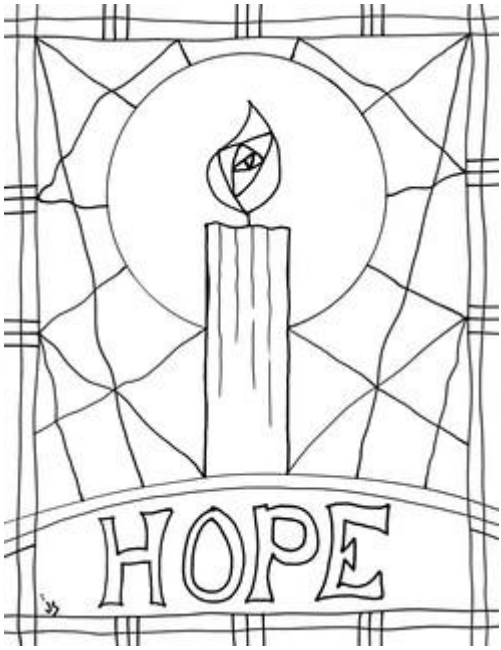
BELLSHILL: CENTRAL PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 29th November 2026 at 11am

First Sunday of Advent
Joint Cluster Service



'Until the dawn…Cry Out'

We hope you enjoy worshipping God with us and feel at home in our Christian community.

Worship is led by Rev Muriel Pearson, Interim Minister

Order for Worship

Please stand as the Bible is placed in the pulpit

INTROIT – Gospel Greeting

Welcome and Intimations

Call to Worship

In God's house, **we may come exactly as we are.**
In God's house, **we dare to hope. We dream new dreams.**
We cry out. We call upon God.
In God's house, **all are welcome and all are heard.**
So come and worship. **God is here. God is listening.**
Let us worship our with-us God.

HYMN 189 – Be still, for the presence of the Lord

Prayer and Lord's Prayer words on screen

ALL AGE WORSHIP including Advent Candle

When the nights are long and the roads are hard,
we turn our eyes to the stars.
When the work is demanding and injustice unending,
we stand together, arm in arm.
When fear looms large and grief weighs heavy,
we cry out to God without holding back.
And when the dawn of tomorrow feels far away,
we gather together to light the candle of hope.

(Light candle)

Like the stars above, may this light shine bright.
May it guide our path. May it inspire deeper hope.
Until God's promised day, may it be so. **Amen.**

HYMN GWA 90 – We are a people of hope (v1)

READINGS – Psalm 80: 1-3;17-19, Isaiah 64:1-9, Mark 13: 23-27

HYMN 66 – Lord, hear my prayer! (v 1-4) tune: My Neighbour

SERMON

HYMN 543 – Longing for Light (Christ be our light)

Offering & Dedication

Anthem – Waiting for Bethlehem's light

Prayers for Others

HYMN 622 – We sing a love that sets all people free (v1-4)

Benediction and Threefold Amen

In the love of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Until the dawn comes - **We wait**
With impatient patience
Until the dawn comes - **We wait**
And as we wait, we watch and work and hope
And all for Love's sake.

And now, may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Be with us and those we love, this Advent time and always
(sung Amen)

Please remain standing as the Bible is removed from the pulpit

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT BCPC. Whether you're here in person or online, a regular or visiting today, we warmly welcome you. Livestream via: www.youtube.com/bellshillchurch.

JOINT SERVICE – We welcome every member of Holytown, Kirk O Shotts, Newarthill & Carfin, and Wrangholm Kirk – this is the first opportunity for our 5 congregations to worship together, and we pray God's blessings on our time of worship. Tea and coffee will be served afterwards.

PREACHING ROTA – Sunday 6 December Rev Margaret Rose;
Sunday 13 December Rev Margaret Rose (Communion)

READERS – today, Naomi Dornan; next week, Stanley Cook

FLOWERS – To donate financially, place your gift in the offering marked Flower Fund. To donate flowers, see Susan McGleish. Today, flowers are gifted by Lynne Swan

CAROLS AND A MESSAGE – tonight at St Andrews UF Church at 6.30pm after the Bellshill Christmas Lights switch on.

PRAYER GROUP meets tomorrow at 7:30pm. Find the Zoom link in the church chat. It's a relaxing conversation and all are welcome. For future meetings, speak to Naomi or email prayer@bellshillcentral.church.
PRAYER BOOK – Add names or situations to the book at the front door.

THE GUILD - tomorrow at 1.30pm - St Andrews Day with Alan Mathew. All are welcome to come along.

BOWLS and **CHOIR** meet on Wednesdays. All welcome!

