



# Markinch Parish Church Sunday Bulletin

*Minister: Revd Alex Forsyth TD BA MTh*

---

*Our Mission*

*To Worship God, Share His love and Serve His World*

---



---

*Grace To You And Peace*

*During the organ prelude please quietly prepare yourself for sharing in the service by offering a prayer and reading the lessons set for today.*

*To access the loop system switch to setting "T"*

**We enter to worship**

**Prelude - music for prayer and meditation**

Welcome & Intimations

**HYMN 286 Tell Out My Soul**

Advent Candle 2

**HYMN 314 Child In A Manger**

*The children continue their service in the hall*

Isaiah 40:6-11 p 724

I Thessalonians 5: 16 - 24 p1144

Luke 1: 26 - 38 p1026

**HYMN Blessed Be the God of Israel**

Prayers for Help & Healing

**HYMN Gentle Mary Laid Her Child**

Sermon

The Offering

**HYMN 303 It Came Upon A Midnight Clear**

The Blessing & Choral Amen

**Postlude - music for prayer and reflection**

**We depart to serve**



## Blessed be the God of Israel / Tune: Forest Green

Blessed be the God of Israel  
who comes to set us free  
and raises up new hope for us:  
a branch from David's tree.  
So have the prophets long declared  
that with a mighty arm  
God would turn back our enemies  
and all who wish us harm.

With promised mercy will God still  
the covenant recall,  
the oath once sworn to Abraham,  
from foes to save us all,  
that we might worship without  
fear and offer lives of praise,  
in holiness and righteousness  
to serve God all our days.

My child, as prophet of the Lord  
you will prepare the way,  
to tell God's people they are saved  
from sin's eternal sway.  
Then shall God's mercy from on high  
shine forth and never cease  
to drive away the gloom of death  
and lead us into peace.



**Gentle Mary Laid Her Child / Tune: Good King Wenceslas**

Gentle Mary laid her child  
lowly in a manger;  
There he lay, the undefiled,  
to the world a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place,  
can he be the Saviour?  
Ask the saved of all the race  
who have found his favour.

Angels sang about his birth;  
Wise Men sought and found him.  
Heaven's star shone brightly forth,  
glory all around him.  
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight,  
heard the angels singing;  
All the plains were light that night;  
all the hills were ringing.

Gentle Mary laid her child  
lowly in a manger;  
He is still the undefiled,  
but no more a stranger.  
Son of God, of humble birth,  
beautiful the story;  
Praise his name in all the earth;  
Hail the King of Glory!



## Markinch Parish Church 'Trees of Memories'



Over the Christmas season, our 'Trees of Memories' in the church windows offer a way to remember loved ones who are no longer with us.

Add your own inscription on the reverse of the tag before hanging it on the tree before or after the morning service.

Memory cards (£1) are available from the vestibule table. Last year more than one hundred cards adorned the trees.

All proceeds from the 'Trees of Memories' are going towards the provision of fresh-water well in rural Kenya.

(Christian Aid provide the well at a cost of £327)

## Update



**Welcome.** We hope you will feel at home and among friends. Would visitors please sign our visitors book. Please join us for coffee and a chat in the hall after the service. If you would like information about the Church or any of the organisations please see a member of the welcome team. The reader today is Ian Watt.

**Ministers Vestry Hour** 12 noon - 1.00 pm. Please contact the Minister for an appointment - phone 01592-758264 or E-mail [alex@arforsyth.com](mailto:alex@arforsyth.com) In the event of hospitalisation, serious illness, family anxiety, bereavement or personal difficulty the Minister is readily available to visit. Let him know if he can help.

**Coffee Mornings** are held on Thursdays from 10.00am - 11.30am in the church hall. Come and join us for tea or coffee and a chat. You are always welcome.

**Christian Aid** The total collected for Christian Aid so far is £233.80

**'Markinch - Its Church and Parish'** We have ordered a small quantity of hardback copies of this book in time for Christmas. If you are interested in a hardback copy please speak to Ken Wilkie as soon as possible to reserve one. They will be priced at £15. We still have paperbacks in stock, priced at £10.

**The Church Christmas Meal** will be held at Balbirnie Golf Club on Friday, 16th December. Price is £21 per person payable to Tracy Thomson by Sunday 11th December. Please bring a secret Santa gift along on the evening, to the value of £3, marking it female (F) male (M) or either (E).

**Buckhaven and Methil Brass Band Concert** in Buckhaven Theatre this afternoon, Sunday 4th December from 2-4pm. Tickets £4 and £3 concession. Tickets from Jacqueline on 01333 301115 or Bob Taylor on 01592 714613

### **Christian Aid - An Incredible Journey - YOU can help.**

This Christmas, Rogers, a modern-day wise man, will be travelling far from home to deliver hope and joy in rural Kenya. In Kenya's Nyanza Province, malaria and HIV rates are extremely high, but many sick people simply cannot access the life-saving treatment they require. Rogers, a volunteer community health worker, travels to these remote communities on a red motorbike to bring mosquito nets, healthcare and medicines to those most in need.

Rogers' selfless compassion has saved many lives and brought joy and hope to people like Patricia - a single mother and teacher living with HIV in the remote village of Usenge. Follow the journey with Rogers in an interactive map at [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk) We at Markinch Parish Church can help Rogers deliver the care that is needed by purchasing mosquito nets, home care kit, training another volunteer or even purchasing a motorbike for Rogers. Please use the envelopes included to donate and place them in the 'wishing well' in the vestibule. For more information please contact Tracy Thomson.