

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 5th December 2021



SUNDAY SERVICES

We gather for public worship this Lord's Day at 12.00noon and at 6.00pm. Both the services will be conducted in English and taken by the Minister.

Services this Sunday

At the 12.00noon service we will continue with our study of *The Son of Man Discourses in Matthew*. We will look at Matthew 11:11-19 and the subject of 'The Son of Man & The Progress of the Kingdom.'

At the 6.00pm service we will continue our study of *The Warning Passages in Hebrews*. We will look at Hebrews 10:26-31 and the subject of 'Faith & The Danger of Rejecting Jesus'

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 147:1-8	Psalter (446)	Psalm 135:13-21	Psalter (426)
2	Psalm 111:6-10	Psalter (391)	Psalm 44:17-23	Psalter (266)
3	Psalm 25:12-15 (SM)	Psalter (232)		

English Services

The English services in the Church at 12.00noon and 6.00pm will be live streamed and will be available on the Shawbost Free Church of Scotland **YouTube Channel** by clicking [here](#). An audio-only recording of the English services will be available on Sermon Audio at 2.00pm for the 12.00noon service and at 8.00pm for the 6.00pm service. The services can be accessed on the Shawbost Free Church **Sermon Audio Page** by clicking [here](#).

Gaelic Service

A pre-recorded video service conducted in Gaelic from the same passage as the 12.00noon English service will be available on our YouTube Channel at 10.30am on Sunday. The audio-only recording of the Gaelic service will be available at 12.00noon on Sunday on the Shawbost Free Church Sermon Audio Page. The audio-only recording of the Gaelic Service will also be available on the Twilio service, accessed by dialling 0131 510 2471.

COVID Restrictions

We continue to observe the one-metre physical distancing in our services in the meantime to help allay people's anxieties in public gatherings in the light of the ongoing presence of the COVID-19. We will also continue the practice of taking a register of all those attending our services.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will meet this Lord's Day as usual with young people joining the Service as usual at 12.00noon and moving to the Church Hall for the Sunday School at 12.15pm.

PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY

The weekly Prayer and Bible Study meeting will take place in the Church at 7.00pm this Wednesday, 8th December 2021. We will continue our study of the *Letter of James*. We will observe the same one-metre physical distancing and take a register of those attending the meeting in line with our practice for Sunday services.

CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE

The [Weekly Bulletin](#) is available under the News item on the Main Menu bar of the Website. The Lord's Day services can also be accessed on the Website. A Donations & Givings option has been added to the Main Menu to give contributors and donors options and facilities for supporting the work of the Congregation.

CONDOLENCES

We note with sadness the passing of Kristeen Maclean's father on Wednesday 1st December at the age of 91. We remember Kristeen and Murdo (59 North Shawbost), with Lauren Ann and Gillian, along with the wider

family, in our prayers as they mourn a loving father, father-in-law, and grandfather. We especially remember Kristeen's mother, Katie Bella, as she mourns the loss of a loving husband and long-time life partner.

LOCAL CHRISTMAS PRAISE NIGHT

There will be an evening of Christmas carols and festive songs held in The Old School Centre, Shawbost, on Saturday 18th December at 7.00pm, featuring Elsa McTaggart and Gary Lister. Tickets are available at the Shawbost Post Office or at the Elsa Jean McTaggart Music website by clicking [here](#).

HIGH FREE CHURCH CHRISTMAS PRAISE NIGHT

The High Free Church, Stornoway, invites you to a Christmas Praise Night on Saturday 11th December at 7.30pm in the Stornoway Town Hall. A collection will be taken at the door for Western Isles Women's Aid.

CHARITY ALBUM - WFM

The Cross, Ness, Women for Mission (WfM) Group has arranged for a CD of seven Christian songs to be recorded by Isabel Macleod, Carloway, to raise funds for WfM. There are two Christmas songs on the CD making it an ideal Christmas gift.

Commenting on how the recording came about Isabel said, "The idea for the CD came from the Cross WfM group earlier this year. I had recorded one song for them as an online fundraiser for Dwelling Places and that led on to recording a few more to make this CD. The profits made from the sale of the CD will go to the WfM fund to support this year's projects."

The CD costs £6 and it can be paid in cash or by bank transfer. Please order by 15th December for delivery before Christmas. Copies can be ordered by emailing isabeljmac@hotmail.com with payments being taken by bank transfer.

NEW CAMPS' COORDINATOR

The Church has appointed Mairi Beaton as the new Free Church Youth Camps' Coordinator. Mairi was born and brought up in Oban and has spent the last few years living in Glasgow and working on kid's TV shows. She is now looking forward to taking on the challenge of coordinating the Free Church Youth Camps. Please pray for FCYC and Mairi as they begin to organise and prepare for next year's camps. Information on the Free Church Youth Camps can be found on the website [here](#).

ASSISTING DYING CONSULTATION

The Public Engagement Group of Free Church of Scotland has responded to the consultation on Liam McArthur's Proposed [Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults \(Scotland\) Bill](#). The Public Engagement Group in their response stated that a proposal for "assisted dying" should seek to address all of the many complex needs surrounding end of life care. However, Liam McArthur's proposal is wrongly focused exclusively on what should be called "assisted suicide". It is true that introducing assisted suicide into law would "create a new standard for how we die", however, it would be a move in the wrong direction – a move away from excellent palliative care towards involving healthcare professionals in killing patients. It would result in a huge amount of pressure being placed on the most vulnerable in our society to end their lives. It would result in a more unjust society.

Rev. Stephen Allison, co-ordinator of the group said, "As a Christian church we are called to speak up for the vulnerable in our society ([Proverbs 31:8-9](#)) and accordingly, we cannot be silent but must speak clearly to warn of the inevitable harms associated with these proposals." More details, and access to the Church's response, can be found on the Free Church website [here](#).