

Newport-on-Tay Church of Scotland



Order of Service 28th December 2025 End of Year Thanksgiving and Hope for the New Year

Welcome & Call to Worship

Minister: As the year draws to its close, we come before God — to remember His steadfast love, to give thanks for His mercy through all our days, and to place the coming year into His hands.

All: From everlasting to everlasting, You are God —
our dwelling place in all generations.

Minister: The Lord has been our help in times of joy and sorrow, our strength in the days of uncertainty, and our hope for the days yet to come.

All: We give You thanks, O Lord, for You have been good;
Your love endures forever.

Hymn 306 : O come, all ye faithful

Prayer of Approach & The Lord's Prayer [Trespasses]

Hymn 313 : See! in yonder manger low

Children's Address

Hymn 320 : Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

— Young People leave —

Readings : Exodus 3 v 13 - 15 [page 60]
Acts 4 v 5 - 12 [page 1095]
Read by Linda Robertson

Reader: This is The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Hymn 304 : O little town of Bethlehem

Sermon

Reflective Litany: Remembering and Renewing

Minister: As we come to the end of this year, we pause in the stillness before God. We remember the days gone by — the blessings received, the tears shed, the grace given.

(Pause briefly)

Minister: For the times of joy and laughter, for the gifts of friendship and love, for the moments when faith grew deep —

All: We give You thanks, O Lord.

Minister: For the times of difficulty, of loss or disappointment, for lessons learned in hardship, for Your strength when we were weak —

All: We trust You, O Lord, and we thank You.

Minister: For the life of our congregation — for worship shared, service offered, and prayers lifted, for Your guiding hand in our fellowship —

All: We praise You, faithful God.

(The congregation is invited to light small candles from the Christ Candle, symbolising gratitude for the past year and hope for the new one.)

Minister: As these lights shine before us, we remember that Christ is the Light no darkness can overcome. In Him our past is redeemed, our present is guided, and our future made secure.

All: Lord of time and eternity, we place the coming year in Your hands.
Teach us to walk in faith, to live in hope, and to love
as Christ has loved us. Amen.

(Brief silence)

Hymn 315 : Once in royal David's city

Offering brought forward & Doxology [CH4 807]
Prayer of Dedication and Intercession

Hymn 161 : O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come

Benediction & Threefold Amen
Outgoing Voluntary

Intimations

1) Welcome

Our service today will be led by our minister, Rev Dr Amos Chewachong. Please join us in the hall after the service for tea, coffee and fellowship.

2) manna

manna is closed for a Christmas break to give staff and volunteers a well deserved rest but will reopen on Tuesday 6th January at 10am.

3) Funday Sundays

Can you help? We are looking for 2 people to run an activity (your choice!) with the children on Sunday 4th January. Please let Fiona Hutchinson know by emailing fionah2208@gmail.com if you can help. This is an opportunity to share an activity with the children and for them to meet different adults in the church family. Example of activities include board games, origami, craft activities, baking, a sport or a scavenger hunt.

4) Wednesday Afternoon Club

The Wednesday Afternoon Club is taking a break over Christmas and New Year to give the helpers a well-earned break. There will be no Wednesday Club this week, 31st December.

5) Vigil for Peace

The vigil continues on Thursdays at 7pm for about 10 minutes on the Church Green, Blyth Street, Newport-on-Tay. We are continuing to Zoom the Vigils. If you would like to join on Zoom please ask Neil Merrylees or Claire Owen for the link.

6) Community Chest

During December we will be supporting the Tay Bridgehead Foodbank. Please support this when you can by buying an extra item or two at your weekly shop. There is a box available every Sunday for donations. **There is a particular appeal for tinned meat, tinned veg, tinned/packet soup and breakfast cereal.** Other suggested donations and more information can be found in the Journal. During January we will be supporting St Salvador's.

7) Daily Reflections

Our minister is recording a daily reflection which is being uploaded to the church website - <http://www.notchurch.co.uk/index.php/reflections/>

8) Prayer Requests

If anyone has a prayer request for the church prayer team, please do not hesitate to contact Alison Heywood on 0771 9367 347 or email : alisonbob@btinternet.com and she will pass the request on straight away to the Prayer team WhatsApp group. Our Church Prayer Room is a lovely quiet space available for reflection and prayer.

Intimations

9) Christian Aid Christmas Appeal

This Christmas, Christian Aid is focusing on the conflict in the DRC – Democratic Republic of Congo. The humanitarian emergency in DRC is one of the largest global hunger crises of our time with more than 27million in need of food. Almost one half of deaths of children under 5 is due to malnutrition. Christian Aid is working with trusted partners to provide money to those most in need. Red envelopes will be in the pews in December and can be placed in the Offering plate. For more information please see the Winter Journal. Thank you. Margaret Imlay

10) Request Cards

- Would you like to receive a visit or a telephone call from the Minister, your District Elder or a member of the Pastoral Care Team?
- Would you like to inform the minister of someone in need of a visit or a call?
- Are you interested in becoming a member of our church?
- Are you keen to arrange a baptism or wedding in our church?
....if so, please fill in one of the 'Request Cards' which can be found on the side of the yellow post box, which is located on the small table as you leave the church by the link corridor.

11) Post Office

The Pop-Up Post Office has now finished for the festive period and will return on Friday 9th January.

Daily Readings

Monday 29th December : Psalm 90 - "Lord, You have been our dwelling place."

Tuesday 30th December : Philippians 3 : 12 - 14 - "Forgetting what lies behind... I press on toward the goal."

Wednesday 31st December : Isaiah 43 : 18 - 19 - "Behold, I am doing a new thing."

Thursday 1st January : John 1 : 1 - 14 - "The Word became flesh and lived among us."

Friday 2nd January : 2 Corinthians 5 : 17 - "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation."

Quote of the week

God gives us the gift of time; how we use it reflects our faith.

Each day in the New Year is an opportunity to glorify Him through our choices.

Wishing you every blessing for the New Year and for 2026.