

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.

15th December 2024



WELCOME TO OUR SERVICES TODAY

Today's services will be taken by Rev Kenneth Ferguson. Our services are livestreamed at: <https://www.youtube.com/@shawbostfreechurchofscotland>

At the **12.00 noon service**, the Scripture reading will be from Ezekiel, chapter 36, verse 33 through to chapter 37, verse 14. The sermon will focus on Ezekiel 37, verse 3.

At the **6.00pm service in the Church Hall**, the Scripture reading will be from Book of Psalms, Psalm 27, verses 1 – 14, with a focus on verses 4 and 5.

	12.00 Noon Service		6.00pm Service	
1	Ps 5:1-7	Scottish Psalter	Ps 91:1-6	Scottish Psalter
2	Ps 119:9-16	Sing Psalms	Ps 25:1-9	Sing Psalms
3	Ps 137:1-6	Scottish Psalter	Ps 63:1-8	Sing Psalms
4	Ps 113:5-9	Scottish Psalter	Ps 65:1-4	Scottish Psalter

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will be at the usual time today and the children will go to their classes during the second item of praise.

SERVICES NEXT LORD'S DAY

The Services next Lord's Day will be taken by Rev Donald A MacDonald

PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY

The prayer meeting and bible study will take place on **Wednesday 18th December at 7pm in the Church Hall**. Everyone is most welcome and encouraged to attend.

SATURDAY NIGHT PRAYER MEETING

All are welcome to an informal prayer meeting in the Manse at **7pm on Saturday evenings**.

KIRK SESSION INTIMATION

The Kirk Session is pleased to intimate that Ms. Christine Macleod, Tannochbrae, 14 North Bragar, has been added, by profession, to the congregational communion roll.

CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

There will be a congregational fellowship on **Lord's Day evening 22 December**, immediately following the 6pm service. The speaker will be Rev Murdo Campbell.

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

The Kirk Session has agreed to run a Christianity Explored course starting in the **second week of February**. To book a place or for more information, please speak to one of the Elders.

PREACHING SUPPLY SCHEDULE

The Interim Moderator has made provisional arrangements for preaching supply for the period January – June 2025. The schedule, which is subject to change, can viewed on the congregation website in the [NEWS](#) section. For those not able to go online, some hard copies can be collected at the main door.

PRAYER POINTS 16TH DECEMBER - 22ND OF DECEMBER 2024

Monday 16th December - London City

Pray for our Christmas outreach events throughout December. Pray that all our events would effectively communicate the message of the Gospel. Pray that people would be drawn to trust the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. Pray for the formation and follow up on connections that will be made, God willing.

Tuesday 17th December - Turkey

Shopping centres in Turkey are full of lights, tinsel, snowflakes, and Santa Claus figures in December, even though the country is 99% Muslim. These are "New Year" decorations, rather than for Christmas. Pray for the tiny Turkish Christian Church as they try to communicate the truth of the Gospel to those around them this month.

Wednesday 18th December - Badenoch

Please pray for discussions within the congregation about how best to develop the ministry in coming months and years. Give thanks for some promising developments and a positive attitude within the congregation.

Thursday 19th December - London City

Pray for the planning of the 20/30s weekend away in February: Please pray for a smooth planning process. Pray for Bob Akroyd as he prepares his messages. Pray that this weekend would serve as a time of spiritual growth, fellowship, and would lead to rich and lasting friendships among our young adults.

Friday 20th December - Dumisani

Pray for all lecturers at Dumisani to be able to clearly articulate and communicate a solid Christian worldview for all students at Dumisani and make this very applicable and pointed to their situations. Pray for the Spirit's work through their teaching.

Saturday 21st December - Turkey

Pray for Christian FM radio channels broadcasting in cities in western Turkey - that those who hear would come to know Christ as Saviour and not simply reject the message because of their prejudices against the Christian faith.

Sunday 22nd December - Badenoch

Please pray that the Lord would provide two Christian families who would move into the area as a deliberate act of mission to support and get involved in the congregation.

THE LARGER CATECHISM

Q. 20. What was the providence of God toward man in the estate in which he was created?

A. The providence of God toward man in the estate in which he was created, was the placing him in paradise, appointing him to dress it, giving him liberty to eat of the fruit of the earth; putting the creatures under his dominion, and ordaining marriage for his help; affording him communion with Himself; instituting the Sabbath; entering into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of personal, perfect, and perpetual obedience, of which the tree of life was a pledge; and forbidding to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, upon the pain of death.

[Gen. 2:8](#); [15-16](#); [Gen. 1:28](#); [Gen. 2:18](#); [Gen. 1:26-29](#); [Gen. 3:8](#); [Gen. 2:3](#); [Gal. 3:12](#); [Rom. 10:5](#); [Gen. 2:9](#), [17](#).

PRAYER – JOHN BUNYAN

Prayer is a sincere, affectionate pouring out of the soul to God, through Christ, in the strength and assistance of the Spirit, for such things as God has promised in His Word. Prayer opens the heart to God, and it is the means by which the soul, though empty, is filled with God's grace. The truths that I know best, I have learned on my knees. I never know a thing well, until it is burned into my heart by prayer.

*Sincere prayer is . . .
a shield to the soul,
a scourge to Satan, and
a fragrant and pleasing sacrifice to God.*

Prayer will make a man cease from sin, or sin will entice a man to cease from prayer.

When you pray, rather let your heart be without words-than your words be without heart.