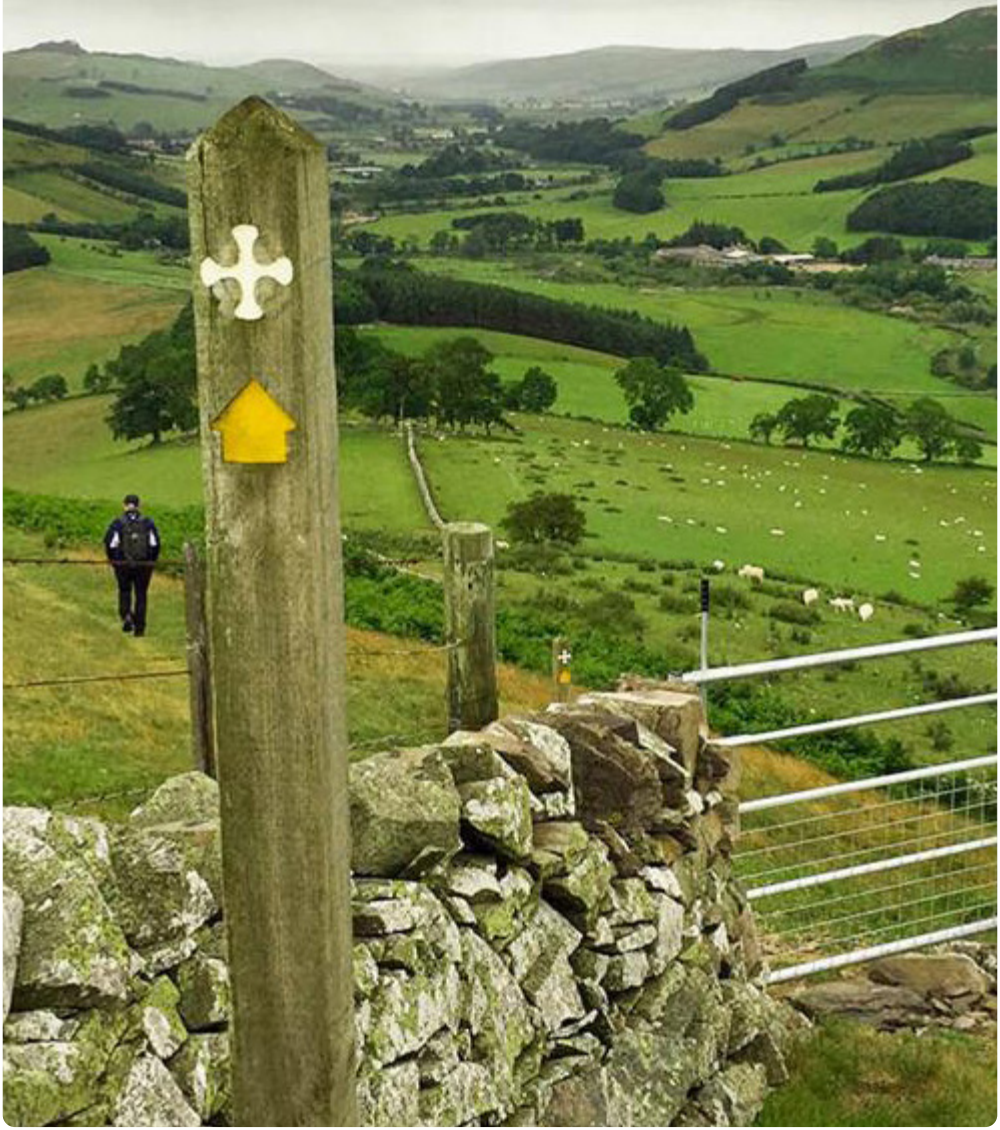
St. Cuthbert's Way Pilgrimage

June 21-28, 2027;
optional weekend in
Edinburgh June 18-20



Step away from the rush to walk where saints have gone before us. Join us on a pilgrimage along St. Cuthbert's Way through the borderland of England and Scotland. We will begin in Melrose in Scotland and walk the 65-mile path to Holy Island off the shore of Northumberland. This is an inn-to-inn hiking trip, so our luggage will meet us each evening at comfortable accommodations.
The pilgrimage is June 21-29, with an optional weekend stay to meet up with Pastor J in Edinburgh June 18-20.

