

NOTICES

TODAY:

Morning Worship, 10am: 1 Peter 1:22-2:3 'An imperishable Word'

Students and Young Workers Welcome Lunch: For all in S6 to age 25, after church, Anderson home.

Evening Fellowship, 5pm: The incomprehensible God who makes himself known

THIS WEEK:

Ladies' Fellowship: Habakkuk 1:5-11, Thursday, 10am, Anderson's home.

NEXT SUNDAY:

Morning Worship, 10am: 1 Peter 2:4-10 'Christ the cornerstone'

Vision Day: 13th September with church lunch.

COMING UP:

EQUIP Borders with SU Scotland: S1-S6, 18th Sept, Gala Parish Church, 7-8.30pm, Flyers in foyer with QR code to book a space.



**Follow this QR Code for more information
on how to give towards the work of the
gospel through Galashiels Free Church.**

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You can also find us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and TikTok.

Galashiels Free Church is a church plant of the Free Church of Scotland in the Edinburgh & Perth Presbytery. More information on the Free Church can be found on www.freechurch.org

Galashiels Free Church is a Church Plant of Buccleuch & Greyfriars Free Church, SC009634.



Rooted in Jesus. Reaching the Borders.

Prayer Meeting 9:30am

MORNING WORSHIP 10am

The Lord's Day

6th September

WELCOME TO GALASHIELS FREE CHURCH

Welcome to morning worship. We're glad that you're with us today. Please speak to Craig or anyone who welcomed you if you have any questions or if you require assistance.

BIBLES

Bibles are provided on the welcome desk. Please feel free to use one during the service. If you don't own a Bible but would like to, please feel free to take one home with you.

GET CONNECTED - Christian Faith and Christian Community go together

- Fill in a Connect Contact Card on the welcome desk and place it in the wooden box.
- Keep attending on Sundays and stay around for tea and coffee after the service.
- Join a community group.

CHILDREN DURING THE SERVICE – The Church family meeting with God

We believe that children are as much a part of the church family as adults, and therefore we encourage children to join us as we worship God and listen to his Word being taught. Throughout the Bible, worshipping God has always been something families do together. Your children may not be used to staying in for the whole service, but please encourage them to do so and let them know that we love to have them! As Jesus welcomed even the youngest of children to him, we do everything we can to help children experience that welcome as we gather on Sundays. Children tend to stay in the service to worship with their families, helped by their own special service sheets which can be found beside the sound desk. Feel free to talk quietly with your children during the service: it's always good to see parents explain things in a way that's helpful to them. If you would like someone to sit with your children to help them, please speak to the people who welcomed you.

CRÈCHE

In time there will be a crèche room. At present, there is space in one of the corners as a non-supervised crèche area, should you wish to use it. Feel free to also use the vestibule if your young ones are getting a tad too vocal or wriggly. Church is a family, and like all families, we take a bit of noise as a healthy sign.

OFFERING – Freely giving because of the gospel and for the sake of the gospel

As a church family we give money thoughtfully and generously in response to God's lavish love for us. Many give electronically, through a standing order or Stewardship; however, should you prefer there is a box on the welcome desk where you can give your offering. Details of how to give regularly and tax-efficiently can be found in the area attached to the box. If you are visiting us today, please do not feel under any obligation to contribute.

Psalm 34:1-2, 8-14

Tune: Rachel

1 At all times I will bless the LORD;
I'll praise him with my voice.
Because I glory in the LORD,
let troubled souls rejoice.

Come, taste and see—the LORD is good;
who trusts in him is blessed.
O fear the LORD, you saints; with need
you will not be oppressed.
you will not be oppressed.

2 Young lions may grow weak and faint
and hunger for their food,
But those who wait upon the LORD
will not lack any good.

Come here, my children! Gather round
and listen to my word;
And I will help you understand
how you may fear the LORD.
how you may fear the LORD.

3 Does anyone delight in life
and long to see good days?
Then keep your tongue from evil speech,
your lips from lying ways.

Depart and turn from evil paths
and practise what is right.
Desire to know the way of peace;
pursue it with your might.
pursue it with your might.

(Sing Psalms)

All I have is Christ

1 I once was lost in darkest night,
yet thought I knew the way.
The sin that promised joy and life
had led me to the grave.
I had no hope that you would own
a rebel to your will,
and if you had not loved me first,
I would refuse you still.

