

## 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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. Our [Church Bulletin](#) is available under the News item on the Main Menu bar of our [Website](#).

#### Services this Sunday

At the 12.00noon service we will turn to consider the account of *The Birth Narratives* in the Gospel of Luke. This Lord's Day we will look at Luke 1:26-38 and 'The Descent and Design of God's Love.'

At the 6.00pm service we will complete our study of *The Warning Passages in Hebrews*. We will look at Hebrews 12:12-17 and the subject of 'Faith & The Danger of Neglecting Privileges.'

#### 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 113:1-8	Psalter (393)	Psalm 3:1-8	Psalter (201)
2	Psalm 102:13-18 LM	Psalter (368)	Psalm 74:1-3	Psalter (317)
3	Psalm 139:13-16	Psalter (433)		

#### 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 Bragar Meeting House at 7.00pm this Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE - COLLECTION

The War Memorial Committee are pleased to announce that the sum of £635 was raised from the collection taken at the Remembrance Sunday Service on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November. The Committee wishes to thank all who contributed to the collection. They also wish to thank the community for its interest in the upkeep and ongoing maintenance of the War Memorial.

### LOCAL CHRISTMAS PRAISE NIGHT

There will be an evening of Christmas carols and festive songs held in The Old School Centre, Shawbost, on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> 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](#).

### **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](mailto:isabeljmac@hotmail.com) with payments being taken by bank transfer.

### **FREE CHURCH YOUTH CAMPS 2022**

The new Free Church Youth Camps' Coordinator, Mairi Beaton, is pleased to announce that registration for the Free Church Youth Camps 2022 is now OPEN. The programme offers eleven camps in four different locations across the country. The camps are a great opportunity to make new friends, take part in various activities, games and challenges, as well as learning more about the Bible and its relevance to our lives. The registration deadline is Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022. More information on the FCYC Programme and how to register is available on the Free Church Youth Camps website [here](#).

### **STIRLING DISCRIMINATION CASE SETTLED**

Scotland's largest grant-making trust has formally apologised to [Stirling Free Church](#) for unlawful discrimination. [The Robertson Trust](#) settled a claim with Stirling Free Church after it cancelled a rental agreement solely on grounds of religion. An agreed settlement has now been reached in which the Trust admits it "acted unlawfully" and apologised to the church. It has also paid a substantial contribution towards legal costs.

Simon Calvert, Deputy Director for Public Affairs at [The Christian Institute](#), which backed the claim against The Robertson Trust said: "This settlement is another important reminder that if you discriminate against Christians for their beliefs, whether you do so in the workplace or the marketplace, you are probably breaking the law. Equality and human rights law firmly protects the ability of Christians to hold and express their beliefs, whether on sexual ethics or anything else."

### **PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER**

**12<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

#### **Desable (PEI Western Charge)**

**Minister: Rev. Kent Compton**

Western Charge is one of the Free Church congregations on Prince Edward Island, Canada.

Prayer Points:

1. Please give thanks for the ongoing ministry and witness of the congregation to the surrounding community. Pray that God would draw more people to hear the gospel and come to faith in Jesus.
2. Pray for Kent and his wife Ishbel as they continue to serve in Prince Edward Island. Pray for Kent as he continues to preach, pastor, and lead the congregation.

#### **Callanish**

**Minister: Rev. Malcolm Macdonald**

Callanish is a small rural congregation in the Isle of Lewis. The name Callanish is associated with clusters of Standing Stones which attract countless visitors annually.

Prayer Points:

1. As Covid is more prevalent within the Islands, pray that families would be kept safe and that those who are apprehensive about coming to church would have their minds put at ease.

- 
2. Pray that Christ would possess the place of central import in our life particularly as we as a society struggle to accommodate counter claims of varying degrees of import.