



The Church of Scotland

WELCOME



Interim Moderator: Rev Graham Austin
GAustin@churchofscotland.org.uk

Locum minister: Rev Chris Levison
chrislevison@hotmail.com

Clerks: Christine Buhler, Jane Broere
churchofscotlandgeneva@gmail.com

Sunday school: Cornis Van der Lugt
cofsgSundaySchool@gmail.com



The Church of Scotland

Auditoire de Calvin, December 7 2025

Second Sunday in Advent

We stand to sing. After the doxology and the final hymn, we remain standing.

Prelude *Can it be, Jesu, from highest heaven*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Introit *Wild and lone the prophet's voice*

1. Wild and lone the prophet's voice

echoes through the desert still,

calling us to make a choice,

bidding us to do God's will:

“Turn from sin and be baptized;

cleanse your heart and mind and soul.

Quitting all the sins you prized,

yield your life to God's control.

2. “Bear the fruit repentance sows:

lives of justice, truth and love.

Trust no other claim than those;

set your heart on things above.

Soon the Lord will come in power,

burning clean the threshing floor:

then will flames the chaff devour;

wheat alone shall fill God's store.”

3. With such preaching, stark and bold,

John proclaimed salvation near,

and his timeless warnings hold

words of hope to all who hear.

So we dare to journey on,

led by faith through ways untrod,

till we come at last like John

to behold the Lamb of God.

Carl Daw Jr (b 1944)

Welcome

Call to Worship

With nature in its power and beauty, with rain
and wind and sunshine

We gather in praise of God

With believers and seekers the whole world
wide, with people of every land and speakers
of every language

We gather in praise of God

With angels and saints in heaven, and with all
who have worshipped in this place

We gather in praise of God

With Jesus who promised his presence, and
the spirit who showers her blessings, here let
heaven and earth embrace,

Here may God's people find home.

CH4 472 *Come, thou long expected Jesus*

Prayer of approach

(The second Advent candle is lit)

Short address *Advent Garden*

CH4 284 *Hope is a candle, once lit by the prophets* (verses 1 and 2)

Old Testament *Jonah 1: 1–17*

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, “Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it, for their wickedness has come up before me.” But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord. But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up. Then the sailors were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them. Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. The captain came and said to him, “What are you doing sound asleep? Get up; call on your god! Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not perish.”

The sailors said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. Then they said to him, “Tell us why this calamity has come upon us. What is your occupation? Where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?” “I am a Hebrew,” he replied. “I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.” Then the men were even more afraid and said to him, “What is this that you have done!” For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them so.

Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?” For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous. He said to them, “Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you.” Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to bring the

ship back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them. Then they cried out to the Lord, “Please, O Lord, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man’s life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood, for you, O Lord, have done as it pleased you.” So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. Then the men feared the Lord even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows.

But the Lord provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Gospel *Mark*1:1–13

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of
you, who will prepare your way,
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight,’”

So John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tested by Satan, and he was with the wild beasts, and the angels waited on him.

Sermon *Imposter syndrome*

Offering music *Awake, the voice is calling us*
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Doxology

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

Dedication

Prayers for the world and its people



The Communion

CH4 19 *Ye gates lift up your heads on high*

The Lord be with you :

And also with you

Lift up your hearts :

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:

It is right to give him thanks and praise

In joyful praise saying:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and
might. Heaven and earth are full of your
glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The sharing

Prayers

CH4 286 *Tell out my soul,
the greatness of the Lord*

Benediction and threefold Amen

Postlude *Noel étranger*

Louis Claude Daquin (1694–1772)

Worship leader Rev Chris Levison
Welcoming elder Jane McKenzie
Ushers Vivien Liu, Jurg Strittmatter
Readers Peter Tulloch, Antonia Chapman Nyaho
Prayers Christine Colliar
Organ Rebecca Dirks MacDonald
Choir Páraic Réamonn
Sunday School Cornis Van der Lugt
Coffee & tea Jean Murray

Join us in the Salle after the service for refreshments

December 7, 19h30–20h30 Advent Bible study online with the International Presbytery.
Contact: Christine Colliar

ccolliar@churchofscotland.org.uk

December 14, 11h Service of nine lessons and carols. Conductor, Peter Tulloch. Organist, Rebecca Dirks MacDonald



Bank Account: Church of Scotland, GE
Account No. 279–C7114389.0
IBAN: CH13 0027 9279 C711 4389 0



CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
GENEVA



Website: churchofscotlandgeneva.ch