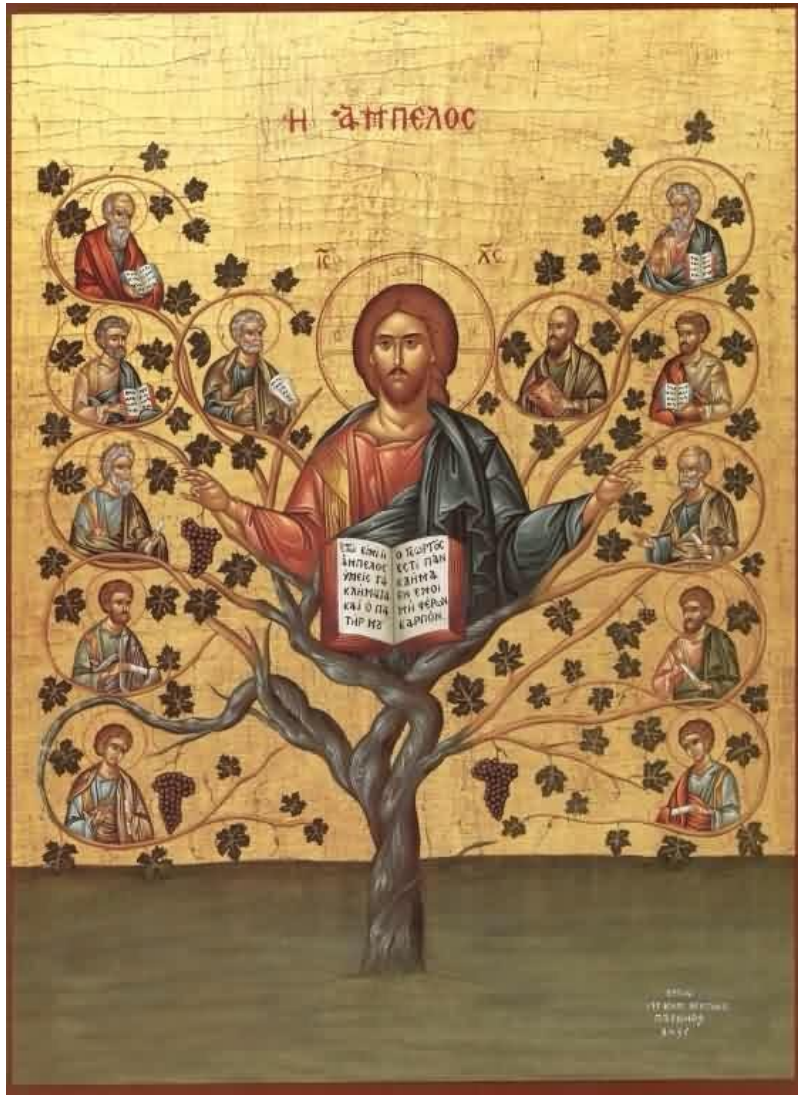


ST NINIAN'S CHURCH

Corstorphine

Minister: Rev. James Aitken



'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower...' (John 15: 1)

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Order of Service
28th of April 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. After the service we have **fellowship** in the Martin Shields' Hall, please join us.

For young people, there is a **crèche** and **Sunday School** this morning. The reader this morning is: **Sarah Aitken**. The organist is **Anne Kirkpatrick**. Leading worship is the **Rev. James Aitken**.

We welcome **Geoff Rae from St. Columba's Hospice** this morning. Geoff will receive a cheque from St. Ninian's from the recent coffee morning and talk about the work of the Hospice.

This is the season of **Eastertide**. Easter Sunday is only the first of 50 days (7 Sundays) of **Eastertide** that lead to Pentecost (this year on the 19th of May). Eastertide is a season of extended celebration exploring the ramifications of Jesus' resurrection for the redemption of all creation, and for joyful Christian living.

Following worship there is fellowship, friendship, and refreshments in the Martin Shields' Hall. Please join us.

St. Ninian's uses the Revised Common Lectionary is an approved week-by-week three-year cycle of biblical readings. In 2024 we are in Year B and the principal Gospel readings come from the **Gospel of Mark**. 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** (John 15: 7 - 8), 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

A New Commandment

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 (John 15: 1 – 5)

HYMN 416

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing

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: Acts 8: 26 – 40

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CHILDREN'S ADDRESS

HYMN 458

At the name of Jesus

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

PRESENTATION TO ST. COLUMBA'S HOSPICE

Geoff Rae, a volunteer chaplain from St. Columba's Hospice will talk about the work of the Hospice and receive a cheque from the recent coffee morning.

ANTHEM

Cast thy Burden

Mendelssohn

SERMON

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

HYMN 604

Holy wisdom, lamp of learning

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 204) -

**I am the Church! You are the Church!
We are the Church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world,
yes, we're the Church together.**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

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

Minister: Lord in your mercy,
Congregation: Hear our prayer.

SENDING OUT

HYMN 624

In Christ there is no east or west

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.**

INTIMATIONS:

St. Ninian's Friendly Corner is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00am – 1:00pm in the Beith Hall (access from St. John's Road and through the church). There is tea and coffee, biscuits, friendship, and a warm welcome for everyone. Drop in anytime.

Janice Reynolds is stepping down as Treasurer for St Ninian's at the end of April 2024. Janice has worked tirelessly as Treasurer, and we would like to give thanks, and celebrate her hard work with a gift. If you would like to contribute to a gift, cash donations in an envelope can be given to one of the session clerks (Andrew, Scott or Fiona) or the Minister on each Sunday in April. Many thanks, Session Clerk Team.

Songs of Praise Service – St. Ninian's, St. Andrew's & St. Anne's Grouping

There will be a joint service of an Easter & Ascension Songs of Praise for members of St. Ninian's, St. Anne's and St. Andrew's tonight, **Sunday 28th April, at 6:00pm in St. Ninian's**. This is an opportunity for these three congregations, which have been grouped together by the Presbytery, to worship together and to get to know each other.

The Guild: the final meeting of the session and AGM followed by an afternoon tea is on **Tuesday 30th April**.

Quarterly Magazine any contributions for the next Quarterly should be sent to Simone Hislop simone_hislop@blueyonder.co.uk **by the end of April**. Simone says, "I am happy to get ad hoc contributions in between issues as and when the idea or photo is at hand. That way we always have a head start in pulling the edition together. Thanks for all your support. Best Wishes, Simone"

Launch event for the upcoming supplement to CH4 – God Welcomes All is taking place on Sunday 19th May, 7-9pm, at St Cuthbert's Parish Church, Edinburgh, and will feature special guests who have songs included in the collection. As part of the event there will be a gathered choir. It will be a great opportunity to sing together with people from other church choirs and to learn some of the new songs in the supplement. Anyone who would like to take part should sign up at the link below. There will be two rehearsals online to help learn the music in advance and the main rehearsal will be on the afternoon of the event itself: <https://forms.office.com/e/nkc3VYd1i3> Anyone who is interested in attending the launch event to be part of the audience and join in the singing from their seat can also sign up for a free ticket via the same form.

New church secretary. The Kirk Session has appointed a new church secretary, Kirsty McGregor. Kirsty will be working Monday to Friday 9:00am – 12:00pm (1:00pm on Friday). The church office will reopen on the 29th of April.