TEA AND COFFEE will be served next week after worship.

SELECTION BOXES – please continue bringing your boxes and leave at the side tables. These will once again be donated to our 3 local primary schools (Lawmuir, Mossend and Noble).

PASTORAL – let Stanley or your elder know of any folks in hospital, not well, bereaved, etc, or just needing a visit.
Rev Margaret is very happy to offer Home Communion to anyone who wishes it. If you would like her to visit, please phone 01357 671664.
NB: number is a landline and can't receive texts.

SOME CHRISTMAS DATES FOR YOUR DIARY @ BCPC

Thursday 10 December 7pm – Sing a Song for Christmas
Friday 11 December 7pm – Time to Remember at Sacred Heart
Saturday 12 December 3pm – Miracle on 34th Street Film Show
Sunday 13 December 11am – Communion Service
7pm – Candlelight Carols in the Church
Friday 18 Decemember – 2:30pm Carol singing at Hattonlea
Sunday 20 December – Morning Service with Lessons and Carols
Monday 21 December – 2:30pm Carol Singing at Beechwood
7pm Blue Christmas Prayer Service

TIME TO REMEMBER/BLUE CHRISTMAS PRAYER SERVICE - please email names to ttr@bellshillcentral.church to have them read out and remembered.

WHATS ON AROUND THE CLUSTER THIS WEEK

Wednesday 2 December – **Newarthill** – 6pm Big Christmas Sing
Thursday 3 December – **Kirk O Shotts** - 1.30pm Carol service Kirk O Shotts Primary
Sunday 6 December – **Wrangholm Kirk** – Joint service with New Stevenston Methodist Church
Sunday 6 December – **Holytown** – Christmas Lunch

REQUESTS – Alan is happy to play a requested piece of music or slot in a favourite hymn, raising funds for the **ORGAN FUND.**

ORGAN FUND – Annette has created 4 lovely pictures to be raffled. These are £1 per strip; see Annette if you're interested.

OFFERINGS: If you'd like to switch to bank transfer, speak to June or Zandra. **GIFT AID:** If you're a UK taxpayer, we can claim back 25p per £1. For details, please see June or Donis.

ONC DONATIONS – There is a box in the vestibule to drop off non-perishable food stuffs for ONC. **On the first Sunday of the month**, we invite everyone to bring one item for the appeal.

If you wish to join our church family — by profession of faith or transfer from another church — speak to Stanley Cook.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – Lord, like the psalmist, we cry out for Your saving presence and ask that You restore us when our hearts grow weary. Isaiah reminds us that despite our weakness and failures, we remain the clay in the hands of a loving and merciful God. Jesus calls us to stay watchful and faithful, trusting that He is at work even amid uncertainty and trials. Let us live with hope, knowing that God gathers His people, renews their strength, and leads them into His light.

DUTY TEAMS

This week:	Door Duty:	Nicky and Hugh Ainsley
	Counting:	Drew and Jane Aitken
	Flowers:	Liz Morton and Sheena Bowman
	Screen:	Zandra Swan
Next week:	Door Duty:	Jessie Bence and Helen Daly
	Counting:	Tom Taylor and Linda Robb
	Flowers:	Helen Daly and Jessie Bence
	Screen:	Lynne Swan

Our mission statement:

"We seek to look forward in faith, to worship God and to serve him in the community. To offer hope of a better future and to encourage people of all ages to know and love Jesus as Lord and Saviour."

BELLSHILL CENTRAL PARISH CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

A Warm Welcome Awaits Everyone

Saturday 28 November	**12 noon** Christingle Service **1.00pm** Afternoon Teas with Santa
Sunday 29 November	**First Sunday in Advent** Joint Service
Sunday 6 December	**Second Sunday in Advent** Teas after Church
Thursday 10 December	**7.00pm** Sing a Song for Christmas
Friday 11 December	**7.00pm** Time to Remember at Sacred Heart
Saturday 12 December	**3.00pm** Miracle on 34th Street Family Film
Sunday 13 December	**Third Sunday in Advent** **11.00am** Communion **7.00pm** Candlelight Carols
Friday 18 December	**2.30pm** Carol Singing at Hattonlea
Sunday 20 December	**Fourth Sunday in Advent** **11.00am** Service of Lessons and Carols
Monday 21 December	**2.30pm** Carol Singing at Beechwood **7.00pm** Blue Christmas Prayer Service
Thursday 24 December	**7.00pm** Family Christmas Eve Service
Sunday 27 December	**11.00am** Final Service as BCPC

ALL ARE WELCOME

Bellshill Central Parish Church

346 Main Street, Bellshill ML4 1BA