NOTICES

TODAY:

Morning Worship, 10am: 1 Peter 4:12-19 'Sharing Christ's Sufferings, Awaiting Christ's Glory'
YF, 4pm: Genesis 12:1-7; 15:1-21; 17:1-27 'God's Covenant with Abraham'
Evening Fellowship, 5pm: The one God in three persons

THIS WEEK:

Community Group: We meet in homes across the Borders to build community, further apply the Bible Passage we looked at on Sunday and pray for one another. Tuesday, 7:30pm, Janet's Home. Speak to Craig if you need a lift.
Ladies' Fellowship: Habakkuk 3:8-11, Thursday, 10am, Anderson's home

NEXT SUNDAY:

Morning Worship, 10am: 1 Peter 5:1-7 'Shepherds of the flock'
YF, 4pm: Exodus 1:1-22, 2:23-25, 3:7-14 and 5:1-3 'Israel in Egypt'
Evening Fellowship, 5pm: The triune God at work

Follow this QR Code to fill in our Sunday Structure Questionnaire and Contact Form.
Or you can use this link
https://form.jotform.com/262794864537070
or email Morag for a link.

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.

GALASHIELS FREE CHURCH

Rooted in Jesus. Reaching the Borders.

Prayer Meeting 9:30am

MORNING WORSHIP 10am

The Lord's Day

8th November

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.

We Rest On Thee

1 We rest on thee, our Shield and our Defender!
We go not forth alone against the foe;
strong in thy strength, safe in thy keeping tender,
we rest on thee, and in thy name we go;
strong in thy strength, safe in thy keeping tender,
we rest on thee, and in thy name we go.

2 Yea, in thy name, O Captain of salvation!
In thy dear name, all other names above:
Jesus our righteousness, our sure foundation,
our Prince of glory and our King of love,
Jesus our righteousness, our sure foundation,
our Prince of glory and our King of love.

3 We go in faith, our own great weakness feeling,
and needing more each day thy grace to know:
yet from our hearts a song of triumph pealing,
"We rest on thee, and in thy name we go";
yet from our hearts a song of triumph pealing,
"We rest on thee, and in thy name we go."

4 We rest on thee, our Shield and our Defender!
Thine is the battle, thine shall be the praise;
when passing through the gates of pearly splendour,
victors, we rest with thee, through endless days;
when passing through the gates of pearly splendour,
victors, we rest with thee, through endless days.

(Words: Edith G. Cherry, ca. 1895
Music: Jean Sibelius, 1899)

Moment of Remembrance

We take two minutes of silence to mark our respect for those who gave their lives for our freedom, particularly in the fight against evil. We can also spend this time in silent prayer, longing for the Lord to return.

Psalm 130 Tune: Martyrdom

1 LORD, from the depths I call to you;
Lord, hear me from on high
And give attention to my voice
when I for mercy cry.

2 LORD, in your presence who can stand,
if you our sins record?
But yet forgiveness is with you,
that we may fear you, LORD.

3 I wait—my soul waits—for the LORD;
my hope is in his word.
More than the watchman waits for dawn
my soul waits for the Lord.

4 O Isr'el, put your hope in God,
for mercy is with him
And full redemption from their sins
his people he'll redeem.

(Sing Psalms)

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 the companionship of the man of sorrows, the power of the King of glory, rest upon you all. Amen.

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.

Sharing Christ's Sufferings, Awaiting Christ's Glory
1 Peter 4:12-19
(Page 955)

Christian suffering is not a reason for surprise, but for rejoicing.
Vs. 12-15

Christian suffering is not a cause for shame, but a glorious privilege.
Vs. 16–19

Family Worship:

- What can make us feel ashamed of being a Christian, and what does Peter want us to remember in those moments?
- How does knowing that Jesus suffered first help us when following him is costly?
- What difference should it make to know that God is our 'faithful Creator'?

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.

Let the peoples gather together;
and kingdoms, to worship the LORD.
For the LORD will not forsake His saints.
They are preserved forever. (Psalm 102:22; 37:28)

How Firm A Foundation

1 How firm a foundation you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he has said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2 'Fear not I am with you, oh be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid.
I'll strengthen you, help you and cause you to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3 'When through the deep waters I call you to go;
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.

4 'When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace all–sufficient shall be your supply;
The flame shall not hurt you, I only design
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.

5 'The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to His foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!'

(Words: K. in Rippon's Selection, 1787. Arr, Norton Hall Band
Music: A Compilation of Genuine Church Music, 1832; harm. L. C. Everett, 1859)

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.

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us. And grant, O most merciful Father, for Jesus' sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and joyful 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.

God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. (Romans 5:8–9)

READING – Psalm 66

(Page 450)

Christ, the Sure and Steady Anchor

1 Christ, the sure and steady anchor,
in the fury of the storm;
when the winds of doubt blow through me
and my sails have all been torn.
In the suff'ring, in the sorrow,
when my sinking hopes are few,
I will hold fast to the anchor—
it shall never be removed.

2 Christ, the sure and steady anchor,
while the tempest rages on.
When temptation claims the battle
and it seems the night has won,
deeper still then goes the anchor,
though I justly stand accused.
I will hold fast to the anchor—
it shall never be removed.

3 Christ, the sure and steady anchor,
through the floods of unbelief.
Hopeless, somehow, O my soul, now
lift your eyes to Calvary!
This my ballast of assurance,
see his love forever proved.
I will hold fast to the anchor—
it shall never be removed.

Christ, the shore of our salvation,
ever faithful, ever true.
We will hold fast to the anchor—
it shall never be removed.

(Words & Music: Matt Boswell, Matt Papa © 2015 Getty Music Hymns and Songs / Getty Music Publishing / Love Your Enemies Publishing / Messenger Hymns (Capitol CMG Publishing / www.capitolcmgpublishing.com))

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