

## 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.

22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024



### WELCOME TO OUR SERVICES TODAY

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

At the **12.00 noon service**, the Scripture reading will be from Matthew 2:1-12. The sermon will focus on verse 1 and is entitled *Wise Men from The East*.

At the **6.00pm service in the Church Hall**, the Scripture reading will be from John 1:1-18. The sermon will focus on verse 14 and is entitled *The Lord Dwelling Among Men*

	12.00 Noon Service		6.00pm Service	
1	Ps 2:6-12	Sing Psalms, Pg 2	Ps 8:1-5	Sing Psalms, Pg 7
2	Ps 118:15-22	Sing Psalms, Pg 156	Ps 40:6-10	Sing Psalms, Pg 51
3	Ps 119:59-64	Scottish Psalter, Pg 405	Ps 132:13-18	Scottish Psalter, Pg 423
4	Ps 72:17-19	Scottish Psalter, Pg 314	Ps 84:4-10	Scottish Psalter, Pg 338

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

### CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

There will be a congregational fellowship **tonight** immediately following the 6pm service. The speaker will be Rev Murdo Campbell.

### SERVICES NEXT LORD'S DAY

The Services next Lord's Day will be taken by Rev Calum MacDonald.

### PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY

There will be **no** prayer meeting and bible study on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December or Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> December**.

### 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. Please remember this item in prayer.

### 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.

*Always respond to every impulse to pray (Dr Martyn Lloyd Jones)*

### PRAYER POINTS 23<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER – 29<sup>th</sup> OF DECEMBER 2024

#### Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Dunblane

Please pray for our recent Craft for Kids where we had around 200 children through the building. There were crafts to tell the Christmas story and leaflets about church activities were given out. Please pray for relationship building and that some people may engage with us again by coming to our services or activities.

#### Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December - Plockton and Kyle

Please pray that ongoing work with children and young people in the congregation would bear much fruit and that a new inter-church initiative amongst primary age kids in the community would be well supported.

#### Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day

Give thanks for the birth of our wonderful Saviour, born in humility which is celebrated by Christians worldwide today. Please pray that the world would know and remember the true celebration of Christmas, that Christ was born as a Saviour for our sins. Give thanks for all the outreach events which have taken place sharing this message and pray that many lives would be transformed.

#### Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December - Dunblane

Give thanks for The Ark, a group for 0-5s and their big people. We began this in January. Please pray for more people to come and for them to come to know Jesus.

#### Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December - Muriel Macleod, Cambodia

Give thanks to God for His faithfulness throughout a challenging year. Praise God that the four girls that stay in the dorms, along with their friends, meet with leaders each week for bible study.

#### Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> December - Dunblane

Please continue to pray for three 'F's. Praying for more families to join with us at DFC; praying for our finances to continue to be stable; praying in thanks for another 5-year ministry term approved.

#### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December - Plockton and Kyle

Pray that our love for our neighbours would inspire us to be more intentional in our evangelism.

### THE LARGER CATECHISM

#### Q. 21. Did man continue in that estate wherein God at first created him?

A. Our first parents being left to the freedom of their own will, through the temptation of Satan, transgressed the commandment of God, in eating the forbidden fruit, and thereby fell from the estate of innocency wherein they were created.

[Gen. 3:6-8, 13](#); [Ecc. 7:29](#); [2 Cor. 11:3](#).

#### Q. 22. Did all mankind fall in that first transgression?

A. The covenant being made with Adam, as a public person, not for himself only, but for his posterity; all mankind descending from him by ordinary generation, sinned in him, and fell with him in that first transgression.

[Acts 17:26](#); [Gen. 2:16-17](#); [Rom. 5:12-20](#); [1 Cor. 15:21-22](#).

#### Q. 23. Into what estate did the fall bring mankind?

A. The fall brought mankind into an estate of sin and misery.

[Rom. 5:12](#); [Rom. 3:23](#).

### THE SMALL COINS OF LOVE! - (J.R. Miller, "Evening Thoughts" 1907)

*"Be kind and compassionate to one another" Ephesians 4:32*

"We should be always kind. Nothing is more helpful than kindness. Nothing else does more to brighten the world and sweeten other lives. Kindnesses are the small coins of love. We should always be ready to scatter these coins wherever we go. Kindnesses are usually little things that we do as we go along our daily path — wayside acts, touches, words, little helpful things. We never know when we do any little thing in love for Christ, what the end of it will be — what a harvest of good will finally come from it. It is better to do a thousand little kindnesses every day, than to do a great deed of love once in a year, and then fail to be kind in the common days."

*"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." Colossians 3:12*