

Strathnairn and Strathdearn Church of Scotland

SC003301

Minister:

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SERVICE TIMES FOR DECEMBER

Croy Church at 10 am - The Strathdearn Hub, Tomatin at 12 noon

December 2025:

Monday 1st: Monthly Afternoon Tea in The Strathdearn Hub, Tomatin from 3-4pm.

Tuesdays 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th: Wellbeing Group at Cawdor Church at 2pm. Start with a prayer and a guiding passage from the Bible before having tea, coffee, biscuits and a chat afterwards. All Welcome.

Thursdays: 4th, 11th, 18th: Prayer Meeting in The Strathdearn Hub, Tomatin at 10.30am.

Thursdays: 4th and 11th: Bible Study at Daviot Church at 2pm.

Fridays 5th, 12th: Crafts, Coffee and Chat at Daviot church - 10.30am - 12noon. (Then stop for Christmas break.)

Sunday 7th: Who is Christ? Answers from Mary and Joseph.

Sunday 7th: Messy Church at The Strathdearn Hub, Tomatin from 2pm. All Welcome. (Children must be accompanied by an adult.)

Monday 8th: Strathnairn Guild meet at 2pm in Croy Church. Speaker: Helen Macrae - Highlands for Ukraine.

Tuesday 9th: Christmas Sanctuary Service. A gentle service for sore hearts to rest in Christmas. The Strathdearn Hub, Tomatin from 1-2pm.

Tuesday 9th: Gaelic Medium Service at 7pm in Daviot Church. (Rev Neil MacLean.)

Wednesday 10th: Guild meet at The Strathdearn Hub, Tomatin at 2pm for our Christmas Party. (Please bring a plate of food to share.)

Thursday 11th: Farr - Christmas Carol Crawl, 6.30-7.30pm. Walk from one end of the street to the other singing carols as we go. Finish at the Community Hall.

Sunday 14th: Who is Christ? Answers from Shepherds and Angels.

Thursday 18th: Christmas Carol Service (Lessons and Carols) Cawdor Church at 7pm.

Sunday 21st: Who is Christ? Answers from Wise Men and a pop-up-Nativity.

Sunday 28th: Daviot Church at 11am - Give Thanks. A service of Praise of our gathered church.

JOIN US FOR

Christmas

CHRISTMAS SERVICES / EVENTS

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Christmas

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Walk from one end of the street to the other singing carols as we go. Finish at the Community Hall.

Thursday 18th: Christmas Carol Service (Lessons and Carols) Cawdor Church at 7pm.

Christmas Eve Services

All-Age Christingle Service - 6.30 - 7.30pm in The Strathdearn Hub, Tomatin.

Watchnight Service at Croy Church at 11.15pm

Christmas Day Service at Daviot Church at 10am



EVERYONE WARMLY WELCOME AT ALL OR ANY OF OUR SERVICES OR EVENTS

Bitesize Hope with Ruth

Many of us have favourite Bible passages, I wonder what yours is?

Perhaps it is the 'Christmas story', or Noah's ark, or my namesake Ruth?! There are so many, aren't there! If I could unwrap a gift of a Bible story on Christmas Day, it would be Jesus miraculously feeding 5000 plus people with 5 loaves and 2 fish (Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-14). Not exactly a Christmas dinner, I know! Firstly they are having a picnic, which I love. They are on a hill, which I love exploring; on bike or foot! And it's a boys packed lunch that Jesus uses, we can be involved in God's miracles no matter our age!

Jesus shows that God's love looks like something for people; food, warmth, help, prayer, extraordinary and unexplainable events. Sounds like His birth in Bethlehem too. Can you imagine how the people were amazed at all the food? A bit like the shepherds being amazed as they discovered God Almighty in a manger just as the Angels told them.

The story of Jesus being born might be very familiar to us, but it is still as miraculous and amazing as it ever was. Whether we wonder about the incredible power of God to feed people or the inexplicable birth of Jesus, let's keep our sense of awe at God and expectation of miracles this Christmas. These are things I love more than adventurous picnics in the hills! The name of God 'Emmanuel' means God with us, which is why we can live in hope of God's powerful love looking like something; food, kindness, prayers, supernatural and remarkable phenomena for us and through us.

I wonder what you will unwrap from God this Christmas?

Love, peace and joy, Rev Ruth.

When God Answers Prayer

After starting a new diet I altered my drive to work to avoid passing my favourite bakery.

I accidentally drove by the bakery this morning and as I approached, there in the window were a host of chocolates, donuts, and cheesecakes. I felt this was no accident, so I prayed ... "Lord, it's up to You. If You want me to have any of those delicious goodies, create a parking place for me directly in front of the bakery." And sure enough, on the eighth time around the block, there it was! God is so good!

A Season of Expectation and Hope

As twinkling lights appear and festive preparations begin, it's easy to get caught up in the rush. Yet, the season of Advent invites us to resist the urge to rush and, instead, embrace a spirit of watchful anticipation and quiet reflection. The word "Advent" means "coming" or "arrival," a time when we prepare our hearts for the joyous celebration of Christ's birth, while also remembering that He will come again.

In a world that often feels fractured or dark, Advent is our season of hope. The flickering candles of our Advent wreath remind us that no darkness is too deep for the light of Christ. This year, let's intentionally set aside time each day to pause and consider where God is at work in our lives and in the world around us. Consider reading one chapter of Luke each day in the run-up to Christmas as suggested by Rev Ruth.

How might you use this time to practice gratitude or perform a simple act of generosity? Consider supporting a local cause or simply offering a kind word to someone in need. By opening our hearts, minds, and lives to all that God offers, we can share the love that came down at Christmas with everyone we meet.

May this Advent be a time of renewal and peace for us all as we wait in joyful hope for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

VOLUNTEER REMINDER

Thank you to all who volunteer for duty at a Sunday service, (setting-up, door, Bible, reading, collection, cleaning, tea making, etc.). The help you provide to the worship leader is much appreciated and reduces the need for others to constantly ask for volunteers. If you feel you can help with any of these duties there are rotas available for you to put your name on. Thank you again for making it easier for the service to run smoothly.