

ST NINIAN'S CHURCH

Corstorphine

Minister: Rev. James Aitken



Fifth SUNDAY IN LENT

Order of Service
17th of March 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: **Christine Miller**. The organist is **Anne Kirkpatrick**. Leading worship is **Elliot Mitchell**, a ministry student attached to St. Ninian's.

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 14th February (Ash Wednesday). It ends on the 29th of March (Good Friday). Lent represents a journey. We travel with Jesus from Galilee, where he ministered, to Jerusalem, the place of his crucifixion and resurrection. This journey is an opportunity for us to prepare for the events of Holy Week and for the transformative event of Easter by reflecting on what needs to change 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.

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** (Psalm 86: 9), 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 Safe in the shadow

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

Leader: May our hearts be open and our minds be clear

All: to receive His grace and to walk without fear.

Leader: For this Lent journey, let us draw near,

All: embracing His love that we hold dear.

Leader: With reverence and gratitude, let us shout with cheer.

All: We worship today knowing God's presence is here.

HYMN 100 (Ps 145) O Lord, thou art my God

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: John 12: 20 - 33

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CHILDREN'S ADDRESS

HYMN 349 Jesus said, 'If you have faith

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

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 31: 31 – 34

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ANTHEM Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring

Bach

SERMON

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

HYMN 644 O Jesus, I have promised

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 807**) -*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

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

SENDING OUT

HYMN 622

We sing a love that sets all people free

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.**