



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 Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday Sunday 15 March 2026

A warm welcome to worship.

Today is the **Fourth 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.

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 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.

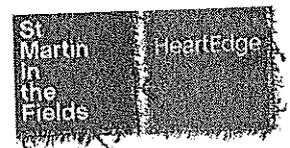
Congregational responses are printed in **bold**. The congregation is encouraged to join in with the saying of '**Amen**' at the end of prayers.

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.



The Church of Scotland
www.stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk



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. Sins oft committed, now we lay before thee: with true contrition, now no more we veil them: grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

Text: The Lent Prose, 10th century

Music: plainsong

OPENING SENTENCE

Send out your light and your truth to be my guide,
let them lead me to your holy hill, to your dwelling-place.

Psalm 43: 3

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

182 Now thank we all our God

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 LENT

**Almighty God,
you have delivered us from the death of sin
and raised us to new life in your love,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ;
and in baptism you have made us one with him
so that now we are the children of light.
Grant that we may walk in his light
and show forth your glory in the world;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR
MOTHERING SUNDAY

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ,
the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to
strengthen us in our daily living [himself:
that in joy and in sorrow we may know
the power of your presence to bind together and to heal;
through your same Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE

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

HYMN

491 Lord Jesus, think on me

THE WORD OF GOD

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Samuel 16: 1-13

EPISTLE

Ephesians 5: 8-14

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
First Tune

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.

4 My table thou hast furnishèd
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark
yet will I fear none ill: [vale,
for thou art with me; and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

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 Scottish Psalter, 1929, Psalm 23

THE GOSPEL

St John 9: 1-41

THE SERMON

The Revd Suzie Stark

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM

Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord,
and cast not off thy servant in thy displeasure;
for we confess our sins unto thee
and hide not our unrighteousness.
For thy mercy's sake, deliver us from all our sins.

Text Psalm 27: 10

Music: Richard Farrant (d.1580)

THE APOSTLES' CREED

the text can be found at Hymn 628

HYMN

693 Help us forgive, forgiving Lord

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

**To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, three in one,
praise, honour, might and glory be
from age to age eternally. Amen.**

Hymn 812

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

513 Courage, brother! do not stumble

DISMISSAL and BLESSING

plainsong Amen

ORGAN RECESSIONAL

Préambule (24 Pièces en style libre)

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)



The Parish Church of St Cuthbert, Edinburgh
15th March 2026

Weekly Intimations

Prayerful Practice

On this Mothering Sunday, we give thanks for all who have nurtured, guided, and steadied us along the way, and we hold with tenderness those for whom this day brings ache or absence. As we rest in the care of the God who gathers us like a mother and leads us home, may we find renewed compassion for one another and a deeper trust in the love that sustains every life. Holy God, shelter us in your gentleness and teach us to share that gentleness with the world. Amen.

Union Update: Congregational Survey

Many thanks to everyone who completed the recent survey from the Working Group, as we work towards Union with Greyfriars Kirk. There is a new Newsletter available which answers many of the points that were brought up within the responses received. Please collect a copy. For more details contact sessionclerk@stcuthberts-edinburgh.uk

Today, 6pm: Edinburgh Competition Festival 2026 Concert

Tonight at 6pm, the Edinburgh Competition festival will be holding their closing concert for this year. Tickets are £15, and are available on the door.

Tuesday 17th March, 7pm: Session Meeting

There will be a session meeting this Tuesday at 7pm in the Lindisfarne Room.

Saturday 21st March, 6.45pm: Edinburgh Bach Choir Spring Concert

Next Saturday, the Edinburgh Bach Choir will be giving their spring concert, featuring Mozart's Requiem, and Haydn's Requiem in C Minor. Tickets are £20 and are available on the door. Concession tickets are also available.

Friday 10th April, 6.30pm: Any Questions Recording

On Friday 10th April, we will be hosting the live recording of Any Questions for BBC Radio 4. There are 200 tickets available, and these can be found at EventBrite at The tickets can be accessed here - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bbc-any-questions-tickets-1984973382822?aff=oddtcreator>. Unfortunately, this is a ticket only event, and there will be no tickets available on the door.

Tuesday Coffee Morning, 10.30am – noon

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

Saturday Coffee Mornings

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

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.

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.