd Suzie Stark

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

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 **318** Lord, you were rich beyond all splendour

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

301 Hark! the herald angels sing

DISMISSAL and BLESSING

Threefold Amen

Music: Danish



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The Epiphany of our Lord

Sunday 4 January 2026

A warm welcome to worship.

Today we mark the **Epiphany of our Lord** – the visit of the Wise Men (or Magi, or the Three Kings) to the Christ Child, and thus Christ's physical manifestation to the Gentiles. The appropriate colours for this season of ongoing celebration of our Lord's Nativity are **white and gold**.

Full choral services resume from next Sunday, 11 January 2026.

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

Bible Readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version. Please ask one of the Duty Elders if you would like a copy.

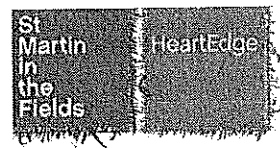
Congregational responses are printed in **bold**. The congregation is encouraged to join in with the saying of 'Amen' at the end of prayers.

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.



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Scottish Charity Number SC010592

APPROACH TO GOD

OPENING SENTENCE

The Magi asked, "Where is the new-born king of the Jews?
We observed the rising of his star,
and have come to pay him homage."

St Matthew 2:2

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God.

GATHERING HYMN

326 As with gladness men of old

CALL TO PRAYER

please remain standing

PRAYERS OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
 Lord, have mercy.

please be seated

COLLECT FOR THE
EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

**Eternal God,
by a star you led wise men to the worship of your Son.
Guide by your light the nations of the earth,
that the whole world may know your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

HYMN

325 Bethlehem, a noble city

THE WORD OF GOD

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 60: 1-6

EPISTLE

Ephesians 3: 1-12

PSALM 72 **48** His large and great dominion shall

THE GOSPEL St Matthew 2: 1-12

ALLELUIA *the music can be found at Hymn 751*

THE SERMON The Revd Suzie Stark

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

MIDDLE VOLUNTARY Of the Father's love begotten Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

THE APOSTLES' CREED *the text can be found at Hymn 628*

HYMN **327** Brightest and best of the sons of the morning

PRAYERS OF
INTERCESSION *One of the following responses may be used:*
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, the source of life and birth,** Hymn 809
Praise God, the Word, who came to earth;
Praise God, the Spirit, holy flame:
all glory, honour to God's name.

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

331 Unto us a boy is born!

DISMISSAL and BLESSING

Dresden Amen

Music: Johann Naumann (1741-1801)

ORGAN RECESSIONAL

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

How brightly beams the morning star

Niels Gade (1817-1890)



The Parish Church of St Cuthbert, Edinburgh
4th January 2026

Weekly Intimations

Prayerful Practice

We pray for those who find this time of year hard, who face unwelcome changes, and we ask that they may know Christ's peace in their hearts as we journey through the January days.

Sunday 11th January, 11.30am: Holy Communion in Anam Chara

Next week, there will be a short service of Holy Communion in the Anam Chara, immediately following our Worship Service. All are welcome

Monday 5th January, 11.30am: Funeral of Arthur Revolta

There will be a funeral service held for Arthur Revolta, long time member of this church on January 5th at 11.30am. All are welcome to attend.

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.

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.

Interested in being more involved?

We are looking for people who want to become more involved with our Sunday Worship. If you are interested in being involved with intercessory prayer, or in assisting our Duty Elders as a Sunday Welcomer, please contact Christine at sessionclerk@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk. These are roles integral to the welcoming and prayerful atmosphere of St Cuthbert's.

Tuesday Coffee Morning, 10.30am – noon

Pop along for a coffee and a chat in the Lindisfarne Room. The coffee morning will not be held on 30th December, but will recommence in the new year

Saturday Coffee Mornings

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

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

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.