2 But as I ran my hell-bound race,
indifferent to the cost,
you looked upon my helpless state
and led me to the cross.
And I beheld God's love displayed:
you suffered in my place;
you bore the wrath reserved for me—
now all I know is grace.
Hallelujah! All I have is Christ.
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.

3 Now, Lord, I would be yours alone,
and live so all might see
the strength to follow your commands
could never come from me.
O Father, use my ransomed life
in any way you choose,
and let my song for ever be,
'My only boast is you'.
Hallelujah! All I have is Christ.
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.

Hallelujah! All I have is Christ.
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.

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Jordan Kauflin)

BENEDICTION

This is not a prayer but a final blessing from Christ on his people. This is a gift from Jesus to be received with heads and hands raised. We leave with His Word and His promises in the gospel in our ears.

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.
(Ephesians 3:20-21)

SERMON NOTES

The Holy Spirit works in and through the proclamation of God's Word to redeem sinners, sanctify Christ's people, and build His church. When we open the Word of God, our longing is for Christ himself to come and make himself known to the hearts of those listening. When the Bible is taught, God speaks.

God's Word does God's work by God's Spirit, and transforms God's people for our good and His glory.

An Imperishable Word

1 Peter 1:22-2:3

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Born by the Imperishable Word — so love your family

Fed by the Imperishable Word — so grow as a family

Family Worship:

- Peter says that if we are Christians, the church is our family, not just somewhere we go. What difference should that make to how we think about and treat other people in church?
- Peter tells us to put away malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy and slander. Which of these do you think is especially easy to fall into at school, online or with friends—and what might Christian love look like instead?
- Peter says we should crave God's Word like a newborn baby craves milk. What things can dull our appetite for God's Word, and what could help us grow in wanting to hear from God?

CALL TO WORSHIP

The call to worship is not the minister inviting the congregation to worship. Rather, the call to worship is God summoning his people to assemble in his presence. From the beginning of the Worship service, we are reminded of the good news that God in Christ wants to meet with his people. We hear Jesus the Good Shepherd once again calling his sheep to him, regardless of how far they have wandered from him the week before.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.
Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
For his steadfast love endures forever!

(Psalm 118:28-29)

Praise my soul, the king of heaven

1 Praise my soul, the king of heaven,
to his feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King.

2 Praise him for his grace and favour
to our fathers in distress;
praise him, still the same for ever,
slow to anger, swift to bless.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
glorious in his faithfulness.

3 Father-like he tends and spares us,
well our human frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
widely as his mercy flows.

4 Frail as summer's flower we flourish;
blows the wind and it is gone;
but while mortals rise and perish
God endures unchanging on.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the high eternal One.

5 Angels, help us to adore him;
you behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
all who dwell in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace.

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Henry F Lyte 1793–1847)*

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION WITH CONFESSION OF SIN

Prayer is speaking to God. As John Calvin wrote, 'It is not for God's benefit that we pray but for ours. Prayer is the means by which we dig up the treasures of God's promises to us.' God speaks to us in the Call to Worship and we respond by speaking to him in prayer. In this time of prayer, we adore God for who he is and ask him to fulfil his promises to us (Invocation) during our service. Confession is when we are honest about ourselves with God. Although we know that the penalty of our sin has been paid for by Jesus, we know its presence remains within us. As we admit our failings, we are called to trust in God's grace and live changed lives.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you through our own fault, in thought, and word, and deed, and in what we have left undone. For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us all our offenses; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDONING GRACE

*God promises forgiveness and cleansing to all who confess their sins to him (1 John 1:9).
Receive these words of comfort from God.*

And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.
(John 6:39-40)

READING – Isaiah 40:6-11
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Speak, O Lord

1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your holy word. Take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in your likeness, that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us all your purposes for your glory.

2 Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility; test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of your purity. Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see your majestic love and authority. Words of power that can never fail—let their truth prevail over unbelief.

3 Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of your plans for us—truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity. And by grace we'll stand on your promises, and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your church is built and the earth is filled with your glory.

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PASTORAL PRAYER

followed by **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As a sign of praying for one another, rejoicing with one another, and sharing one another's burdens, we stand for the pastoral prayer. The Lord's Prayer is the prayer Jesus gave his disciples to teach them how to pray.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen