

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.

23rd June 2024



WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE TODAY

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

At the **12:00 noon service**, the Scripture reading will be from Revelation Chapter 1. The sermon will focus on verse 7 and is entitled *The Returning Jesus*.

At the **6.00pm service**, the Scripture reading will be from Hebrews Chapter 11, v1-31. The sermon will focus on verse 8 and is entitled *Going By Faith*.

	12.00 Noon Service		6.00pm Service	
1	Psalm 96:1-6	Scottish Psalter	Psalm 107:1-9	Sing Psalms
2	Psalm 96:7-end	Sing Psalms	Psalm 105:4-9	Scottish Psalter
3	Psalm 1	Scottish Psalter	Psalm 45(i):10-15	Scottish Psalter
4	Psalm 2:7-end	Sing Psalms	Psalm 48:9-end	Sing Psalms

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school will be at the usual time today during the service and the children will go to their classes in the Hall during the second item of praise. The **Sunday School prize giving** will take place at the end of the service. Please be encouraged to come along.

SERVICES NEXT LORD'S DAY

The services next Lord's Day will be taken by Rev Donald A MacDonald (Retired).

CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

There will be a congregational fellowship immediately following the evening service **next Lord's Day (30th June)**. The speaker will be Tam MacLennan.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

The congregational AGM will take place on **Wednesday 26th June at 7pm** in **the Church Hall**. An overview of the audited Congregational Accounts for 2023 will be provided. Everyone is welcome to attend.

SATURDAY NIGHT PRAYER MEETING

All are warmly welcome to an informal prayer meeting in the Manse on Saturday evenings at 7pm. Please access the Manse via the rear door.

BEREAVEMENTS

We note with sadness the passing of Neil Macleod (South Shawbost) and George Morrison (North Shawbost). Please remember both families, as well as close friends and neighbours, in prayer.

PRAYER POINTS 24th – 30th June 2024

Monday 24th June - Turkey

A church in Istanbul has recently begun question and answer sessions on Saturdays for people from the surrounding area. Pray for wisdom in selecting the topics, and that those who attend would recognise the truth and come to know the Saviour. Pray also for protection from all who would want to stop such activities.

Tuesday 25th June - South Uist and Benbecula

Please pray for the congregation in their time of vacancy, that they would be strengthened and that they would be able to call a minister to the congregation.

Wednesday 26th June - Govan

Please pray that the Lord would provide the right man to minister in Govan, and that the congregation would continue to grow and be strengthened by the Lord. Give thanks for how He has looked after His people and for the ongoing witness in Govan.

Thursday 27th June - South Uist and Benbecula

Please pray for the people in the communities of South Uist and of Benbecula, that their hearts would be softened to the gospel.

Friday 28th June - Govan

Give thanks for the many ministries which run out of Govan, particularly the recovery groups and the work of Street Connect, that through these lives would be transformed as individuals encounter Jesus.

Saturday 29th June - Free Church Youth Camps

Please pray for the first two camps which head out today, Kincaig Kids 1 and Junior Football. Please pray that travel will go smoothly and that the children and young people attending these camps would know the Lord's work in their life. Pray that any coming along who do not yet know him, would proclaim Christ as King over their life.

Sunday 30th June - Turkey

Pray for a congregation in the south-east of Turkey which is hoping to build a new church in a more central area of their city. Pray that permission would be given and that funding would be found. Give thanks for the growth of the congregation which has made this necessary.

THE EARLY CHURCH FATHERS: ST JEROME (347-420)

Reading for 23 June – *Traps Laid by the Tongue*

Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from trouble (Proverbs 21:23)

Don't fish for praises. You might gain people's applause, but offend God. "If I still pleased men," Paul says, "I would not be Christ's servant" (Gal. 1:10). When he became Christ's servant, Paul stopped pleasing men. Christ's soldier goes marching on through praise on the right hand, blame on the left. Applause doesn't thrill him, criticism doesn't crush him. He isn't lifted up by riches, nor depressed by poverty. He treats joy and sorrow with equal disdain. The sun doesn't smite him by day nor the moon by night.

Don't pray at the street-corners, in case human applause disturbs the straight path of your prayers. Don't enlarge the borders of your garments and wear phylacteries for display, nor cloak yourself in the Pharisee's self-parading, contrary to conscience. Do you want to know how the Lord would see you clothed? With wisdom, fair-mindedness, self-control, courage. Let these encircle your horizon; let them be a four-horse team to carry you, Christ's charioteer, at top speed to your finishing-line. There's no necklace more costly than these; no precious stones form a more dazzling constellation. These adorn you, gird you, safeguard you on every side. They are your protection as well as your glory; every gem becomes a shield. And beware the gossiping tongue and itching ears! Neither criticise others nor listen to critics. The psalmist says, "You sit and speak against your brother; you slander your own mother's son. These things you have done and I kept silence; you thought wickedly that I was just like yourself, but I will rebuke you and set your sins in order before your eyes" (Ps. 50:20-21). Hold your tongue from complaining; watch your words. Realise that in condemning others, you pass sentence on yourself: you are guilty of the very defects you charge against them.