

ST NINIAN'S CHURCH

Corstorphine

Minister: Rev. James Aitken



2nd Sunday of Advent

Order of Service
8th of December 2024
10:30am

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

Good morning and welcome to everyone who has joined us at St. Ninian's this morning. 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 Second 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.

This Sunday is our **Gift Service**. We welcome **Barbara Wells** from the **Salvation Army** who will receive gifts from members of the congregation for children who would otherwise not receive any over Christmas. Barbara will also address the Sunday School during the service.

Before the service there is weekly a **Prayer Group** that meets in Room 6 (the Alpha Room) from 10:00am – 10:15am. Everyone is welcome, please ask a steward for Room 6 Alpha Room.

For preschool children there is a **crèche**, and for primary-aged children there is a **Sunday School** this morning. The reader this morning is **Laura Langdon**. The organist 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.

ENTRANCE

The service begins with a **sentence from the Bible** (Luke 1: 76 – 77), a **call to stand** (please do so if you are able to), an **introit** from the choir, and the **entrance of the Bible**. For the rest of the service the words in bold are read or sung by everyone. We sit to pray and stand to sing.

INTROIT

WELCOME, INTIMATIONS and SHARING OF THE PEACE
We welcome one another with Christ's words 'Peace be with you'.

APPROACH TO GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Isaiah 9:6)

Reader: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called.

Congregation: Wonderful counsellor, Mighty God.

We light the second Advent candle

Reader: We light this candle as a sign of our waiting and hope for the coming Christ.

CAROL BOOK 2 Come, thou long expected Jesus

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, CONFESSION & LORD'S PRAYER

We continue our worship celebrating what God has given us while apologizing for what we have done to harm God, his creation, and his people.

Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1: 67 – 79

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CHILDREN'S ADDRESS

CAROL BOOK 16 Christmas is coming (*chorus, and verses 1 & 2 only*)

Children leave for Sunday School. Visiting children are welcome to join in.

SCRIPTURE: Malachi 3: 1 - 5

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ANTHEM

'Still, Still, Still'

A German carol

SERMON

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

CAROL BOOK 10 When out of poverty is born

OFFERING & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*Freely given, our offering supports the work of Christ's church and symbolises our spiritual dedication to the building-up of the Kingdom of God. We remain seated to sing our dedication (**CH4 292**) -*

**So Father, we would thank you
For all that you have done,
And for all that you have given us
Through the coming of your Son.**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, LAMENT & INTERCESSION

*We give thanks for our blessings, and cry out for help for others and ourselves. During the prayers this sung response from **hymn 276** is used periodically:*

**Wait for the Lord, his day is near,
Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart,**

SENDING OUT

CAROL BOOK 3 Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes

BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL

**Go now in peace, never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others, so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.**