

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.

20th October 2024



WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE TODAY

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

At the **12.00 noon service**, the Scripture reading will be from Matthew 28:11-20. The sermon is entitled *Are You Ready to Serve?*

At the **6.00pm service**, the Scripture reading will be from Matthew 28:11-20. The sermon is entitled *Are You Seeking the Promise?*

	12:00 Noon Service		6.00pm Service	
1	Ps 98:1-4	Sing Psalms	Ps 107:1-9	Sing Psalms
2	Ps 116:13-19	Scottish Psalter	Ps 23	Sing Psalms
3	Ps 2:7-12	Sing Psalms	Ps 22: 3-9	Scottish Psalter
4	Ps 103:1-11	Sing Psalms	Ps 72:17-19	Scottish Psalter

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 Murdo Campbell.

PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY

The prayer meeting and Bible study will take place on **Wednesday 23rd October at 7pm in Bragar**. Everyone is most welcome and encouraged to attend.

VACANCY COMMITTEE

There will a meeting of the Vacancy Committee on **Monday 4th November at 7pm** in the Church Hall.

GARRABOST FREE CHURCH COMMUNION SERVICES (October 24th -27th October)

Thursday 24 th October	School Road: 7.30 pm	Gaelic	Rev Paul Murray
Friday 25 th October	Main Road: 7.30 pm	English	Rev Colin Macleod
There will be a fellowship in the Manse after the service.			
Saturday 26 th October	School Road: 7.00 pm	English	Rev Mark Macleod
Lords Day 27 th October	School Road: 11.00 am	English	Rev Mark Macleod
	Main Road: 6.00 pm	English	
There will be a fellowship in the Main Rd hall after the evening service.			

CHURCH BULLETIN - DISTRIBUTION LIST

The weekly bulletin sheet is usually uploaded to the congregation website on Saturdays and can also be emailed to individuals in advance of Lord's Day services. If you would like to be included in the church bulletin distribution list, then please advise Dan Macphail or email dan.macphail@icloud.com

PRAYER POINTS 21st OCTOBER - 28th OCTOBER 2024

Monday 21st October - Smithton

We give thanks for the recent induction of Rev Davi de Paula as Assistant Minister, and pray God's smile to rest upon Davi, Emma and their family.

Tuesday 22nd October - Urray and Strathconon

Please pray for the leaders amongst us who are engaging with eldership training and seeking to produce a development plan.

Wednesday 23rd October -Turkey

The Timothy Project in Turkey is looking for a new staff member to coordinate fund-raising, publicity, and other admin. Pray for wisdom in choosing the right person, and for strong relationships between all the members of the Timothy ministry team. Give thanks for all those who have attended writers' seminars this year and contributed articles to the magazine.

Thursday 24th October - Smithton

Pray that the regular weekday outreach to the community through various groups would be a means by which people would come to hear of God's care for them.

Friday 25th October - Urray and Strathconon

For the congregation who desire to see growth through the Holy Spirit blessing the preaching of the word and contacts from the Noah's Ark tots group, youth club and other informal conversations. We would like to see a Hope Explored course run early in the new year.

Saturday 26th October - Turkey

The Haberci (Messenger) publishing company has been producing Christian books in Turkey for many years. In the past, most books they have printed have been translations from English into Turkish. This year the Timothy Project is co-operating with them in publishing two series of books written by Turkish believers, on theological topics and practical issues. Please pray for God's continued blessing on Haberci's work and also on this latest project.

Sunday 27th October - Smithton

Services were being live-streamed at Smithton for several years before lockdown. Give thanks for those who regularly link to the congregation this way and pray for much gospel fruit to be evidenced.

THE EARLY CHURCH FATHERS - ST AMBROSE OF MILAN (339-97)

I, even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgression for Mine own sake and will not remember thy sins. (Isaiah 43:25)

Let's submit ourselves to God, and not live under sin's power. In remembering our past transgressions, let's blush as at some scandal, and not speak of them as a credit to us, as some brag of conquering modesty or crushing their sense of justice. We should be so thoroughly converted, that we who once didn't know God now proclaim Him to others. The Lord, seeing this conversion, will answer us: "Ephraim is from youth a dear son, a pleasant child. Since My words are in him, I will surely remember him. Therefore I hastened to help him; I will surely have mercy on him, says the LORD" (Jer. 31:20, Septuagint). The Lord also shows us the mercy He promises us: "I have saturated every thirsty soul, and satisfied every hungry soul. Therefore I awoke and beheld, and my sleep was sweet to me" (Jer. 31:25-26, Septuagint). We notice the Lord promises His sacraments to sinners.² So let us all be converted to the Lord!

If no one else is converted, however, make sure you repent; you have fallen from purity and faith's high peak by many stumbles. We have a kind Lord, whose desire is to pardon all. He called you through Isaiah: "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions, and I will not remember them. But you remember, and we will plead together" (Isa. 43:25-26, Septuagint). He says, "I won't remember, but you remember." That is, "I don't recall your transgressions which I've forgiven, sunk into My forgetfulness, as it were. But you should remember them. I won't remember them because of My grace. You should remember them to correct yourself, to know the sin is forgiven. Don't boast of innocence; this will worsen the sin. Confess your sin and be justified!" A chastened confession of sins undoes the chains of transgression

² Saturating the thirsty = Baptism. Satisfying the hungry = the Lord's Supper.

(Reading for 20th October - Our Sins Buried in God's Forgetfulness)