



GREYFRIARS ST CUTHBERT'S

Sunday Service at St Cuthbert's

The Revd Dr George Whyte

Interim Moderator

Mr Graham Maclagan

Director of Music

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday 18 October 2026

A warm welcome to Greyfriars St Cuthbert's.

Today is the **Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost**, and the liturgical colour for this period of Ordinary Time in the church year is **green**.

This morning, **Mr John Kirk**, Elder of St Cuthbert's, leads our worship. We also welcome **Dr Martyn Stachan** as Organist and Choirmaster.

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 join us after the service in the Lammermuir Hall 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

APPROACH TO GOD

INTROIT

God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and at my departing.

Church Hymnary, Fourth Edition, Hymn 538

Text from a Book of Hours, Sarum, 1514

Music: Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)

OPENING SENTENCE

What does the Lord our God ask of us?

To love him and serve him with all our heart and soul.

Deuteronomy 10: 12

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

457 All hail the power of Jesus' name!

First Tune

CALL TO PRAYER

please remain standing

PRAYERS OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

Lord, have mercy.

please be seated

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

COLLECT OF THE DAY

**Almighty and ever-living God,
increase in us your gift of faith,
that forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to what is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
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 **625 O thou who camest from above**

THE WORD OF GOD

OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 45: 1-7

EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10

PSALM 96 **1 O sing a new song to the Lord,** Tune at Hymn 61
 sing praises to his name;
 and his salvation day by day
 let all the earth proclaim.

**2 His glory and his mighty deeds
to every land declare:
how great and awesome is the Lord!
With him no gods compare.**

**4 All nations, to the Lord ascribe
the glory that is due;
glory and strength ascribe to God,
and praise his name anew.**

**3 For other gods are wood and stone;
the Lord made heaven's height.
All power and majesty are his;
he dwells in glorious light.**

**5 Enter his courts with joy, and bring
an offering with you.
Worship the Lord in holy fear;
all earth, before him bow.**

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

'Sing Psalms', The Free Church of Scotland, 2003,
Psalm 96: 1-9

THE GOSPEL St Matthew 22: 15-22

ALLELUIA *the music can be found at Hymn 752*

THE SERMON Mr John Kirk

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all creation,
Jesus of God and Mary, the Son;
thee will I cherish, thee will I honour,
O thou my soul's delight and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the verdure and bloom of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer
He makes the saddest heart to sing.

Fair are the flowers, fairer still the sons of men,
in all the freshness of youth arrayed:
yet is their beauty fading and fleeting;
my Jesus, thing will never fade.

Text from the Münster Gesangbuch, 1677,
translated by Lilian Stevenson (1870-1960)

Music: 'Schönster Herr Jesu (St Elisabeth)',
Silesian melody from the Schleische Volkslieder, Leipzig, 1842,
arranged by Martin How (1931-2022)

THE APOSTLES' CREED

the text can be found at Hymn 628

HYMN

111 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty!

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 and dedicated during the singing of:*

DOXOLOGY

**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.**

Hymn 807

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

468 Son of God, eternal Saviour

DISMISSAL and BLESSING

Dresden Amen

Music: Johann Naumann (1741-1801)

ORGAN RECESSIONAL

Union Update

At the Kirk Session meeting last Tuesday (6th of October) the Session voted by a very large majority to depart from the Church's practice in relation to human sexuality in order for applications for the proposed appointment of a Minister to the congregation to be considered from, amongst others, individuals who are in a same sex civil partnership or a same sex marriage.

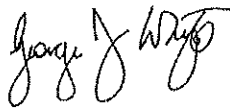
There is an important step in the process to call a new minister which will be taken in the next few weeks. Please see the details below .

ELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of this congregation of Greyfriars St Cuthbert's will be held in the Parish Church of St Cuthbert on Sunday 25th October at the close of morning worship for the purpose of appointing a Nominating Committee.

The task of the Nominating Committee will be to nominate one person to this congregation to be the new Minister.

At that meeting, the congregation shall be invited to elect thirteen people who are on the Electoral Roll of this congregation Greyfriars St Cuthbert's to serve on the Nominating Committee. If you wish to propose anyone to serve on the Committee you may do so at the meeting providing the person has indicated a willingness to serve.



Rev Dr George J Whyte, Interim Moderator

Please, therefore, give due consideration to who you would like to represent the congregation in this process. We have the responsibility of electing a committee who can represent the breadth of congregational life as they interact with ministers who apply for the charge. So, we need a good spread of ages, a reasonable gender balance and people from the different groups, activities and places of worship which form our "community of communities". Nominations (and seconding) will be received on the day from anyone whose name appears on the Electoral Register (the list of communicant members and adherents prepared by the Kirk Session). If you wish to check on whether your name is on the Register please contact the Session Clerk at sessionclerk@greyfriarskirk.com Should you wish to nominate someone who is unable to attend on the day, please bring written confirmation of their willingness to serve.' When the meeting has finished nominating potential Committee members and there are more than thirteen names a vote will be held by ballot where each person present whose name is on the Electoral Register will be able to vote for up to thirteen of the persons nominated. The count will be held immediately afterwards, and the names of the Nominating Committee will be read out.