

## Church Bulletin

We are a congregation of the Free Church of Scotland. We gather each Lord's Day to praise and worship the only true and living God.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022**



### SUNDAY SERVICES

We gather for public worship this Lord's Day at 12.00noon and at 6.00pm. More details on the Congregation and our ministry are available on our website [here](#).

#### Services this Sunday

The Minister is on holiday this weekend. The services will be taken by Mr Donald Macleod, Park (Gravir), in the Minister's absence. We thank Donald for being with us once more. We pray that God would bless the word preached and He would continue to strengthen Donald as he approaches the end of his training for ministry.

#### Psalm Singing

The praise will be led by our precentor and the Psalms for this Lord's Day are as follows:

	12.00 Noon Service		6.00pm Service	
1	Psalm 121:1-6	Psalter (416)	Psalm 150:1-6	Psalter (451)
2	Psalm 103:1-4	Psalter (369)	Psalm 130:1-8	Sing Psalms (421)
3	Psalm 8:1-4	Psalter (207)	Psalm 23:1-6	Psalter (28)

#### Audio-visual Equipment

We are still running with our interim arrangements for live streaming as we await the repair of our ATEM live stream switch. The switch has a 3-year repair warranty, and it has been returned to the supplier. We await an update on the repair.

#### English Services

The English services in the Church at 12.00noon and 6.00pm will be live streamed on our **YouTube Channel** [here](#). An audio recording of both services will be available on Sermon Audio as soon as possible after the services end. The services can be accessed on the Shawbost Free Church **Sermon Audio Page** by clicking [here](#).

#### Gaelic Service

There will be no pre-recorded Gaelic services available on Sermon Audio this Lord's Day due to the Minister being on holiday.

### COVID RESTRICTIONS

The First Minister announced this week that as from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April, the legal requirement to wear a face covering in places of worship will be removed. This includes marriage ceremonies, funeral services, and commemorative events, such as a memorial service. It also includes those ceremonies that take place in venues other than places of worship.

We welcome this development and this further step to normality after the restrictions of the past two years. However, we continue to be concerned about the high number of COVID-19 cases in our communities at this time. If anyone attending our services feels anxious about the ongoing COVID-19 situation, and wearing a face covering helps to allay such anxiety, please feel free to continue using your face covering. We will continue to observe the one-metre physical distancing in our services in the meantime to further help allay people's anxieties in public gatherings.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

There will be no Sunday School this Lord's Day due to the School holidays. We pray that parents and children will be kept safe and blessed during this holiday season. Kathleen Murray intimated her desire earlier in the year to step down from her role as Sunday School teacher. She finished her time in the Sunday School last Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022. We sincerely thank Kathleen for her work and ministry in the Sunday School since her appointment in December 2018. We pray the Lord's blessing for her in her life and in her home.

### PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY

The weekly Prayer and Bible Study meeting will be in Bragar Meeting on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 7.00pm. The meeting will be led by the Elders in the Minister's absence.

## STUDENT PLACEMENT

The Minister and the Kirk Session are pleased to announce that Mr Matty Guy, who is on his third year at ETS training for the ministry, will be on a six-week placement in the congregation during the summer. We expect that the placement will commence around the third week in June. Matty's wife Jody, who is from Carloway, is expecting their first child at the end of May. We pray for Matty as he continues his studies, and we pray for both him and Jody as they await the birth of their child.

## THE CONFLICT & CRISIS IN UKRAINE

We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine in the ongoing invasion of Russia and the war situation that has developed. The atrocities brought to our attention daily in the media is but a small percentage of the ongoing suffering and loss and the displacement of so many Ukrainians to other countries for refuge.

### Donation

The Deacons Court agreed this week to make a donation of £1,000 towards the appeal for help and support of the people of Ukraine. The donation will be made through the Slavic Gospel Association appeal which will ensure that 100% of the donation will go directly to where it is needed most.

Further news, updates on the ongoing situation in Ukraine, and options for making donations are available on the following links: Blythswood – <https://blythswood.org/donate-to-ukraine-appeal/>; Slavic Gospel Association - <https://www.sga.org.uk/ukraine-crisis/>; Moldova Group - [www.moldovagroup.org](http://www.moldovagroup.org); Tearfund - <https://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/ukraine-crisis>; SBS - <https://scottishbiblesociety.org/appeals/ukraine-appeal/>

## STORNOWAY STREET PASTORS

Stornoway Street Pastors will be taking on new Street Pastors this year. If you are interested in becoming a Street Pastor or would like more information then please email the Coordinator, Janis Brand, in order to obtain an application form: [stornoway@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:stornoway@streetpastors.org.uk). All application forms must be submitted by 1 May 2022. Training will begin later in the year.

## CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE – WEEK OF PRAYER

The Christian Institute is asking folk to join their Week of Prayer – Spring 2022 from 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> April. The Week of Prayer Booklet can be downloaded from the Christian Institute website [here](#).

## PFOA – PRAYER POINTS

The following are prayer points issued by the Mission Board under the Praying For One Another Scheme (PFOA) in the past week.

### Golspie

Give thanks to God for his faithful goodness, especially over these past two years. He has sustained and blessed the congregation throughout that time. Pray that the Golspie church would have the necessary vision/wisdom to know how to proceed as Covid regulations ease up and that the necessary energy and love for Him would be sustained.

### Bon Accord

Please pray for our outreach and evangelism in the run-up to Easter. We have been using the Passion for Life training resources to help us speak to those we know about the hope we have in Christ. Pray for opportunities for us to do so, for our Easter services and subsequent Hope Explored course, so that that many would hear the gospel and believe.

Please pray for our Bible Handling Training, which is being run for the first time with a group of student leaders in the congregation. Pray that this training would help lay a foundation for a lifetime of faithful service for those involved. Pray also for wisdom as we develop and deliver this training over the coming months.

## Dumisani Theological Institute, South Africa

We rejoice that once again the Lord has supplied all needed lecturers for Dumisani Theological Institute, Eastern Cape, South Africa for Term Two which started on March 14<sup>th</sup>. We thank the Lord for one new lecturer this term, Tinus Herman from Pretoria. Please pray that Tinus will find lecturing at Dumisani a real blessing.