



**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> September**

## 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 services today will be taken by the Minister. The sermon at the **12.00noon service** will be based on Esther 4 and 'A Faithful Queen in Her Time.' The sermon at the **6.00pm service** will be based on Psalm 2 and the title 'The Coronation of the New King.'

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	Psalms 45:6-11 (SM)	Psalter (269)	Psalms 21:1-6	Psalter (225)
2	Psalms 45(a):12-17	Sing Psalms (58)	Psalms 68:17-21	Psalter (303)
3	Psalms 54:1-7	Sing Psalms (70)	Psalms 149:1-4	Psalter (450)
4	Psalms 119:43-48	Psalter (403)	-----	-----

### 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

The ongoing arrangements for the availability of Gaelic sermons on the Sermon Audio Page and on YouTube is under review and any changes going forward will be announced in due course.

### Services next Lord's Day

The Minister is on holiday next Lord's Day. The services in his absence will be taken as follows: (1) **12.00noon English in the Church** – Mr Phil Picket (Minister in Training); (2) **6.00pm English in the Church** – to be confirmed.

## THE PASSING OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

It was with a deep sense of sadness that we learned of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022. We are thankful for her seventy years of faithful, devoted, and exemplary service as our Queen since her Coronation in 1953. Please see additional note for a more detailed comment on Her life and service.

### One Minute Silence

We will observe a period of one minute silence **before the first item of praise** as we reflect on the Queen's passing and give thanks for Her life and service.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will meet as usual this Lord's Day.

## PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY

The Prayer and Bible Study Meeting will take place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 7.00pm in the Bragar Meeting Hall and will be led by the Elders in the Minister's absence.

## MINISTER'S DIARY

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

Date	Event	Location
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup> September	One week's Holiday	
Tue 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Ecumenical Relations Committee Meeting	Zoom

Thu	29 <sup>th</sup> September	Mission Board Meeting	Zoom
Tue	4 <sup>th</sup> October	Commission of Assembly	Zoom

## BARVAS & CARLOWAY COMMUNIONS

The Communion Services at Barvas will take place this coming weekend with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper observed and dispensed next Lord's Day, Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September. On this occasion, we will continue with our Lord's Day service as usual and with no interruption. The whole arrangement for closing for neighbouring communions will be reviewed in due course. We pray for the congregations and for the visiting Ministers at both Barvas and Carloway.

## PAKISTAN, EAST AFRICA AND UKRAINE EMERGENCY APPEALS

The Free Church has sent donations to Pakistan, East Africa, and Ukraine Emergency Appeals. There is a deepening, ongoing crisis in each of these areas and we pray for those affected as we seek in some small way to help alleviate their suffering. The Church, through its Disaster and Relief Fund, is sending £6,000 to Tearfund for their appeal in Pakistan, £5,000 to Tearfund towards their work in alleviating suffering due to the food crisis in East Africa, and £4,000 to facilitate the work of UFM partners within Ukraine and Ukrainian Refugees. More information is found on the Free Church website [here](#).

## VACANCY – FINANCE MANAGER

The Free Church of Scotland has a vacancy for a Finance Manager. This is a challenging and varied role based in the Central Offices in Edinburgh. The Finance Manager will have strong accounting skills, be experienced in financial reporting, be highly organised and self-motivated and will have a desire to manage Church finances well. Experience of charity finance and guiding non-finance stakeholders would be helpful.

There is an Occupational Requirement under the Equality Act 2010 for the post holder to be a committed Christian. As such, the successful candidate will be a Christian with an active commitment in a local church congregation, who is supportive of the values, aims and ethos of the Free Church of Scotland.

More details on the post and on the application process are available on the Free Church website [here](#).

## 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 - North Harris

Give thanks for a full creche. For a few years we had no babies but, having prayed for the creche to fill up, we've been blessed with four new babies in the last few months. Pray that they will grow up to know Jesus.

### Tuesday - Central Office

Pray for the Board of Trustees meeting which takes place this week.

### Wednesday - Raasay

Pray for all those on the periphery of church, that they will come to know Christ.

### Thursday - Osamu and Mairi, Japan

The location where the church service is held in Shichigahama town is beside the beach. Many people come to swim and to do surfing. Pray that those people come to the beach this summer see the church notice and join the service.

### Friday - Dumisani Theological Institute

Pray for challenges facing Dumisani Theological Institute and all in South Africa with the rolling electricity cuts which are sometimes for six hours per day. It presents challenges for computer work, teaching of computer courses, and also lights for evening classes. May solutions be found for this problem across the nation.

### Saturday - North Harris

Pray for a number who are struggling with illness, a few who haven't made back out since Covid restrictions. Pray also for those who have recently lost loved ones and are grieving.

### Sunday - Richard and Barbara, a European City

As classes restart, we will be helping children in the families we visit with their studies again. May the Lord give these young friends success in their studies, guard them from the many temptations all around them and open their minds and hearts to the truth as it is in Jesus.

## **QUEEN ELIZABETH II**

**21<sup>st</sup> April 1926 – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

It was with a deep sense of sadness and national loss that we learned of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, the longest-reigning monarch in British history, on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at the age of 96.

Queen Elizabeth II was born on 21<sup>st</sup> April 1926, Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor. She was the firstborn of the Duke and Duchess of York and the first grandchild of the reigning monarch, King George V. Elizabeth's father acceded to the throne in 1936 as King George VI when his brother, King Edward VIII, abdicated in order to marry divorcée Wallis Simpson. She acceded to the throne on 6<sup>th</sup> February 1952 on the death of her father, King George VI, while in Kenya.

Her 70-year reign has been characterised by continuous and wholehearted commitment to what she believed was her God given position as Sovereign over the United Kingdom. We are deeply thankful for her many years of unstinting and devoted service as Queen of country and commonwealth. As a people, we were blessed by the grace with which she fulfilled all her duties, and by the compassionate and humble way in which she engaged with people of all ages, origins, religions, and nationalities.

We are especially thankful to God for her personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and her trust in God all the days of her life. This was clear in her request when delivering her first Christmas address in 1952 prior to her coronation - "I want to ask you all, whatever your religion may be, to pray for me on that day," she said, "to pray that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life." Her commitment to God and to His Word in Her service as our Queen was evidenced time after time throughout her life as we can see from the following statement she made - "For me the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life. I, like so many of you, have drawn great comfort in difficult times from Christ's words and example."

We extend our deepest and prayerful sympathy to the Royal Family as we enter a time of national mourning: Their Royal Highnesses, Charles, Anne, Andrew, and Edward, together with their spouses; also to Her eight children and twelve grandchildren.

We also pray for King Charles III as he accedes to the throne after the passing of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II. We pray that he will know his mother's faith, strength, grace, and wisdom in every area of his life as our King.

Rev. Iver Martin, Moderator of the General Assembly, has posted a note of thanks to God for the life of the Queen on the Free Church Website which you can find [here](#). Other tributes which are worth reading can be found on the Christianity Today [website](#) and the Christian Institute [website](#).