

ST NINIAN'S CHURCH

Corstorphine

Minister: Rev. James Aitken



*A new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.
(John 13:34)*

Order of Service 17th April 2025

Maundy Thursday
(New Commandment Thursday)

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Good evening and welcome to everyone who has come to St. Ninian's this evening. We hope you will enjoy our fellowship as we worship 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.'**

The organist is **Anne Kirkpatrick**. Leading the service is the minister **Rev. James Aitken** and **Emma McMillan**, a ministry student.

This evening's Maundy Thursday service marks three key events in Jesus' last week: his **washing of his disciples' feet**; his institution of the **Lord's Supper**; and his **new commandment** to us all to love one another. The name Maundy Thursday comes from the Latin for the words 'new commandment' *mandatum novum*. Therefore, this is 'new commandment Thursday'. Maundy Thursday is celebrated with the Lord's Supper, and in many traditions an act of foot washing or another sign of mutual love and dedication.

ENTRANCE

The service begins with a **sentence from the Bible** (Psalm 116: 1 – 2), 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 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 Psalm 116: 12 - 13)

Leader: How can I repay the LORD for all His gifts to me?

**All: I will take in my hands the cup of salvation
and invoke the LORD by name.**

Leader: As we break the bread and share the cup,
our understanding may fail us,

**All: but we will never forget Christ's example,
or the full extent of His love.**

HYMN 549 How deep the Father's love for us

Composer Stuart Townend said the tune for this hymn spontaneously popped into his head leaving him wondering what words would fit it. The lyrics he chose tell the story of Christ on the cross, in terms of what it cost God the Father to give up His Son, and our complicity in this act.

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, CONFESSION & LORD'S PRAYER

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: John 13: 1 – 17, 31b – 35

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ANTHEM

'God So Love the World'

Stainer

SERMON

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

HYMN 484 Great God, your love has called us here,

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Let us bring the needs of the church, the world, and all in need, to God's loving care. During these prayers we will periodically say together:

"Where charity and love are, God is there."

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 11: 23 - 26

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HYMN The song of the supper

The time was early evening,
the place a room upstairs;
the guests were all disciples,
few in number and few in prayers.

*Oh, the food comes from the baker,
the drink comes from the vine,
the words come from the saviour,
"I will meet you in bread and wine."*

The company of Jesus
had met to share a meal,
but he, who made them welcome,
had much more to reveal.

*Oh, the food comes from the baker,
the drink comes from the vine,
the words come from the saviour,
"I will meet you in bread and wine."*

"The bread and body broken,
the wine and blood outpoured,
the cross and kitchen table,
are one by my sign and word."

*Oh, the food comes from the baker,
the drink comes from the vine,
the words come from the saviour,
"I will meet you in bread and wine."*

On both sides of the table,
on both sides of the grave,
the Lord joins those who love him
to serve them and to save.

*Oh, the food comes from the baker,
the drink comes from the vine,
the words come from the saviour,
"I will meet you in bread and wine."*

Lord, Jesus, now among us,
confirm our faith's intent,
as, with your words and actions,
we unite in this sacrament.

*Oh, the food comes from the baker,
the drink comes from the vine,
the words come from the saviour,
"I will meet you in bread and wine."*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table and Declaration of our Faith

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated
at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts

Congregation: We lift them to the Lord

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, maker of light and darkness. Your wisdom draws beauty out of chaos, brings a harvest of love out of sorrow, and liberates the exiles, leading them home. In Christ your Son, enemies are reconciled, debts forgiven, and strangers made welcome. Your Spirit frees us to live holy lives as sons and daughters in your Father's house. We, who by Christ's example follow the way of the cross sharing in his obedience, now offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest!**

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, loving Father, for Christ in whom the people of the world are reconciled to you and to each other... .

Breaking of Bread

Minister: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Congregation: have mercy on us.

Minister: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Congregation: have mercy on us.

Minister: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Congregation: grant us your peace.

Sharing of Communion

Prayer

SCRIPTURE: Mark 14: 26 – 27

Psalms 22

SILENCE