

ST NINIANS OLD PARISH CHURCH

1751 - 2026



A Service of Thanksgiving *for* **275 Years of Worship and Witness**

Sunday 13th September 2026
10:30am

Minister

The Rev Gary J McIntyre BD Dip.Min

Preacher

The Rt Rev Gordon Kennedy BSc BD MTh

Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

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The story of Christian worship in St Ninians reaches back many centuries, long before the opening of the present church in 1751.

For 275 years, generations of people have gathered within these walls to worship God. Here they have brought their joys and sorrows, celebrated baptisms and marriages, mourned those they loved, listened to God's Word, shared in the Sacraments, and found strength and hope for the journey of life.

Much has changed since 1751. Generations have come and gone, the community around us has grown and changed, and the church itself has been altered and renewed. Yet through all those years the purpose of this place has remained: to worship God, to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to serve the community in his name.

Today, as we mark the 275th anniversary of the opening of the present church, we give thanks for those who have gone before us, for the faith they handed on, and for God's faithfulness from generation to generation.

*“Lord, you have been our dwelling-place
throughout all generations.”*

Psalm 90:1

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome

Call to Worship

Hymn 100

O Lord, thou art my God and King

1. O Lord, thou art my God and King;
Thee will I magnify and praise:
I will thee bless, and gladly sing
Unto thy holy Name always.

2. Each day I rise I will thee bless,
And praise thy Name time without end.
Much to be praised, and great God is;
His greatness none can comprehend.

3. Race shall thy works praise unto race,
The mighty acts show done by thee.
I will speak of the glorious grace,
And honour of thy majesty;

4. Thy wondrous works I will record.
By many shall the might be told
Of all thy awesome acts, O Lord:
And I thy greatness will unfold.

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

All Age Talk – Transforming Communities

We seek your Kingdom Tune Eventide (Hymn 580)

1. We seek your kingdom throughout every sphere
We long for heaven's demonstration here
Jesus your light shine bright for all to see
Transform, revive, and heal society.
2. Before all things, in him were all things made
Inspiring culture, media, and trade
May all our work serve your economy
Transform, revive, and heal society.
3. Peace, truth, and justice reigning everywhere
With us be present in our public square
Fill all who lead with your integrity
Transform, revive, and heal society.
4. Forgive us Lord, when we have not engaged
Failing to scribe your heart on history's page
Make us again what we were made to be
Transform, revive, and heal society.
5. Faithful to govern ever may we be
Selfless in service, loving constantly
In everything may your authority
Transform, revive, and heal society.

The Word of God
Deuteronomy 4:1-14
Leslie Asher, Session Clerk

Hymn 603
For your gift of God the Spirit

1. For Your gift of God the Spirit,
 With us, in us, always true,
Pledge of life and hope of glory,
Saviour, we would worship You.

2. He who is creation's dawning
 Brooded o'er the lifeless deep,
Still across our nature's darkness
Moves to wake our souls from sleep.

3. He it is, the living Author
Wakes to life the sacred Word,
Reads with us the Bible story
And reveals our risen Lord.

4. He it is who works within us,
Teaching rebel hearts to pray;
He whose fervent intercessions
Rise for us both night and day.

5. Fill us with your grace and goodness,
 God the Father, Spirit, Son;
In us, through us, now and always,
May Your perfect will be done.

Sermon
Walk In All His Ways: The Way Of Remembering

Hymn 506
All I once held dear

1. All I once held dear, built my life upon,
all this world reveres, and wars to own,
all I once thought gain I have counted loss;
spent and worthless now, compared to this:

*Knowing you, Jesus, knowing you,
there is no greater thing.
You're my all, you're the best,
You're my joy, my righteousness,
and I love you, Lord.*

2. Now my heart's desire is to know you more,
to be found in you and known as yours,
to possess by faith what I could not earn,
all-surpassing gift of righteousness.

3. Oh to know the power of your risen life,
and to know you in your sufferings,
to become like you in your death, my Lord,
so with you to live and never die.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Hymn 167

Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
Feed me till my want is o'er,

2. Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield,

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside!
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side!
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to Thee,

Benediction and Three-Fold Amen

MINISTERS

1734 - 1754	Rev James Mackie
1754 - 1766	Rev John Gibson
1773 - 1788	Rev David Thomson
1788 - 1824	Rev William Sheriff
1824 - 1843	Rev Christopher Greig
1843 - 1880	Rev Robert Paisley
1880 - 1884	Rev Donald Bryce
1885 - 1913	Rev John M Robertson
1913 - 1939	Rev Edward R Jones
1940 - 1968	Rev David Dick
1969 - 1998	Rev James Stirling
1998 - 2026	Rev Gary J McIntyre

There will be a retiral collection for CrossReach

CrossReach, the social care arm of the Church of Scotland, provides compassionate care and support to people of all ages across Scotland, helping individuals and families through some of life's most challenging times.