



The Parish Church of St Cuthbert

The Revd Dr Peter Sutton AKC BD MTh DMin *Minister*

Mr Graham Maclagan BMus PGDE CertTh *Director of Music*

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday 22 December 2024

Welcome to worship.

Today is the **Fourth Sunday of Advent**. The season of Advent is traditionally a time of expectant waiting and preparation for both Jesus' birth at Christmas, and the return of Jesus at the Second Coming. The liturgical colour for this season of penitential preparation is **purple**.

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 either be found in this Order of Service, or in the hymnbook at the hymn number indicated. 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. Please ask one of the Duty Elders if you would like a copy.

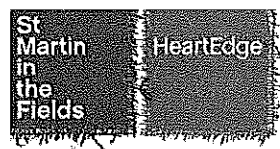
Please join us after the service in the Lammermuir Hall for tea and coffee.

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



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APPROACH TO GOD

LIGHTING OF THE
FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE The Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory. Alleluia!

THE ADVENT PROSE Drop down, ye heavens from above, and let the skies
pour down righteousness.

Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember
iniquity forever: thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a
wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation: Our holy and our
beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee.

Text from the Advent Prose
Music: plainchant

OPENING SENTENCES 'The Lord God will give you a sign; it is this:
**A young woman is with child,
and she will give birth to a son and call him Immanuel.**

Isaiah 7: 14

CALL TO WORSHIP Let us worship God.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN **315 Once in Royal David's City**

CALL TO PRAYER please remain standing

PRAYERS OF APPROACH Lord, have mercy. please be seated
AND CONFESSION **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy.

COLLECT FOR THE
FOURTH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT **Heavenly Father,
you chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace
to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour.
Fill us with your grace, that in all things
we may embrace your will,
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who live and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

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

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

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 **Christ, to thee, with God the Father,** Hymn 319: 6
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,
and unwearied praises be,
honour, glory and dominion,
and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore.

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 **306 O come, all ye faithful** (omit verse 4)

DISMISSAL and BLESSING Threefold Amen
Music: Danish

ORGAN RECESSIONAL Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
A rose has sprung up



The Parish Church of St Cuthbert, Edinburgh
22nd December 2024

Weekly Intimations

Tonight – Nine Lessons and Carols – Sunday 22nd December, 7.30pm

Later tonight, we will be sharing our Nine Lessons and Carols Service with Greyfriars. Always a much loved service, all are invited to join us for the service and for mince pies and mulled wine afterwards.

Carols round the Tree – Tuesday 24th December, 12noon

Please join us for our cosy service of Carols round the tree on Christmas Eve at noon.

Christmas Eve Carol Service – Greyfriars, Tuesday 24th December, 5pm

All are warmly invited to Greyfriars Christmas Eve Carol Service. Please note, this was mistakenly reported as being at St Cuthbert's in the service list in the magazine.

Watchnight Service – Tuesday 24th December, 11.30pm

We will be celebrating our usual Christmas Watchnight service on Christmas Eve. All are welcome to join us. Please note, our Christmas Morning Worship is being held jointly with Greyfriars, at Greyfriars Kirk at 10.30am. There will be no service on Christmas Morning here at St Cuthbert's.

Saturday Coffee Morning Dates and Times

Saturday 28th December

11am-2pm

Tuesday Coffee Morning, 10.30am – noon

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

Christmas Cards – Elder's Pigeonholes

A great number of Christmas cards have been delivered to the elder's pigeonholes in the vestibule. If you are expecting a Christmas card, please drop by and pick them up.

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.

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.

Bible Fellowship Group.

All are invited to meet on Thursdays until 12th December at 7.30pm for fellowship and Bible discussions via Zoom, except on Thursday 28th November. We are reading through the lectionary readings for each Sunday. Please give this group a try for Christian fellowship. Zoom details from: martin.pearce2109@outlook.com

Please note

In the list of Christmas services circulated in the Magazine, it was stated that the 5pm Christmas Eve Service is at St Cuthberts. This was a mistake, and it will be held at Greyfriars.

Joint Service with St John's – Sunday 19th January, 10.30am

There will be an ecumenical service with our neighbours at St John's on Princes Street on the 19th January. There will be no service at St Cuthbert's that day.