

Sunday 7th December, 2025 The Second Sunday in Advent
Minister: Rev. Ian Taylor, A.C.I.B.S., B.D., Th.M., Dip. P.S.R.P.
Student Minister: Mr. Euan Gibb, B.A, P.G.D.E.
Musical Director: Mr. Alan Craig. B.Mus., P.G.C.E.

Members of the congregation who are able to stand are invited to do so as the Bible is brought in and taken out of the Church.

Welcome & Intimations

- **The Sunday School** will meet in **Room 2** today.
- Please ensure all **mobile phones** 📱 are **switched off or in silent mode** during the Service.
- **Please place your offering in the Offering Plates** as these are uplifted during the Service.
- **Tea and Coffee** will be available after Church **today in the Cameron Hall.**
- The **Ticket Office** for the **Springfield Cambridge Festival Chorus Christmas Concert** is open at **Cadder South Hall** on **Wednesdays and Fridays** between **10.00 am and 12 noon.**
- **Today** we will be pleased to receive any **Jars of Grace (or donations)** the congregation has been collecting for our **Annual Appeal for UNICEF** as you arrive at Church. This is also our **Annual GIFT SUNDAY.** The congregation can donate **Tesco Gift Cards (£5 or £10)** or cash donations, which will allow us to pass these to the local **Foodbank at Bishopbriggs Free Church and to St. Rollox Church** for their work with asylum seekers.
- This evening, **Sunday 7th December, 2025 East Dunbartonshire Schools String Orchestra & Chorus** will return to the Church for their annual Christmas concert at **6pm.** This will last an hour and the congregation is encouraged to come and support this fun event. Entry is a bargain at only £2. Light festive refreshments will be served afterwards in the Cameron Hall.
- There will be a **Vestry Hour on Wednesday 10th December, 2025 at 10am** followed by our **midweek Service** at 11.10am.

Introit

Call to Worship

Hymn 273 O come, O come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come Emmanuel,
 And ransom captive Israel,
 That mourns in lonely exile here,
 Until the Son of God appear.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to thee, O Israel.

2 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
 Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
 In ancient times didst give the law
 In cloud and majesty and awe.
 Refrain

3 O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
 Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
 From depths of hell Thy people save,
 And give them victory o'er the grave.
 Refrain

4 O come, Thou Key of David, come,
 And open wide our heavenly home;
 Make safe the way that leads on high,
 And close the path to misery.
 Refrain

5 O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
 Our spirits by Thine advent here;
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 And death's dark shadows put to flight.
 Refrain

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Call to Prayer

The Advent Wreath

Hymn – Advent Candle (Tune: Joy to the World)

Chorus

*Come, light the candles, one by one,
The Advent call we hear.
With hope and peace and joy and love,
His light will fill the world, His light will fill the world,
His light will come and shine through all the earth.*

Verse 1 Hope

Light now the candle, hope's bright flame,
It shines through darkest night.
Let every heart prepare a place,
For Christ the saviour comes, for Christ the saviour comes,
For Christ will come and fill the world with light.

Chorus

*Come, light the candles, one by one,
The Advent call we hear.
With hope and peace and joy and love,
His light will fill the world, His light will fill the world,
His light will come and shine through all the earth.*

Verse 2 Peace

Light now the candle, peace will grow,
God's promise shining clear.
No fear shall reign, no hate divide,
God's peace will surely come, God's peace will surely come,
God's peace will come and make the nations one.

Chorus

*Come, light the candles, one by one,
The Advent call we hear.
With hope and peace and joy and love,
His light will fill the world, His light will fill the world,
His light will come and shine through all the earth.*

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A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations
shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Romans 15:4-13

⁴ For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that
by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have
hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in

harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

‘Therefore I will confess^[a] you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name’;

¹⁰ and again he says,

‘Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people’;

¹¹ and again,

‘Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him’;

¹² and again Isaiah says,

‘The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope.’

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Hymn 608 Spirit of truth and grace,

1 Spirit of truth and grace,
come to us in this place
as now in Jesus' name God's people gather.
Open our eyes to see
truths that will ever be,
and in communion draw us close together.

2 Spirit of joy and peace,
make all anxieties cease
with knowledge of the Father's perfect caring.
Then may God's children know
love that won't let us go
and joy that fills each day, beyond comparing.

3 Spirit of life and power,
revive us in this hour
and stir our hearts to praise with true devotion.
Fill us with heavenly fire,
and every heart inspire,
that we may serve the world with your compassion.

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St. Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’^[a] ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.”’

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹ Do not presume to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ ‘I baptize you with^[b] water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with^[c] the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

Anthem

Sermon

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The Offering (& Sung Doxology: Hymn 807)

Prayers of Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Choral Amen

Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.

Thy will be done in 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.

Hymn 235 God is working his purpose out as year succeeds to year,

1 God is working his purpose out as year succeeds to year,
 God is working his purpose out, and the time is drawing near;
 nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the
 sea.

2 From farthest east to farthest west where human feet have trod,
 by the voice of many messengers goes forth the voice of God,
 'Give ear to me, you continents, you islands, give ear to me,
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the
 sea.'

3 Let us go forth in the strength of God with the banner of Christ unfurled,
 That the light of the glorious gospel of truth may shine throughout the
 world.
 let us all fight with sorrow and sin to set their captives free,
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the
 sea.

4 All that we do can have no worth unless God bless the deed;
 vainly we hope for the harvest-tide till God gives life to the seed;
 yet nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the
 sea.