

ST NINIAN'S CHURCH

Corstorphine

Minister: Rev. James Aitken



**Be on the alert, always praying for strength to pass safely through all these imminent troubles and to stand in the presence of the Son of Man.
(Luke 21: 36)**

1st Sunday of Advent

Order of Service

1st of December 2024

3:00pm

Find us: <http://www.corstorphinestninians.org.uk> on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/stninianschurch/> & live on [YouTube](#)

Good afternoon and welcome to everyone who has joined us at St. Ninian's this afternoon. We hope you will enjoy our worship of God together today. As a congregation our mission is to **'Worship God together, encourage personal faith and prayer, spread the Good News about Jesus Christ, and love and care for others in our community.'** If you are a visitor, there is a **visitors' book** at the front door, please sign it.

This Sunday we celebrate **The First Sunday in Advent.**

The season of Advent is a season of waiting and hoping. It helps us to become aware of God's actions in the world in the past, present, and future. In the present, as we walk hopefully through this troubled world, we hear prophecies from the past about the Messiah's coming while we wait for Christ's second coming in the future when the whole world will be made whole; one day the wolf will lie down with the lamb, death will be swallowed up, and every tear will be wiped away.

Today, we also celebrate together the **Sacrament of Holy Communion.** Everyone is welcome to join us to share the Lord's Supper.

The organist this afternoon is **Anne Kirkpatrick.** Leading worship is the **Rev. James Aitken** and **Emma McMillan**, our ministry student.

Following worship there is **fellowship, friendship, and refreshments** in the Martin Shields' Hall. Please join us.

St. Ninian's uses the Revised Common Lectionary which is an approved week-by-week three-year cycle of biblical readings. In 2025 we are in Year C and the principal Gospel readings come from the **Gospel of Luke.** The readings lead us from Advent through the Christian year, the Bible, and Jesus' life through birth, baptism, his public ministry, his death, resurrection and ascension.

INTIMATIONS and SHARING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Isaiah 9:2)

HYMN 472 Come, thou long expected Jesus

**Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.**

**Israel's Strength and Consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.**

**Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.**

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, CONFESSION & LORD'S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE: Mark 13: 24 - 37

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SERMON

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER

HYMN 277

Hark the glad sound the Saviour comes

**Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long;
let every heart exult with joy,
and every voice with song!**

**He comes, the prisoners to relieve,
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.**

**He comes the broken hearts to bind,
the bleeding souls to cure;
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.**

**The sacred year has now revolved,
accepted of the Lord,
when heaven's high promise is fulfilled,
and Israel is restored.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's exalted arches ring
with thy most honoured name.**

BENEDICTION