

ST NINIAN'S CHURCH

Corstorphine

Minister: Rev. James Aitken



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

15th – 21st May 2022

Order of Service

15th May 2022

10.30am

Sunday 15th May 2022

Christian Aid Week

<http://www.corstorphinstninians.org.uk> and on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/stninianschurch/>

Good morning and welcome to everyone who has joined us on-line 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.**'

Sunday morning worship is held in the sanctuary at 10:30am, and online on Facebook and YouTube:

<https://www.facebook.com/stninianschurch/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW-OUJ0F3JLO9vUD7KYMffA>

This Sunday is **Christian Aid Sunday**. The service today is provided by Christian Aid. They say,

"In our service today we are going to consider what it means to live fruitful lives. This is a phrase used throughout the Bible. Bearing fruit that is good and that will last is something we are called to do as followers of Jesus.

What does this mean, to bear fruit, in today's world? In a world where 44 million people face the challenge of daily food shortages and chronic hunger, what does 'fruit that will last' mean to all our lives?

As fruit is a source of sweet sustenance and life, we cannot just consider the challenge of hunger. We must also consider the solutions and change that we can participate in bringing about. We will root these ideas in the stories of Jessica and Janet from Zimbabwe. We will reflect on these big questions through the lived experience of hunger caused by drought."

There is a **crèche** and a **Sunday School** for primary age children this morning. The minister leading worship this morning is **Rev. James Aitken**. **Shahrukh Gill**, a ministry student attached to St. Ninian's, will be assisting in worship. The organist is **Anne Kirkpatrick**.

WELCOME, INTIMATIONS and SHARING OF THE PEACE

We welcome one another with Christ's words, 'Peace be with you'.

INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

CHRISTIAN AID: Jessica's Story

APPROACH TO GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN 224

The spring has come

The spring has come,
let all the church be part of it!
The world has changed,
and God is at the heart of it!
New light, new day,
new colour after winter grey,
new light, new day,
the spring has come,
let all the church be part of it!

The sun is warm,
let all God's children play in it!
The world expands,
let's spread the gospel way in it!
New leaf, new thrust,
new greening for the love of Christ,
new leaf, new thrust,
the sun is warm,
let all God's children play in it!

The spring has come,
new people are the flowers of it!
Through wind and rain,
new life is in the showers of it!
New bud, new shoot,
new hope will bear the Spirit's fruit,
new bud, new shoot,
the spring has come,
new people are the flowers of it!

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: Mathew 3: 1 - 10

Page 790

Revelation 21: 10; 22 – 22: 5

Page 1034

CHRISTIAN AID: Jessica's Story

Are you hungry? What's for dinner tonight? Maybe you're looking forward to fish and chips, pasta, or your favourite family meal around the table. Jessica Mwedzi, a loving mum in Zimbabwe, fears her family won't eat tonight. When food is scarce, she can only give her children one bowl of porridge a day. She shares her heartbreak: 'My children crave a decent meal, but I can't provide. It pains me to send them to bed hungry.' For Jessica, drought means every day is a struggle for survival. Like many women in Zimbabwe, she toils on her farm, but no food can grow on her ashen dry land. 'One year, we had no rain. The scorching sun burnt my crops just as they were about to bloom. It was so painful and disheartening.' It's unjust that drought robs Jessica of the power to provide for her family. Her husband is unwell, so she is the only breadwinner. She says: 'Women are at the mercy of climate change and hunger.'

HYMN 544

When I needed a neighbour

When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there ?
When I needed a neighbour, were you there ?

*And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there ?*

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there ?
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there ?

I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there ?
I was cold, I was naked, were you there ?

When I needed a shelter, were you there, were you there ?
When I needed a shelter, were you there ?

When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there ?
When I needed a healer, were you there ?

SERMON

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

HYMN 685

For everyone born a place at the table

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead.

Refrain:

*And God will delight
when we are creators of justice and joy,
Yes, God will delight
when we are creators of justice
justice, and joy.*

For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair.

Refrain

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands kind and wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong.

Refrain

For just and unjust, a place at the table.
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mind-set of mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live.

Refrain

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free.

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.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

We give thanks for our blessings, and cry out for help for others and ourselves.

SENDING OUT

HYMN 804

You shall go out with joy (x3)

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,
and the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy, and the trees of the field
shall clap, shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and you'll go out with joy.

BENEDICTION

**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.**