

Church of Scotland

NESS BANK

www.nessbankchurch.org.uk

Sunday 28 December 2025 at 11.00 am



1787
1788 ...
1901
1902 ...
... **2025**
2026 ...

Minister - Rev Stuart Smith

Organist - Mr Ian Livingstone

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude

(Please stand when the Bible is carried in to the church)

Welcome and intimations

Stuart Smith

Call to Worship *(Congregation standing)*

In the beginning was the Word
ALL: HE WAS WITH GOD AND WAS GOD
God spoke, and the world was created
ALL: GOD CREATED THROUGH HIM
The Word became a human being
ALL: OUR CREATOR IS AMONG US

Hymn 159 'Lord, for the years'

Opening Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

All-Age Talk

Hymn 'From the squalor of a borrowed stable'

1. From the squalor of a borrowed stable,
By the Spirit and a virgin's faith;
To the anguish and the shame of
scandal
Came the Saviour of the human race.
But the skies were filled with the praise
of heaven,
Shepherds listen as the angels tell
Of the gift of God come down to man
At the dawning of Immanuel.

2. King of heaven now the friend of
sinners,
Humble servant in the Father's hands,
Filled with power and the Holy Spirit,
Filled with mercy for the broken man.
Yes, he walked my road and he felt my
pain,
Joys and sorrows that I know so well;
Yet his righteous steps give me hope
again –
I will follow my Immanuel.

3, Through the kisses of a friend's
betrayal,
He was lifted on a cruel cross;
He was punished for a world's
transgressions,
He was suffering to save the lost.
He fights for breath, he fights for me,
Loosing sinners from the claims of hell;
And with a shout our souls are free –
Death defeated by Immanuel.

4. Now he's standing in the place of
honour,
Crowned with glory on the highest
throne,
Interceding for his own beloved
Till his Father calls to bring them home!
Then the skies will part as the trumpet
sounds
Hope of heaven or the fear of hell;
But the bride will run to her lover's arms,
Giving glory to Immanuel.

(Children leave for Sunday School)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Reading 1st Kings 19: 13-21 (OT P356) Malcolm MacBean

Hymn 485 *'Dear Lord and Father of mankind'*

Sermon *"Cloaked in Darkness"*

Music for Reflection

Prayers for Ourselves and Others

Hymn 192 *'All my hope on God is founded'*

Benediction & Choral Amen

Postlude

WELCOME TO NESS BANK CHURCH...

... especially if you are visiting. Please speak to the welcome team or fill in a pew card to ask questions, seek help, join the congregation or speak to the Minister.

Mobile Devices Please switch these off, or to airplane mode, during the service to avoid interfering with the sound system and livestreaming.

Livestreaming The front five pews and the front of the church may be included in the camera shot. Please avoid these areas if you wish to avoid being recorded.

Tea and Coffee Everyone is invited for tea and coffee in the hall after the service.

Supporting Ness Bank

An offering is taken at the door and dedicated during the service. You can give by cash, cheque, card or phone – or use the QR code here to find our Just Giving page. For regular giving by Standing Order and/or Gift Aid please contact the church administrator.



INTIMATIONS

Next Sunday (4 January 2026) The service will be conducted by Rev Stuart Smith. Tea & coffee will be served in the hall after the service.

The Guild The Guild Christmas Lunch will be at 1.00pm on **Tuesday 13 January** (12.30 for 1pm) in the Lochardil Hotel. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Anne Sutherland on 07425 154715 or 01463 238238.

Highland Foodbank Instead of issuing a specific list for December, the Foodbank launched its Reverse Advent Calendar which lists an item for each day. Any donations for December should be selected from the Calendar list. Copies of the Reverse Advent Calendar are available in the vestibule or on the notice-board.

Church Office The office will be closed on 1st & 2nd January 2026.

CONTACT US

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Church Officer: Billy Irvine - 07736 973697, **billyictfc@gmail.com**

Administrator: Mary Thomson - 01463 221812, **nessbankchurch@gmail.com**
(Office Hours: 9am – 12noon, Monday to Friday)

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