

ST NINIAN'S CHURCH

Corstorphine

Minister: Rev. James Aitken



Order of Service
4th of January 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.

There is no **crèche** or **Sunday School** this morning. The organist this morning is **Anne Kirkpatrick**. Leading worship is the **Rev. Matthew Bicket**.

The season of Christmas lasts for twelve days from Christmas Day to the 5th of January. Christmas is the celebration of the nativity of Christ and the mystery of the incarnation. During this season we identify ourselves with the angels who at Jesus' birth proclaimed, "Glory to God in the highest", with the shepherds who were afraid but offered worship, and with Mary who pondered the meaning of these events in her heart (Luke 2: 13 – 20). Christmas is the first in a series of celebrations (Christmas, Epiphany on the 6th of January, Jesus' baptism on the 7th of January, and his transfiguration on the 2nd of March), which precede the season of Lent and Easter. These events in Jesus' life affirm both his humanity and divinity, and anchor our understanding of God and his kingdom.

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

SCRIPTURE VERSE

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

Leader: The New Dawn will arise upon you.

All: You shall see and be radiant.

Leader: The New Dawn will arise upon you.

All: The Holy One will bless the people with peace.

Leader: The New Dawn will arise upon you.

All: The joy of the Lord is my strength.

Leader: The New Dawn will arise upon you.

**All: God is here among us.
Let us rejoice and be glad in God's presence.**

HYMN 327 Brightest and best of the sons of the morning

PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

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

REFLECTION

HYMN 161

O God our help in ages past

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE:

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Pg 609

HYMN 336

Christ is our light!

SCRIPTURE:

Matthew 2: 1-12

Pg 789

HYMN 326

As with gladness men of old

SERMON

HYMN 325

Bethlehem, a noble city

OFFERING & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN 159

Lord for the years

BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL (sung)

Go now in peace

