

NOTICES

TODAY:

Morning Worship, 10am: 1 Peter 2:13-25 'Following in His steps'

YF, 4pm: Genesis 2:15 – 3:24 'Mankind Rebels'

Evening Fellowship, 5pm: The God who is from himself and never changes

THIS WEEK:

Ladies' Fellowship: Habakkuk 2:1-5, Thursday, 10am, Anderson's home.

Scottish Women's Bible Convention: 'Jesus Is Better', 3rd Oct, 10.00-15.00,
Charlotte Chapel, brushfire.com/swbc/swbc2026/623009

NEXT SUNDAY:

Morning Worship, 10am: 1 Peter 3:1-7 'Wives and husbands'

YF, 4pm: Genesis 4:1-26; 6:5-6 'The Spread of Sin'

Evening Fellowship, 5pm: The God without limits



Rooted in Jesus. Reaching the Borders.



**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.

Prayer Meeting 9:30am

MORNING WORSHIP 10am

The Lord's Day

27th 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.
- 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.

The Power of the Cross

1 Oh, to see the dawn
of the darkest day:
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men,
torn and beaten, then
nailed to a cross of wood.

CHORUS

*This the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath;
we stand forgiven at the cross!*

2 Oh, to see the pain
written on your face,
bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Ev'ry bitter thought,
ev'ry evil deed
crowning your bloodstained brow.

CHORUS

3 Now the daylight flees;
now the ground beneath
quakes as its Maker bows his head.
Curtain torn in two;
dead are raised to life;
"Finished!" the vict'ry cry.

CHORUS

4 Oh, to see my name
written in the wounds,
for through your suff'ring I am free!
Death is crushed to death;
life is mine to live,
won through your selfless love!

CHORUS 2

*This the pow'r of the cross:
Son of God, slain for us.
What a love, what a cost—
we stand forgiven at the cross!*

(Words & Music: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend © 2005 Thank)

Here is love, vast as the ocean

1 Here is love, vast as the ocean,
lovingkindness as the flood:
when the Prince of Life, our ransom,
shed for us his precious blood.
Who his love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing his praise?
He can never be forgotten
throughout heav'n's eternal days.

2 On the mount of crucifixion,
fountains opened deep and wide.
Through the floodgates of God's mercy
flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers,
poured incessant from above.
Heaven's peace and perfect justice
kissed a guilty world in love.

3 On the morn of resurrection,
mercy filled the thirsty grave;
where the stone of death burst open,
springs of life flowed unrestrained.
Love no heart could ever measure,
joy no sorrows will outrun,
rush upon the soul believing
in the risen, reigning Son.

4 Oh, this love, vast love of Jesus,
bids us come and drink and live.
To this weary world of longing,
what more could our Savior give?
Now to Christ who fully loved us,
and who freed us from our sin,
be all glory and dominion,
everlasting praise to him.

(Words: William Rees, 1847; tr. William Edwards, 1899; sts. 3-4, Matt Boswell, Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty. Music: Robert Lowry, 1876)

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.

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.

Following in His Steps

1 Peter 2:13-25

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Submit for the Lord's sake, even when authorities are imperfect. vs13-17

Suffer with God in view, even when authorities are unjust. vs 18-20

See the suffering Saviour, who innocently suffered for you. vs 21-25

His example

His sacrifice

His power

Family Worship:

- Why should Christians respect and submit to people in authority, even when we don't agree with everything they do?
- What should we remember when we are treated unfairly or when doing the right thing costs us?
- What did Jesus do for us in verses 21-25, and how does that help us to follow in his steps this week?

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.

Craig: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

Congregation: For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
In His hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are His also.

(Psalm 95:1-4a)

Rejoice, the Lord is King!

1 Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore.
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing
and triumph evermore.

CHORUS
Lift up your heart!
Lift up your voice;
rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

2 Our Saviour, Jesus, reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above:

CHORUS

3 His kingdom cannot fail,
he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus giv'n:

CHORUS

4 Rejoice in glorious hope,
for Christ the Judge shall come
to gather all his saints
to their eternal home:

CHORUS

(Words: Charles Wesley, 1746, alt.
Music: John Darwall, 1769; harm. Arthur Sullivan, 1874, alt.)

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

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.

READING OF THE LAW AND CONFESSION OF SIN

As God's people saved by grace, his law is a reflection of his character as he calls us to live as new people. The law shows us our short comings, but it also casts upon our Saviour. 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.

Most merciful God, whose Son Jesus Christ was tempted in every way, yet without sin, we confess before You our own sinfulness; we have hungered after that which does not satisfy; we have compromised with evil; we have doubted Your power to protect us. Forgive us for our lack of faith; have mercy on our weakness. Restore us in such trust and love that we may walk in Your ways and delight in doing Your will. We ask in Jesus' 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.*

Righteousness will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.
(Romans 4:24-25)

READING – Isaiah 52:13-53:12

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Psalm 23 Tune: Tarwathie

1 The LORD is my shepherd; no want shall I know.
He makes me lie down where the green pastures grow;
He leads me to rest where the calm waters flow.

2 My wandering steps he brings back to his way,
In straight paths of righteousness making me stay;
And this he has done his great name to display.

3 Though I walk in death's valley, where darkness is near,
Because you are with me, no evil I'll fear;
Your rod and your staff bring me comfort and cheer.

4 In the sight of my enemies a table you spread.
The oil of rejoicing you pour on my head;
My cup overflows and I'm graciously fed.

5 So surely your covenant mercy and grace
Will follow me closely in all of my ways;
I will dwell in the house of the LORD all my days.
(Sing Psalms)

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