

NOTICES

TODAY:

Morning Worship, 10am: 1 Peter 3:1-7 'Following in His steps at home'

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

Evening Fellowship, 5pm: The God without limits

THIS WEEK:

Prayer Meeting: Our monthly evening of food, fellowship and prayer — gathering around the table, then coming together before the throne of grace.

Meal from 6:30pm in back hall, please sign up after the service, £3 on the night.

Tea and Coffee from 7:15pm. Prayer from 7:30pm

NEXT SUNDAY:

Morning Worship, 10am: 1 Peter 3:8-17 'Speaking as you suffer'

YF, 4pm: Genesis 6:9 - 9:17, 11:1-9 'A New Start and a Familiar Ending'

Evening Fellowship, 5pm: The God who knows all things and can do all things



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

4th October

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.

Yet not I, but through Christ in me

1 What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer;
there is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,
my steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus,
for my life is wholly bound to his.
Oh, how strange and divine,
I can sing: all is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

2 The night is dark, but I am not forsaken,
for by my side, the Savior, he will stay.
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing,
for in my need his power is displayed.
To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me;
through the deepest valley he will lead.
Oh, the night has been won,
and I shall overcome!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

3 No fate I dread; I know I am forgiven;
the future sure, the price, it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,
and he was raised to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold: my sin has been defeated;
Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh, the chains are released,
I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

4 With ev'ry breath I long to follow Jesus,
for he has said that he will bring me home.
And day by day I know he will renew me
until I stand with joy before the throne.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus;
all the glory evermore to him.
When the race is complete,
still my lips shall repeat:
yet not I, but through Christ in me.

*(Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson
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My heart is filled with thankfulness

1 My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who bore my pain;
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace
And gave me life again.
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness,
And clothed me with His light,
And wrote His law of righteousness
With power upon my heart.

2 My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who walks beside;
Who floods my weaknesses with strength
And causes fears to fly;
Whose every promise is enough
For every step I take,
Sustaining me with arms of love
And crowning me with grace.

3 My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who reigns above;
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace,
Whose every thought is love.
For every day I have on earth
Is given by the King.
So I will give my life, my all,
To love and follow Him.

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.

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace. (Num. 6:24–26)

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 at home

1 Peter 3:1-7

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Wives, let your life speak. vs 1–2

Wives, pursue the beauty God prizes. vs 3–6

Husbands, honour your wife. vs 7

Family Worship:

- Why can the way a Christian lives sometimes say more than simply arguing with someone about what they should believe?
- Why is gentleness not the same thing as weakness? Can you think of ways Jesus showed both gentleness and strength?
- How can 1 Peter 3:3–4 and verse 7 help us think wisely about who we might date?

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.

Clap your hands, all peoples!
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, is to be feared,
a great king over all the earth.

(Psalm 47:1–2)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation

1 Praise to the Lord,
the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him,
for he is your health and salvation!
Come, all who hear;
brothers and sisters, draw near,
praise him in glad adoration!

2 Praise to the Lord,
above all things so mightily reigning;
keeping us safe at his side,
and so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen
all you have needed has been
met by his gracious ordaining?

3 Praise to the Lord,
who shall prosper our work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy
shall daily attend us.
Ponder anew
what the Almighty can do,
who with his love will befriend us.

4 Praise to the Lord,
who, when darkness and sin are abounding,
who, when the godless are rampant,
all goodness confounding,
breaks forth as light,
scatters the terrors of night,
saints with his mercy surrounding!

5 Praise to the Lord—
O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath,
come now with praises before him!
Let the 'Amen!'
sound from his people again —
gladly we praise and adore him!

(Joachim Neander (1650–80) Trans. Catherine Winkworth (1827–78) and others)

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.

O good and gracious God, you are most worthy of all praises, even for your own sake, you who triumphs in all things in holiness. By you only are we made holy and sanctified. We praise you for our glorious redemption, purchased for us in your dearly beloved Son Christ Jesus. Give us therefore your Holy Spirit to govern us. And grant that all things which breathe with life may praise you as the true life of all creatures, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. 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.*

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.
(1 John 1:8-10)

READING – Genesis 18:1-15

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Psalm 121 Tune: St Columba

1 Bless'd are all those who fear the Lord,
Who walk within His ways.
You'll eat the fruit of all your work,
And bless'd will be your days.

2 Your wife will be a fruitful vine
in your home, full of peace;
Your children round your table will
be like young olive trees.

3 For thus the one shall bless-ed be
who fears the Lord indeed.
Jerusalem's prosperity,
May He bless you to see.

4 From Zion may the Lord bless you;
May all your days be well;
And may you see your children's seed—
Peace be to Is-ra-el!
(Seedbed)

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