

## Weekly Church Bulletin

We are a congregation of the Free Church of Scotland. We gather together each Lord's Day to praise and worship the only true and living God.

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021**



### LORD'S DAY SERVICES – CHURCH RE-OPENING

We are thankful to gather (DV) in the Church this Lord's Day, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021, for the public worship of God. We meet at 12.00noon and the Service will be conducted in English by Rev Donald A MacDonald (Retired, Kinloch).

We welcome that the whole of Scotland has moved into Protection Level 3 of COVID-19 restrictions. The cap of 50 people attending a Church service is removed and replaced by a capacity limit. The capacity limit is determined for each individual building, based on the 2-metre physical distancing rules and other current restrictions and controls. This enables larger buildings with greater floor area and seating capacity accommodate more while still maintaining the 2-metre physical distancing. The numbers permitted to attend funerals and wedding services is currently a maximum of 50.

#### Church Attendance

The introduction of a capacity limit instead of the cap of 50 people attending Church services is unlikely to affect the maximum number we can accommodate in the Church until such time as the upstairs is opened for use. Seats will continue to be allocated according to household groups on a first come first served basis until such time as we reach the limit of fifty. Mr Donald MacPhail, Deacon, is the Seating Coordinator for the Church services and enquiries regarding attendance should in the first place be directed to him.

#### Ongoing Registration

The arrangements for registering your intention to attend the services, and to complete the relevant documentation, have been set up on the Congregational Website [here](#). The following option for registering your intention to attend the services is available to those who do not have access to internet services - please contact Mr Donald MacPhail or the Minister as follows – Donald MacPhail on 710328 or [dan.macphail@icloud.com](mailto:dan.macphail@icloud.com) or the Minister on 710216 or [cmacleod@freechurch.org](mailto:cmacleod@freechurch.org). If you are unable to return the Data Collection Form electronically, provision is made for you to deposit it at the Church door as you enter for the Service.

The deadline for submission of the names of those who wish to attend the service will be 12.00noon on Friday. Seats will be reserved on a weekly basis and you should, therefore, follow the same procedure for every Lord's Day service.

### LIVE STREAMING OF SERVICES

The live stream of the 12.00noon service this Lord's Day, 2nd May 2021, will be available on the Shawbost Free Church of Scotland YouTube channel by clicking [here](#). We will continue to use the Sermon Audio site for audio recordings and, once the live stream equipment setup is fully functional, we will use the Sermon Audio Webcast function to live stream the services to both platforms.

### CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE

The [Weekly Bulletin](#) is available under the News item on the Main Menu bar of the website. Updates and news items of local interest, missionary news, etc., will be added to the News section from time to time as required. The [Minister's Blog](#) will be updated on a monthly basis. The Lord's Day services are available on the [Listen to the Latest Sermon](#) and the [Watch the Latest Sermon](#) buttons on the Home Page.

### LORD'S DAY SERVICES – 2<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2021

#### Availability of Services

An audio recording of the English service in the Church will be available on Sermon Audio at 2.00pm. The service in Gaelic has been pre-recorded and will be available on Sermon Audio at 12.00noon. Services are accessed on the [Shawbost Free Church Sermon Audio](#) by simply clicking or tapping on Shawbost Free Church Sermon Audio underlined above from your phone, tablet, laptop, etc., to take you directly to the site.

The pre-recorded Gaelic Service will also be available on the Twilio service, which we have been using since March 2020, and which can be **accessed from landline / home telephone** by dialling the number **0131 510 2471**. Please note that there is **a delay of approximately 35 seconds** from the time at which the call is answered until the service commences.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will not meet today due to the school holiday weekend. The arrangement for the Sunday School is under review in the light of changes to attendance at places of worship, capacity in the Church Hall, and all children being back at School.

## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

The Youth Fellowship will not meet tonight.

## WEEKLY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY

The weekly Prayer and Bible Study (PBS) Group will continue this Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021, at 7.00pm using Zoom audio-visual technology.

