

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.

13th October 2024



WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE TODAY

Today's services will be taken by Rev Thomson Mackenzie. We extend a warm welcome to Thomson and wife Arelene and pray they will know God's blessing during their time with us in Shawbost. Our services are livestreamed at: <https://www.youtube.com/@shawbostfreechurchofscotland>

At the **12.00 noon service**, the Scripture reading will be from Matthew 28 and will focus on verses 11-20. The sermon is entitled *A Task Unfinished*.

At the **6.00pm service**, the Scripture reading will be from Philippians 2:5-11 and Matthew 28:11-20. The sermon is entitled *Who has Authority over Your Life?*

	12:00 Noon Service		6.00pm Service	
1	Psalm 100 (i)	Scottish Psalter	Psalm 40:1-5	Scottish Psalter
2	Psalm 110:1-5	Scottish Psalter	Psalm 22:25-31	Sing Psalms
3	Psalm 81:8-16	Scottish Psalter	Psalm 9a:7-11	Sing Psalms
4	Psalm 18:43-50	Sing Psalms	Psalm 130	Sing Psalms

SUNDAY SCHOOL

There will be no Sunday School due to the school holiday.

SERVICES NEXT LORD'S DAY

The services next Lord's Day will be taken by Rev Thomson Mackenzie.

PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY

The prayer meeting and Bible study will take place on **Wednesday 16th October at 7pm in the Church Hall**. Everyone is most welcome and encouraged to attend.

A PATTERN FOR OUR DAYS – SINCLAIR FERGUSON (Transcript from a podcast - listen here at ligonier.org)

Imagine if I asked you, which is the sixth commandment? Unless you happen to have learned the catechism, you might have to go back to the beginning and count them out on your fingers. But there are one or two commandments many of us know just by their number, and the fourth commandment is one of them. It's the commandment about the Sabbath day. And maybe of all the commandments, it's the one that gets some Christians hot under the collar. No stealing, no adultery, no bearing false witness, no coveting—we get these. We never dream of openly ignoring them. But keeping the Sabbath, we certainly could take the whole week on this commandment, couldn't we? Explaining it, discussing it, trying to clarify what it says and also what it doesn't say. And I don't plan to do that but let me say just a couple of things that I hope might be helpful.

The first is this: it's a mistake to think that the Sabbath commandment is either only about one day in the week or all about one day in the week. If you think about it, the truth is, it's really about every day of the week: six days you shall labour and do all your work, and one day rest from that labour.

I sometimes think that what this law means is that God is giving us a kind of time and motion tool for balancing our lives. So, if you were to ask me, "Is it OK to do this on Sunday?" unless it's clearly unbiblical, I would respond, "Well, tell me why are you thinking of doing that on Sunday?" And often the question is answered, "I don't have time in the rest of the week." And that's the problem, because what the commandment is teaching us is if that's our answer, then it's not just that we may be misusing the Sabbath, it's that we are misusing the whole week. So, the Sabbath commandment is not just about keeping or guarding the Sabbath, it's about living a healthy, balanced life all week long.

Continued over page

And here's a second thing to remember: the commandment implies that we've been given the six-plus-one pattern because we've been created as the image of God. The Sabbath commandment reminds us of this because it's grounded in the pattern by which God created the world—six days of divine activity and one day to rest, admire, and enjoy it. And when we follow that pattern, we are really just being what we were made to be: the children of God made as His image and likeness, patterning our lives after His activity. So, this is a commandment that reminds us of our dignity and destiny as men and women. We've been created as the miniature image and likeness of the Creator, and so we live after His pattern.

And here's something else I think is quite interesting. The first Sabbath day was not Adam's seventh day. It was God's seventh day, but it was Adam's first full day. It was as though God was saying to him, "I want your existence to begin with a time to admire everything I have made, and then you can go on from there and imitate Me."

What a gift the Sabbath is, and what a marvellous safeguard of our lives. I hope you feel it really is a gift to you, and I hope you find it really does safeguard the way you live the whole week.

PARK FREE CHURCH COMMUNION SERVICES (October 18th –20th October)

Friday 18 th October	7.30pm	English	Rev Douglas MacKeddie retired
Saturday 19 th October	7.00pm	English	Rev Douglas MacKeddie retired
Lord's Day 20 th October	11.30am 6.00pm	English English	Rev Douglas MacKeddie retired

PRAYER POINTS 14TH OCTOBER - 20TH OCTOBER 2024

Monday 14th October - Hope Church Coatbridge

Please pray for the four non-Christians that attended our recent Christianity Explored course. Please pray for the lady who was so sad when it ended and will be doing one on one Bible study with our church worker Chloe.

Tuesday 15th October - Kirkcaldy

Please pray for Josh and Ashley Underwood, and their 2 boys, Gabriel and Elihu. The Underwoods are an MTW family hoping to move to Kirkcaldy in February. They are currently 90% funded. Please pray that the final 10% would be found soon, and for suitable accommodation to be found in Kirkcaldy. Pray that the Lord would use them greatly as they serve here.

Wednesday 16th October - National Day of Prayer

Please pray for the Day of Prayer taking place on Wednesday the 27th of November, that as we gather as a denomination to pray together, the Lord would be at work and that we would see His hand upon all things and that His Kingdom would grow.

Thursday 17th October - Hope Church Coatbridge

Please pray for God's blessing on the two men who will be set apart as elder and deacon later this month.

Friday 18th October - Dumisani

Pray for the speaking tour of Dr Chipenyu later in October, talking about Dumisani and its expansion plans. May he be kept safe and in good health.

Saturday 19th October - Hope Church Coatbridge

Please pray for the congregation as it enters a period of vacancy on November 1st. Pray for wisdom for Tom Penman the interim moderator and the vacancy committee when it is formed.

Sunday 20th October - Kirkcaldy

Remember our next Meal with a Message event on Saturday 30th November. This is a 2-course meal with a Christian talk between the courses. Pray for Bob Akroyd as he speaks on the topic of suffering and pray that the church family would be bold in inviting people along.

ONLINE PETITION

In connection with Tesco's proposed Sunday opening, an online petition has been initiated by Alasdair Macleod, Stornoway. It can be found at change.org and it can also be accessed [here](#) or on the congregation website.