Cost for the pilgrimage, which includes overnights, breakfast, baggage transfers, and route planning is $1800. Pilgrims will need to provide for their own travel to and from the UK, lunches and dinners, and the optional weekend in Edinburgh.

A $500 deposit secures your spot. Registration closes December 7.

Questions? Ready to register? Contact Laura Bentley at bentley@westminster-church.org.

The Details

Cost: $1800/person

Includes

- **Overnights in hand-picked B&B's, guesthouses and small hotels; two-person accommodation**
- **Breakfast each morning**
- **Baggage transfers**
- **Route planning and 24/7 support from Macs Adventure**

Does not include

- **Travel to Melrose or from Lindisfarne**
- **Lunches, dinners, drinks & snacks**
- **Personal equipment**
- **Travel insurance (highly encouraged)**
- **Optional Edinburgh weekend**



Itinerary: Easy–Moderate Hiking

Day 1: Melrose and overnight

Day 2: Walk from Melrose to Harestanes and transfer to Jedburgh (15 miles)

Day 3: Transfer to Harestanes and walk to Morebattle (11 miles)

Day 4: Walk from Morebattle to Kirk Yetholm (7 miles)

Day 5: Walk from Kirk Yethom to Wooler (13.5 miles)

Day 6: Walk from Wooler to Fenwick (12.5 miles)

Day 7: Fenwick to Lindisfarne (6 miles)

Day 8: After an overnight stay on the Holy Island, we will begin the journey home



Optional Edinburgh Weekend

It just so happens that Pastor J will be at the end of his DMin term in Edinburgh when we arrive for the pilgrimage. For any who would like to join, we will plan a weekend in Edinburgh June 18-20 for J to show us around. We'll worship at and tour St. Giles Cathedral, as well as other sites related to the Scottish Reformation.

About St. Cuthbert's Way and Holy Island

St. Cuthbert's Way is one of "Scotland's Great Trails." Starting in Melrose in the Scottish Borders, where St. Cuthbert started his religious life in 650 AD, the path takes us across the borderland to Holy Island, located off the Northumberland Coast of England, where St. Cuthbert was first laid to rest.

Historically pilgrims walked this path to honor St. Cuthbert in the centuries following his death.

Cuthbert was a saint of the Celtic tradition and came to faith at a time when Christianity was once again gaining a foothold over paganism in Anglo-Saxon kingdoms. During this time, there was tension and violence, not only between those of pagan traditions and Christianity, but also between the Roman and Celtic traditions within Christianity.

During his time as a monk, prior, bishop, and abbot, he brought together the Celtic and Roman customs to minister to the people.

After his death, Cuthbert became the Patron Saint of Northumbria. He was viewed as a protector of the English people in battles against the Scots. And the region of St. Cuthbert's Way holds a rich history of English and Scottish religion and politics.





Notable Stops and Sights

- Melrose Abbey where Cuthbert began his religious life in 650 AD
- Eildon Hills, a trip-peaked volcanic landmark overlooking Melrose
- Jedburgh, an historic market town with Jedburgh Abbey, Jedburgh Castle Jail, and Mary Queen of Scots Centre
- River Tweed, a scenic river used historically by Celtic monks for travel
- Dere Street, an ancient Roman road that we will walk as part of the trail
- Dryburgh Abbey, a monastic ruin where the grave of Sir Walter Scott is located
- Kirk Yetholm, a border village at the foot of the Cheviot Hills, which leads over the border into England
- St. Cuthbert's Cave, a massive natural sandstone rock overhang where monks temporarily sheltered St. Cuthbert's remains from Viking raiders in 875 AD.
- Holy Island with Lindisfarne Priory and Castle, only accessible at low tide via the Pilgrim's Path, a 3-mile stretch across tidal mudflats and sands

Pilgrimage

Why a Pilgrimage?

For centuries, pilgrimages have been part of the Christian tradition. Pilgrimages offer a way to connect more deeply to the Christian tradition and to saints who have quite literally walked before us. They are a chance to get away and listen more closely for God's still, small voice in our lives. They enable us to stretch ourselves in both body and spirit and deepen our ties with others who walk with us.

Pilgrimages are both meaningful and fun. We'll commiserate as we walk up yet another rolling hill and share the joy of good conversation over a pub meal at the end of the day. When we return to Westminster, we'll have stories to tell and new ideas of how we live our faith together.

For questions, contact Laura Bentley at bentley@westminster-church.org.



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