

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.

1 December 2024



WELCOME TO OUR SERVICES TODAY

Today's English services will be taken by Rev James Maciver (12noon) and Rev Calum MacDonald (6pm). There will also be a Gaelic Service tonight at 6pm in Bragar and it will be taken by Rev James Maciver. Our services are livestreamed at: <https://www.youtube.com/@shawbostfreechurchofscotland>

At the **12.00 noon service**, the Scripture readings will be from 2 Timothy 4. The sermon will focus on 2 Timothy 4 verses 6-8 and is entitled *Paul's Final Testimony*

At the **6.00pm English service in the Church Hall**, the Scripture reading will be from Acts 16:16 – 40 with a focus on verses 28–31. The sermon is entitled *Light in a Dark Place*.

At the **6.00pm Gaelic Service in Bragar**, the Scripture reading will be from 2 Samuel 15 verses 13-23 and Psalm 63. The sermon will focus on Psalm 63 (whole) as is entitled *Moladh anns an Fhàsach*. The items of praise will be Psalm 61 verses 1-5, Psalm 62 verses 5-8 and Psalm 36 verses 9-10.

| | 12.00 Noon Service | | 6.00pm Service | |
|---|--------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1 | Ps 100 (i) All | Scottish Psalter | Ps 89:1-6 | Scottish Psalter |
| 2 | Ps 16:1-6 | Sing Psalms | Ps 103:8-15 | Scottish Psalter |
| 3 | Ps 73:23-28 | Scottish Psalter | Ps 31:7-12 | Sing Psalms |
| 4 | Ps 17:13-15 | Sing Psalms | Ps 19:7-10 | Sing Psalms |

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will be at the usual time today and the children will go to their classes during the second item of praise.

SERVICES NEXT LORD'S DAY

The Services next Lord's Day will be taken by Rev Donald M Macleod.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Annual Thanksgiving Service will take place on **Wednesday 4th December at 7pm in the Church Hall**. The service will be taken by Mr Donald Morrison (Elder).

SATURDAY NIGHT PRAYER MEETING

All are welcome to an informal prayer meeting in the Manse at **7pm on Saturday evenings**.

LADIES GROUP

The Ladies Group will meet **at the Manse on Thursday 5th December at 7pm**. In addition to a time of fellowship, Donna MacLennan will be sharing her experiences following a recent trip to Auschwitz. All welcome.

DEACONS' COURT

There will be a meeting of the Deacons' Court immediately following the prayer meeting on **Wednesday 11th December**.

LORD'S DAY EVENING SERVICES

From this evening onwards, and until further notice, all Lord's Day Evening services will take place in the Church Hall. These services will not be livestreamed.

NOON SERVICE – CHANGE OF TIME

The Kirk Session met recently and agreed as from **Sunday 5th January 2025**, Lord's Day morning services **will commence at 11.00am** (a change from 12noon). The time of the evening service will remain unchanged (6.00pm) and, as noted above, will be in Church Hall until further notice.

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER - 8th December 2024 - Monday 2nd December

Monday 2nd December

Lochs

Please pray for the weekly gathering of believers on the Lord's Day, that as the congregation gathers to worship, they would be strengthened and upheld.

Tuesday 3rd December

Board of Ministry

Please pray for the Board of Ministry meeting taking place next Tuesday (10th). Give thanks for the work of the Board of Ministry over the past year, and pray that as they meet for the final time in 2024, the Lord would guide them and give them wisdom for the next year.

Wednesday 4th December

Healthy Gospel Church

Pray that God will spur on prospective leaders into Christian ministry. The Free Church is looking to recruit and train 70 new ministers over the next 10 years. Pray that God will raise up leaders for these roles.

Thursday 5th December

Matt and Maria Lingard

Please pray for Y and the younger people who've been coming to the ministries, that the Lord would strengthen them and make himself known to them.

Friday 6th December

Lochs

Give thanks for how the Lord is at work in His church and His people. Pray that they would know God's strength and comfort with them always, and that they would have a renewed sense of His grace.

Saturday 7th December

Matt and Maria

Give thanks to God for how good He has been in keeping us throughout this time.

Sunday 8th December

Stornoway High Free

Please pray for the Christmas Praise night taking place on the 14th of December. Please that many would come along to worship and praise, and hear the good news of Jesus.

THE LARGER CATECHISM

Q. 18. What are God's works of providence?

A. God's works of providence are his most holy, wise, and powerful preserving, and governing all his creatures; ordering them, and all their actions, to his own glory.

[Ps. 145:17](#); [Ps. 104:24](#); [Isa. 28:29](#); [Heb. 1:3](#); [Ps. 103:19](#); [Matt. 10:29-31](#); [Gen. 45:7](#); [Rom. 11:36](#); [Isa. 63:14](#).

"God's first question to fallen Adam was, 'where art thou?' and the rest of the Old Testament is occupied with the answer, showing to fallen man where he is in relation to his God.

It is significant that the first question of the New Testament is, 'where is he that is born King of the Jews?' The searchlight is directed on man's Saviour." (R.A. Finlayson)

In a letter to a fellow minister, speaking of the need for faithfulness...

"Duties are ours, events are God's" (Samuel Rutherford)