

Church of Scotland RUBISLAW PARISH CHURCH



Sunday 8th December 2019
Worship led by: Martin Greig, Reader
Organist and Director of Music: Allan Bicket
www.rubislawchurch.org.uk



Rubislaw Parish Church of Scotland, Aberdeen Scottish Charity No. SC015841

Growing together, sharing God's love, building faith, bringing hope

10.30 am

Prelude

Allein Gott in der Höh' sei Ehr' (All glory be to God on high)

J G Walther (1684-1748)

WELCOME

Lighting of the Advent Candle

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEAD: God protects us and gives us our strength.

ALL: He is always there for us in time of trouble.

LEAD: So we will not be afraid;

ALL: even if the world around us shakes.

LEAD: Let the mountains tremble, let the waters surge!

**ALL: The Lord Almighty is here among us; the God of Israel is our safety.
Amen.**

Hymn 59

O, come, and let us to the Lord

Prayers of Approach to God in Praise and Worship

The 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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever. Amen

Children's Talk

Hymn 448

Shine, Jesus, shine

(After the singing of this hymn children leave for Crèche, Sunday Club and S1-6 Group in the Church Centre)

 **WORD OF GOD** Ezekiel Ch 36 vv 19 – 28
Matthew Ch 3 vv 1 – 12

Pg 837 Pew Bible OT
Pg 5 Pew Bible NT

Anthem

Hark, the glad sound!

David Thorne (b 1950)

1. Hark, the glad sound! The Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long!
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne,
and ev'ry voice a song.
2. He comes the pris'ners to release,
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before Him burst,
the iron fetters yield.
3. He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of His grace
to enrich the humbled poor.
4. Our glad Hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with Thy beloved Name.

Prayer of Preparation**Sermon****"I will turn you around"****Hymn 273**

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Offering**DEDICATION PRAYER [said by all]**

God of grace, you make justice roll down like water in our lives.
Your love is an endless flowing stream:
feeding the hungry; helping those in need.
Our wish is that your Good News will spread out to the ends of the
earth.
And so we offer back to you our service, our money, our gifts.
We cast these things upon the waters of your love. Amen

Prayers of The People**Hymn 477**

Lo, he comes with clouds descending

Postlude

Gottes Sohn ist kommen (God's son is come) Heinrich Buttstedt (1666-1727)

Benediction**Choral Amen**

RUBISLAW CHURCH NEWS

WELCOME to worship today, especially if you are a visitor or newcomer to Rubislaw. We invite you most warmly to coffee after worship in the lounge of the Church Centre at the corner of Beaconsfield Place.

LOOP SYSTEM for hearing aid users – turn to T position.

CRÈCHE FOR BABIES AND TODDLERS every Sunday in Room 3 in the Centre, for children up to age 3. Crèche children come in to Church with their families for the first part of the service and then leave to go to the Church Centre at the same time as the Sunday Club.

SUNDAY CLUB for children 3+ and **S1-6 Group** meet today, beginning in church with families and friends followed by their programme in the Church Centre.

LIGHT LUNCHESES will be served by The Guild, in the Church Centre, after the service today. All welcome.

BIG SING to support Christian Aid's Christmas appeal to help women, particularly mothers, break free from prejudice and poverty. Come along to the Centre Lounge and sing all your favourite carols **today 4-5 pm** followed by seasonal refreshments.

All welcome, please bring your family and friends and join the fun.

GUILD Members and guests are reminded of our Christmas Party to be held in The Dutch Mill Hotel on Monday, 9th December. 6 for 6.30pm.

PARISH CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTERS Copies of the Newsletter are available in the Church Centre for District Elders to collect and distribute to members outwith the parish.

INSTANT NEIGHBOUR REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR This year, as well as the gifts for young people, we are supporting Instant Neighbour with a Reverse Advent Calendar. This is an Advent calendar where instead of opening doors, you buy items (one for each day of Advent) which will help a family in need after the Christmas and New Year period is over – a time when many families need the help of Instant Neighbour. It is a way of giving thanks for all the good things we ourselves enjoy at Christmas. The Calendar leaflets with full instructions are available in Church from today and will also be available in the Church Centre where it is hoped Centre visitors and users may support this venture.

CHURCH CENTRE will be open for coffee, tea, home bakes, in the mornings Monday – Friday, 10 am – 12 noon. Enjoy the hospitality of our Centre Lounge and entertain your friends there.

