



**SHAWBOST  
FREE CHURCH**



THE VISION OF THE  
FREE CHURCH OF  
SCOTLAND IS



**A Healthy  
Gospel Church  
for Every Community  
in Scotland**



**CHURCH BULLETIN**

**SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

## INTRODUCTION

We are a congregation of the Free Church of Scotland. We gather for public worship on the Lord's Day at 12.00noon and at 6.00pm. We use the ESV version of the Bible in the public worship of God. We use both the Scottish Psalter and Sing Psalms versions of the Psalms for the praise items in our public worship. More details on the Congregation and our ministry are available on our website [here](#).

## SUNDAY SERVICES

The service today will be taken by the Minister. This Lord's Day we will continue a series of sermons on some of the promises of the coming of the Son of God into the world and how these promises unfold in the New Testament. At the 12.00noon services we will focus on some Old Testament promises and at the 6.00pm services we will look at how these promises are fulfilled in the birth, life and work of the Lord Jesus in the New Testament. The title of the series is *The Unfolding of God's Promises in the Life of Jesus*.

At the **12.00noon service today** we will study Isaiah 7:1-17 and the promise of the virgin birth of Jesus. The sermon title is *The Unfaithful King & God's Intervention*.

At the **6.00pm service today** we will study Luke 1:26-38 and look at the words spoken by the angel to Mary to explain the conception of Jesus. The title of the sermon is *The Virgin Mary & God's Intervention*.

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 95:3-11	Psalter (357)	Psalm 105:4-9	Psalter (374)
2	Psalm 4:1-6	Sing Psalms (3)	Psalm 139(a):13-18	Sing Psalms (181)
3	Psalm 113:5-8	Psalter (393)	Psalm 102(ii):16-22	Psalter (368)
4	Psalm 89:25-29	Psalter (346)	-----	-----

## 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](#).

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will meet as usual this Lord's Day. We pray the Lord's blessing on our parents and children under the ministry and teaching of God's Word.

## Tea, Coffee & Mince Pies

Next Lord's Day, Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December, tea and mince pies will be served in the Church Hall at the close of the service and the Sunday School. A small gift will also be available for the children. Parents and children are encouraged to join us for a time of informal chat as we approach the end of the year and as the Sunday School goes on holiday until January 2023. The congregation is also encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity for informal fellowship and to meet with the parents and children.

## PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY

The Prayer and Bible Study Meeting will take place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 7.00pm in the Bragar Meeting Hall. We will resume our study of matters relating to *Christian Maturity*. This week's study will be focused on *Coping with Suffering*.

## CONGREGATIONAL FINANCE

### Envelopes & Magazine Subscriptions

In order to finalise the financial accounts for the end of the year, contributors are requested to hand in all 2022 Envelopes and Magazine Subscription by Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December at the latest. The subscription for The Record is £2.00 per issue. The Record moved on to bi-monthly editions from June onwards with the bi-monthly as the same price of £2.00. The total subscription for 2022 comes to £18.00. Please hand in your subscription for The Record in an envelope clearly marked 'The Record' and with your FWO envelope number.

## Free Will Offering Envelopes

The Deacons Court has agreed a new system for contributors' envelopes. In the past we have issued new envelopes to contributors at the end of March for use from the beginning of April (the beginning of the tax year). In the new system, we will issue envelopes by the end of December for use from the beginning of January (the beginning of the calendar year and the accounting year). Contributors are instructed to discard the envelopes they currently hold on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 and to start using the new envelopes from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023. Thanks in advance for helping the Deacons Court through this transition.

## New Contributors

If there is anyone who is not on the list of contributors, and who wishes to make regular donations to the ongoing work of the gospel and of the Church, should contact the Congregational Treasurer, Mr Neil Macleod. Neil will help set up a means of donating regularly that suits your personal requirements and preferences.

## MINISTER'S DIARY

The Minister's Diary for the coming weeks includes the following meetings:

Date		Event	Location
Mon	12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Minister's CPD Meeting	Zoom
Tue	13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Presbytery Finance & Strategy Meeting	Zoom
Thu	15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Presbytery Meeting – North Tolsta	In person
Tue	20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Ordinary Meeting of Presbytery	In person
Wed	21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Shawbost School Assembly	In person

## CHRISTMAS PRAISE EVENING

The High Free Church, Stornoway, have arranged a Christmas Praise Evening for Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in the Stornoway Town Hall. Refreshments will be available at the end of the evening. Monetary and food donations in aid of the Salvation Army/Eilean Siar Food Banks will be gratefully accepted at the door.

## FREE CHURCH YOUTH CAMPS 2023

Registration for [Free Church Youth Camps 2023](#) opened on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022. God willing, there will be 9 camps in Summer 2023 and all the information about them (including Team Leaders & Costs) is now available online. The information on the Camps Programme is available by following the link above.

The Free Church Youth Camps are a brilliant week of fun and games, activities, and challenges, and lots of tasty food. But most importantly they are a week of discipleship for young Christians in our congregations, and an opportunity for young people that aren't yet Christians to learn more about Jesus and His relevance to their lives. It is amazing to see and hear of the impact the Free Church Youth Camps have had over the last 62 years. Please pray with us for that to continue for many years to come.

## PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

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

### Monday - Greenock

Please pray that the congregation would have the necessary finances to have a settled ministry soon.

### Tuesday - Mull and Coll

Give thanks for the installation of live streaming technology in the Oban church. Pray that it will be of benefit to the Mull and Coll congregation as they meet together, alongside the in person monthly services.

### Wednesday - Healthy Gospel Church

Pray that each one of us becomes more intentional in sharing the Gospel. We pray for boldness, an assurance of our beliefs and opportunities to share the good news with our loved ones, colleagues, neighbours and in our communities.

### Thursday - Dumisani Theological Institute

We rejoice and give thanks to the Lord for the graduation of Principal Wilbert Chipenyu of Dumisani Theological Institute & Bible School from North-West University with his PhD in missiology. All glory and honour be unto our gracious Lord.

**Friday – IMJP LONDON**

During her door-to-door ministry, Ida Tam met Alice, an elderly Jewish woman who wants to read the Bible. As Ida meets with her and shares God's Word, please pray that Alice will come to meet Jesus in a true and saving way.

**Saturday - Greenock**

Pray that the Lord would send to us and raise up deacons and elders in the congregation.

**Sunday - Dumisani Theological Institute**

Continue to pray now for the final stages of the accreditation process at Dumisani. The paperwork is completed and the site visit was at the end of November so now a decision will be made at some point. Please lift this matter up before the Lord.