

New Laigh Kirk

**A caring welcoming church at the heart
of Kilmarnock reaching out to you with
the Gospel of Jesus Christ**

Welcome to Worship New Year's Day 2023



**Minister: Rev. David S. Cameron
Session Clerk: Derek I'Anson
Live Stream: Douglas Bryson
Organist: Martin C. Sharp**

Welcome

Happy New Year and warm welcome to worship this morning from all at New Laigh Kirk. We are delighted you are here today and hope you enjoy worshipping with us. Please make yourself known to those sitting beside you. We invite you to find your welcome place among us, a place to belong, to join in regular worship, to join in the life of our Kirk in whatever capacity and in your own appropriate way. Tea and coffee will be served in the church immediately after the service, please join us for company and a catch up.

May God richly bless you in your worship today.

Call to worship

Hymn 323

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay:
in fields where they lay a-keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

This star drew nigh to the north-west,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of naught,
and with his blood mankind hath bought.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

Prayer

Reading: St John 1:1-18 page 1063

Video Anthem

Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!'
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies,
with the angelic hosts proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem'.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born King'.

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;

hail, the Incarnate Deity,
pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel!
*Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born King'.*

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth:
*Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born King'.*

Reading: St Matthew 2:1-12 page 966

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star:

*O Star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to Thy Perfect Light.*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring, to crown Him again
King for ever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign:

Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh:
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worship Him, God most high:

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb:

Glorious now, behold Him arise,
King, and God, and sacrifice!
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Earth to heaven replies:

Prayer of Intercession

Heavenly Father, thou hast brought us
Safely to the present day,
Gently leading on our footsteps,
Watching o'er us all the way.
Friend and Guide through life's long journey,
Grateful hearts to thee we bring;
But for love so true and changeless
How shall we fit praises sing?

Mercies new and never-failing
Brightly shine through all the past,
Watchful care and loving-kindness,
Always near from first to last,
Tender love, divine protection
Ever with us day and night;
Blessings more than we can number
Strew the path with golden light.

Shadows deep have crossed our pathway;
We have trembled in the storm;
Clouds have gathered round so darkly
That we could not see thy form:
Yet thy love hath never left us
In our griefs alone to be,
And the help each gave the other
Was the strength that came from thee.

Many that we loved have left us,
Reaching first their journey's end;
Now they wait to give us welcome,
Brother, sister, child, and friend.
When at last our journey's over,
And we pass away from sight,
Father, take us through the darkness
Into everlasting light.

Sermon

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn 159

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the Word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.

Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfort in pain;
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Benediction

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Thank you to everyone who participated in any way to New Laigh Kirk Advent and Christmas services and activities. Your time and talent and your welcome and enthusiasm has been much appreciated.

Worship on Sunday, 8th January 2023 will be conducted by Rev Alastair Symington beginning at 11.00am.

Ignite and Trekkers resume on Sunday, 15th January and meet in church at 10.50am and sit together prior to going over to the hall.

Happy New Year
from all at
New Laigh Kirk



The Church of Scotland