

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.

19th November 2023



SUNDAY SERVICES

Both services today will be taken by Rev Kenneth Ferguson.

At the **12.00noon service** the Scripture readings will be taken from Deuteronomy Chapter 8 and Song of Solomon Chapter 8, verse 1-5. The sermon will focus on the latter reading.

At the **6.00pm service** the Scripture reading will be 2 Kings 4, verses 1 – 37 and the sermon will focus on verse 26 of the chapter.

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 107:1-9	Sing Psalms	Psalm 111:1-6	Psalter
2	Psalm 25(i):1-7	Psalter	Psalm 112: 5-10	Psalter
3	Psalm 143:6-10	Psalter	Psalm 27:9-14	Sing Psalms
4	Psalm 23	Sing Psalms	Psalm 130:1-8	Sing Psalms

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will meet as usual this Lord's Day and the children will go to their classes during the second item of praise. We pray the Lord's blessing on our children as they come under the ministry and teaching of God's Word.

SERVICES NEXT LORD'S DAY

The services next Lord's Day will be taken by Mr Donald MacAulay (Carloway).

PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY

The Prayer and Bible Study Meeting will take place on Wednesday 22nd November 2023 at 7.00pm in the Church Hall. Everyone is encouraged to attend the midweek prayer meeting and bible study.

DEACONS' COURT

There will be a meeting of the Deacons' Court next Wednesday 22nd November 2023 immediately following the prayer meeting.

ANNUAL DAY OF PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Free Church of Scotland's annual day of prayer will take place on **Wednesday 29th November**. There will be a time of the prayer at **12noon in the Church Hall** led by one of the Elders. The Annual Thanksgiving Service will take place at **7pm on the same day** and will be taken by Rev Calum MacDonald (Interim Moderator).

PREACHING TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

Greetings to all ministers and churchgoers. We are pleased to announce a special training program on preaching, led by the esteemed Prof. Rev. Andrew McGowen. This event is particularly significant for those involved in the Presbyterian Church and is open to all ministers, elders and anyone interested in learning about the art and practice of preaching.

Event Details

Dates: December 1st and 2nd, 2023,

Venue: High Church Stornoway

continued

Schedule:

Friday Evening: One session at 7pm

Saturday: Two sessions starting at 10am

Lunch: A light lunch will be provided on Saturday, with donations welcome.

Training Focus:

The sessions will delve into the practical aspects of preaching, emphasising the importance of this practice, especially in today's world marked by challenges and uncertainties. The teachings will explore the scriptural basis of preaching, underlining its significance in spreading hope and combating the darkness and hopelessness prevalent in our times.

Scriptural Reference:

"Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction." - 2 Timothy 4:2. This scripture encapsulates the essence of our calling to preach, underlining the need for readiness and resilience in our mission.

Registration:

Please inform your minister if you plan to attend, to assist in preparing adequate materials for the sessions.

We highly encourage all interested members to partake in this enlightening experience. Your participation will not only enrich your understanding but also strengthen our collective mission in spreading the Word. (Rev Dougie Wolf, Minister, Barvas Church of Scotland)

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER (20th November - 26th of November 2023)

Monday 20th November - Dumfries

Please pray for the word to bear the fruit of deeper discipleship and more outreach in the year to come.

Tuesday 21st November - Asian Outreach

I was recently attending a conference at a Muslim University, along with various panels and discussions. Please pray for fruit from all these opportunities and interactions.

Wednesday 22nd November - Hope Church Coatbridge

Please pray for the VOX youth group as they meet weekly for fellowship and discipleship. Please pray as they go through Luke's gospel, they will be transformed by the Word and that those who don't yet know Him will come to saving faith.

Thursday 23rd November - Richard and Barbara, a European City

We have started to visit a new family each Monday. On our first visit the mother said she did not want us to share bible stories in the home. The children, she said, would be confused, as they already receive teaching in their community's faith. This is the first time we have had such a point-blank refusal. We are continuing to visit to help the children with their studies, and praying for opportunities to engage the adults in meaningful conversation.

Friday 24th November - Hope Church Coatbridge

Please pray for the congregation as they witness into their community. Pray for wisdom, and guidance on how best to do this. Pray the ministry will be strengthened and God will use it for his purpose and glory.

Saturday 25th November - Asian Outreach

I am teaching a module on 'Engaging with Islam'. Please pray that the module would be very beneficial for the students as part of their preparation for ministry in Scotland and beyond.

Sunday 26th November - Richard and Barbara, a European City

Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into this particular field - diaspora islanders. Generally, the community is quite closed with little outside contact. May the Lord bring true Christians into gospel-sharing contact with islanders.