

# ST NINIAN'S CHURCH

Corstorphine

Minister: Rev. James Aitken



'Jesus was then led away by the Spirit into the wilderness, to be tempted by the devil.'

(Matthew 4: 1)

**Order of Service**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2026**  
**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.

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, the Alpha Room.

There is a **crèche** but because of the February holiday, there is no **Sunday School** this morning. The organist is **Anne Kirkpatrick**. The reader this morning is: **Margo Dunn**. Leading worship is the **Rev. James Aitken**.

This Sunday is the **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in the season of Lent**.

We are in the season of **Lent** when we make ourselves ready to commemorate Jesus' Passion and celebrate his resurrection. Lent lasts forty days (not counting Sundays), and this year it began on the 18<sup>th</sup> February (Ash Wednesday). It ends on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April (Good Friday). Lent represents a sacrificial journey of suffering. We travel with Jesus from Galilee, where he ministered, to Jerusalem, the place of his crucifixion. This journey is an opportunity for us to prepare for the events of Holy Week and then for the transformative event of Easter that transcends the sacrifice and sufferings of Lent. We reflect on what needs transformed in our lives and in the world, what is separating us and the world from God, and what holds back the people of the world from living life in all its fulness. As we do so we look forward to living new lives beyond Easter as people who believe in the hope contained in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God's Son.

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 2026 we are in Year A and the principal Gospel readings come from the **Gospel of Matthew**. 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** (Hebrews 2: 18), 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 (Hebrews 12: 2 – 3)

Minister: Let us fix our eyes on Jesus,

**Congregation: the author and perfecter of our faith,**

Minister: who for the joy set before him endured the cross.

**Congregation: He scorned its shame.  
He sat down at the right hand of God.**

Minister: Let us consider him who endured such opposition from sinful people,

**Congregation: so that we will not grow weary and lose heart.**

**HYMN 22** (Ps. 27) The Lord's my light and saving health

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: Genesis 2: 15 – 17; 3: 1 – 7

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### CHILDREN'S ADDRESS

**HYMN 338** Jesus tempted in the desert

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

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 4: 1 – 11

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**ANTHEM** 'A Gaelic Blessing'

Rutter

### SERMON

## OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

**HYMN 721** We lay our broken world

### 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 402**) -*

**'Take up your cross,' the Saviour said,  
'if you would my disciple be;  
Take up your cross, with willing heart,  
And humbly follow after me.'**

### PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

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

**HYMN 776** Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison  
(*trans: Lord, have mercy*)

## SENDING OUT

### HYMN 535

Who would true valour see

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.**