LIFE AND WORK It is time to pay your subscription for Life and Work 2020. The cost is £31 for the year. Payments can be made by cheque (made payable to Rubislaw Parish Church) or cash and handed to Mrs Edna Forbes or the Church Office. Alternatively you can transfer the money direct to the church bank account, please contact the Church Office if you would like to make a direct transfer. rubislawchurch@btconnect.com

SOUP N' PUD LUNCH FOLLOWED BY CAROL AFTERNOON Thursday 12th December. Lunch at 12.30 pm, Carol singing and music followed by a cup of tea with shortbread and mince pies will start around 2.00pm and finish around 3.30 pm.

GIFT SERVICE 15TH DECEMBER 10.30 AM This year, as in previous years, we are inviting you to buy a gift for a young person aged 10 to 12, 12 to 14, 14 to 16 who is in a care home or supported accommodation in Aberdeen. Gift tags are now available, and gifts are to be brought along to the service on 16th December.

CHURCH FLOWERS 2020 Thank you to all who have generously provided flowers this year. The List for 2020 is on the wall at the side door of the Church and you are invited to sign up for your chosen date.

SUNDAY 5TH JANUARY 2020 – CHANGE OF VENUE Worship on 5th January 2020 will now take place at Rubislaw at 10.30 am and not as previously advertised at Holburn West Church.

DRAFT PRESBYTERY PLAN: INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS The Kirk Session has recently received from the Presbytery Planning & Deployment Committee answers to questions submitted to the Committee by the Kirk Session. A Report has also been compiled on the recent Presbytery Conference attended by Rubislaw delegates and members of Presbytery. Copies of these questions/answers and the report are available at the church doors. It is hoped that, at the Kirk Session meeting in January 2020, the Kirk Session will decide on a formal response to the draft Plan.

UPDATE ON OUR MINISTER

Robert has begun a Phased Return to Work, with limited duties and limited involvement in worship for the present. It is vital that this process is not rushed, and therefore the tasks which Robert takes on will be carefully arranged.

While the Phased Return to Work is in progress, **the Interim Moderator, Rev Eddie McKenna, will remain in place and anyone requiring the services of a Minister should contact him** (07460 725353 or emckenna@churchofscotland.org.uk). Any pastoral care information or requests should continue to be passed to Margaret Parkinson or Eunice McConnach (rubislawcares@btconnect.com).

Robert and family express their deep appreciation of the continuing prayers and support of all at Rubislaw.

December Church Services

All at Rubislaw Parish Church unless indicated otherwise

Sunday 1st December
First Sunday in Advent
Lighting of the first
candle of Advent – the
candle of Hope

9.15 am Early Service
when we will celebrate
Holy Communion

10.30 am Main service

Sunday 8th December
Second Sunday in
Advent
Lighting of the second
candle of Advent – the
candle of Love

10.30 am Main Service
followed by Light Lunch

4.00 pm Big Sing in the
Church Centre in aid of
Christian Aid
followed by mulled wine /
soft drinks and nibbles

Hope
Love
Joy &
Peace



Sunday 15th December
Third Sunday in Advent
Lighting of the third
candle of Advent – the
candle of Joy

10.30 am Main Service
Children's Gift Service

Sunday 22nd December
Fourth Sunday in
Advent
Lighting of the fourth
candle of Advent – the
candle of Peace

10.30 am Main Service
Festival of Carols and
Readings

6.30 pm Beers & Carols
at the Dutch Mill Hotel

Christmas Eve
7.00 pm
Family Service

11.30 pm
Watchnight Service at
Queen's Cross Church

Christmas Day
10.30 am
Area Christmas Day
Service at Midstocket
Church



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Prayer Pointers: 8.12.19

And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Saviour of the world. 1 John 4:14

- ❖ Remember the many for whom this Christmas and New Year bring sad memories and current hardships. Ask God to bring hope and joy to sad and anxious hearts
- ❖ Pray that people in our community may grasp the meaning of Christmas, even in the midst of the other activities that compete for their time and attention
- ❖ Pray for those in our congregation who are in homes or hospitals at this time. May they know God's peace and the assurance of his individual love for them as his children
- ❖ O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell,
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel
- ❖ Love came down at Christmas! Give thanks for the Christmas season and the coming of Christ
- ❖ Pray now for yourself, family or friends and those you know who are in particular need of prayer at this time

*We give thanks Lord for the week gone by and
look to You in the week ahead*

To make a prayer request speak to Fiona Chaloner (01224 318039) or Doug Boyd (01224 633073), or place a note in an offering bag/prayer box. All prayer requests will be treated with strict confidentiality. No information will be shared outside the Prayer Group and every request will be considered anonymous unless you say otherwise. If you wish your request can also be included in the weekly prayer bulletin. As always, you may contact the Minister with any pastoral concern.