

ST. NINIAN'S CHURCH

Corstorphine

Minister: Rev. James Aitken



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Order of Service
4th of October 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** and a primary **Sunday School** this morning. The organist is **Anne Kirkpatrick**. The reader this morning is **Alex McCowan**. The beadle is **Margaret Hunter**. Leading worship is the **Rev. Angus Mathieson**.

This morning we celebrate our **Harvest Festival** service. In the sanctuary, we are collecting donations for the **Edinburgh Food Bank at Broomhouse**. Please leave your donations at the front door in the buckets provided. Following the service members of the congregation will be delivering **flowers** to those in our congregation who find it hard to attend church on a Sunday morning.

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** (Psalm 4: 6 - 7), 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

Minister: God of the harvest,

Congregation: gather us in.

Minister: God of the plentiful,

Congregation: gather us in.

Minister: God of the abundant,

Congregation: gather us in.

Minister: God of us all,

Congregation: gather us in.

HYMN 233 Come, you thankful people, come,

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: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11 Page 203

CHILDREN'S ADDRESS

HYMN 231 For the fruits of all creation, thanks be to God
Children leave for Sunday School. Visiting children are welcome to join in.

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 13: 24-33 Page 979

ANTHEM 'Look at the World' Rutter

SERMON

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

HYMN God, the maker of the heavens

God, the maker of the heavens
and the planet that we share,
show us how to live, like Jesus,
lives of gratitude and care.
Make us mindful of the footprints
from the lives that we pursue.
Make us partners in your mission:
you are making all things new.

God, the gardener of Eden,
teach us how to tend this earth,
learning from the changing seasons,
times of allow and new birth.
Lord, have mercy when we're careless,
rich resources we misuse.

**Use our hands to heal creation:
you are making all things new.**

**God of labour and vocation,
Lord of science, trade and art,
take our efforts and our passions
make them mirrors of your heart.
Every habitat and creature
loved and valued, God, by you;
may our lives reveal your kingdom:
you are making all things new.**

**You are making all things new,
you are making all things new,
all things renewed!**

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 a hymn of dedication.

HYMN 226 God, whose form is all creation

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, LAMENT and INTERCESSION

We give thanks for our blessings, and cry out for help for others and ourselves. During the prayers, there is a congregational response:

Minister: Lord, bring us your harvest;

Congregation: a harvest of justice and peace.

SENDING OUT

People of God, go out into the world full of the bounty of God's blessings. In your lives sow seeds of Christ's love and peace. By your witness, may God's spirit reap a harvest of holiness that all may know the goodness of God.

HYMN 229

We plough the fields and scatter

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.**