The PBS Group is an open group and please be encouraged to join with us for Bible study, prayer and fellowship. You can join the group on Zoom using a mobile phone, tablet or computer and the meeting details below. The Zoom Meeting ID is - 811 1884 3263. The ongoing Meeting Password is issued separately by contacting the Minister.

## PASTORAL VISITATION

The announcement of the Scottish Government that the whole of Scotland will move into Protection Level 3 of COVID-19 restrictions on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021, and the relaxing of some of the restrictions on socialising outdoors, states that the rules on indoor socialising did not change on that date. This means that pastoral visitation in homes is still not permissible. In the meantime, please keep the Minister, and the Elders, informed of new situations where pastoral support is required. The Minister can be contacted on 710216 or via email at [cmacleod@freechurch.org](mailto:cmacleod@freechurch.org)

## THE RECORD

The latest edition of *The Record* is available in PDF format on the Congregational Website [here](#). Please note that the previous online versions of *The Record* from April 2020 onwards can now be downloaded from our website: <https://freechurch.org/resources/magazines>

## PRESBYTERY PRAYER TIME

The Bible passage and prayer points for Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 have been chosen by **Rev. Paul Murray**, minister of the Kinloch congregation.

### **Bible Reading: Isaiah 64**

#### **Prayer Points:**

1. Give thanks that God has 'rent the Heavens' by sending His Son into the world to procure salvation for sinners, and His Holy Spirit to apply that salvation to sinners. (v1)
2. Pray that, as God has rent the Heavens at various points in the history of the Church in order to pour out a blessing on her, that He would do so again in our day. (v1)
3. Give thanks for the eternal blessing that God has prepared for those who love Him and wait upon Him. (v4)
4. Confess before God your personal sins, family sins, Church sins, and national sins. (v5-6)
5. Stir yourself up to take hold of God in prayer, and pray that God would raise up more praying people who will call upon His name. (v7)
6. Pray that God would turn His anger away from us as a nation, and lift His just judgment. (v9, 12)
7. Pray that the Church (Zion/Jerusalem), which appears to many to be a wilderness and a desolation, might become like the garden of the Lord (Isaiah 51:3) and that 'joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.' (v10-11)

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Please feel free to pass the above on to anyone you think will be interested in setting time aside for prayer on Monday 3<sup>th</sup> May at 8.00pm.

## **PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER**

**2<sup>nd</sup> May 2020**

### **Broughty Ferry**

**Minister:** Rev Alberto de Paula

Broughty Ferry is a suburb of Dundee. Our church was established in 2014. On Sunday mornings about 100 worship with us in a local school. Our evening service, and all our other activities, take place in our own premises on the main street, which are of limited size. During the present crisis Sunday services, prayer meetings and house groups are all provided through the internet. In January 2020 we took on Ciarán Kelleher as a part-time Assistant Pastor who is studying at ETS. Pray for Ciarán as he settles in, contributes to the church and continues his studies.

#### **Prayer Points:**

1. Please pray for more young families to join us, more musicians and premises that meet all our needs
2. Our relatively affluent community and our role in presenting the gospel. We are thankful that some of these are being answered

### **Glenurquhart & Fort Augustus**

**Minister:** Rev Sean Ankers

We are a rural church spread over two locations which both lie close to Loch Ness in the Highlands. Usually 35 people attend our morning service in Glen Urquhart with a smaller group of around 10 meeting in Fort Augustus later in the day. Glen Urquhart and Fort Augustus are both strong and friendly local communities which the congregation seeks to engage with and evangelise by sharing and living out the gospel.

#### **Prayer Points:**

1. Give thanks for the recent induction of Sean Ankers and pray that he and his wife Gin would really feel settled and at home in the Glen. Pray that God would direct Sean and the eldership team and guide them in their decision making.
2. Pray that the people of both Glen Urquhart and Fort Augustus would hear and respond to the gospel through the witness and ministry of the church. Pray that the congregation would faithfully and boldly share the good news of Jesus with their friends, families and neighbours.