

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.

3rd March 2024



WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE TODAY

Today's services will be taken by Rev Iain MacRitchie (Paicr Free Church). Our services are livestreamed at: <https://www.youtube.com/@shawbostfreechurchofscotland>

At the **12:00 noon service** the Scripture reading will be from Mark 4:1-29 and the service will focus on the section verses 1-20, the *Parable of the Soils*. At the **6.00pm service**, the Scripture reading will be from Colossians. Focussing on verse 27, the sermon is entitled *The Hope of Glory*. The praise will be led by our precentor(s) and the Psalms for this Lord's Day are as follows:

	12.00 Noon Service		6.00pm Service	
1	Psalm 84:1-5	Scottish Psalter	Psalm 130	Scottish Psalter
2	Psalm 34:1-9	Sing Psalms	Psalm 146:1-8	Sing Psalms
3	Psalm 126	Sing Psalms	Psalm 62:1-8	Sing Psalms
4	Psalm 40:1-5	Scottish Psalter	Psalm 71:14-16	Scottish Psalter

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The children will go to their classes in the Church Hall during the second item of praise.

GAELIC SERVICE

The Gaelic Service in **Bragar on 3 March at 6pm** will be taken by Donald Morrison, Bragar.

SERVICES NEXT LORD'S DAY

The services next Lord's Day will be taken by Mr Phil Pickett, Minister in Training.

DEACONS' COURT

There will be a meeting of the Deacons' Court on **Monday 4th March, 7.30pm** in the Church Hall.

WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY

The weekly prayer meeting and Bible study on **Wednesday March 6th at 7pm** will take place **in Bragar**. Everyone is most welcome and encouraged to attend.

FAITH IN SCOTLAND'S CONSTITUTION

"Faith in Scotland's Constitutional Future" is a project of the School of Critical Studies / Theology & Religious Studies at the University of Glasgow, led by Professor Heather Walton and the Rev Dr Doug Gay. This is an ecumenical, non-partisan and politically/constitutionally neutral research project exploring how folk in churches relate faith to constitutional questions in Scotland. As part of this project, twelve regional events for church members/adherents are taking place around Scotland. There will be an event at **Martin's Memorial Church in Stornoway on Tuesday 12th March, 7 pm – 9.30 pm**. You and the members of your congregation(s) are cordially invited and very welcome to come. Admission is free. After video presentations from four Christians prominent in Scottish politics (two pro-Union and two pro-Independence) the discussion will involve listening respectfully to one another's positions and arguments. This will aim towards relating this difficult and emotive topic to the common Christian faith of participants. For more information visit www.faithinscotlandsconstitutionalfuture.wordpress.com

PROVIDENCE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL - HEAD TEACHER & PART-TIME TEACHER ADVERT

Providence Christian School are seeking applications for two important teaching positions at the school - a Head Teacher and a Part-Time Teacher. The closing date for both positions is **22nd March**. There are also opportunities for paid supply teachers and classroom assistants, as well as volunteers. For more information about the posts, please get in touch by email at office@providencechristian.school.

COMMUNION SCHEDULE 7th-10th March 2024

Scalpay Free Church

Thursday 7th March	7.00pm	English	Rev I Thomson
Friday 8th March	12.00 noon 7.00pm	Gaelic English	Rev I Thomson Rev D. Randall
Saturday 9th March	8.30am 12.00 noon 6.00pm	Prayer Meeting English Prayer Meeting	Elders Rev D. Randall Bi-Lingual - Elders
Lord's Day 10th March	8.30am 12.00 noon 6.00pm	Prayer Meeting English English	Elders Rev I Thomson Rev D. Randall

There will be a short bi-lingual prayer meeting after the evening service

Cross Free Church

Friday 8th March	7.30pm	English	Rev Prof J A Macleod
Saturday 9th March	12.00 noon 6.00pm	English G/E - Prayer Meeting	Rev Prof J A Macleod Elders
Lord's Day 10th March	11.00am 6.00pm	English English	Rev Prof J A Macleod Rev Prof J A Macleod

The evening service will be followed by a fellowship

North Harris Free Church

Friday 8th March	12.00 noon 7.00pm	Gaelic English	Rev R Morrison Rev R Morrison
Saturday 9th March	12.00 noon 6.00pm	English Prayer Meeting	Rev K I Macleod Elders
Lord's Day 10th March	12.00 noon 6.00pm	English English	Rev K I Macleod Rev K I Macleod

THE MIGHTY MEN OF PRAYER OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION

J. C. RYLE (1816-1900): *To abide in Christ means to keep up a habit of constant close communion with Him—to be always leaning on Him, resting on Him, pouring out our hearts to Him, as our Fountain of life and strength, and our chief Companion and best Friend. To have His words abiding in us, is to keep His sayings and precepts continually before our memories and minds, and to make them the guide of our actions and the rule of our daily conduct and behavior. Christians of this stamp, we are told, shall not pray in vain. Whatever they ask they shall obtain, so long as they ask things according to God's mind. No work shall be found too hard, and no difficulty insurmountable. Asking they shall receive—such men were Martin Luther, the German Reformer, and our own English martyr, Hugh Latimer. Such a man was John Knox.*

F. W. KRUMMACHER (1796-1868): *Prayer burst the fetters of Peter and broke open the doors of his prison. Prayer rebuked storms, healed the sick, and brought back the dead to life. And what shall I say more of the power, the wonders, and the performances of prayer—the whole Scripture is full of them. But prayer sleeps amongst us; for what we call praying, morning and evening, according to custom—the sleepy, dull, and heartless repetition of devotional language—does not deserve the name of prayer.*