



UPPER BRAES PARISH CHURCH

We seek to invite,
encourage and
enable people to
follow Jesus Christ.

Welcome! We join in the sanctuary and online to worship God in the Name of Jesus Christ. Our service to God is led today by Rev Monica MacDonald.

Order of Service – Sunday 1st December 2024 (11.00am)

We offer ourselves to God in worship

Welcome and Notices

(Judith Norton)

Gathering Moment **MP-38 As we are gathered**

Call to Worship

Hymn MP-1141 You're the Word of God the Father

All Together Time: Prayer and Lord's Prayer*

Hymn – God's love is the best love

We ask for God's help and listen for Him speaking to us

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:5-25

(Judith Norton)

Message

Prayer for Others

(Monica MacDonald)

We respond to God

Hymn CH4 No 355 – You Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd

Words of Invitation

The Choir: Jesus calls us here to meet Him

The Sacrament of Holy Communion during which we sing

Hymn MP-435 Lord Jesus Christ, You have come to us

Sharing the Peace and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn MP-77 Christ triumphant ever reigning

Benediction and Threefold Amen

**The Lord's Prayer will appear on screen, if you find this helpful.*

***We have Sunday groups for children up to S4,
as well as a creche room available for those under 3***

Welcome to Worship

Church is not a building – it is the family of God’s people, and we are delighted that you are able to join us today. ** All children are welcome either to stay during service or to go out to the various Sunday School groups. Families are welcome to accompany them if they wish. There is a creche room for children under three, where the service is live streamed.

Service Activity Sheet for All

Whether you are visiting or regularly sharing in worship, at the front and rear doors we have an activity sheet that seeks to help individuals follow the flow and theme of the service. This might be especially useful for those with additional support needs, but anyone is welcome to take one if it would be helpful.

Keep in Touch and Informed

We are on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube as well as our church website www.upperbraes.org.uk. You can download material from the website, see the calendar and news, as well as revisit previous sermons.

Today’s Services

This morning during our services we will take part in the Holy Sacrament of Communion at both Ministry Centres.

Sunday Morning Prayer and Thursday Evening Live Prayer

Join us for a time of prayer on Sunday mornings 10.15 to 10.30am in the small hall of our Brightons Ministry Centre, or 10.40am in our Slamannan Ministry Centre, or online on Thursday evenings at 8.15pm (on Zoom, Facebook and YouTube). Please email: info@upperbraes.org.uk for Zoom login details.

Funeral Details – Janet Heeps

There will be a thanksgiving service for Janet on Wednesday 4th December at 2.00pm at Brightons Ministry Centre, then onto Falkirk Crematorium for the committal.

Funeral Details – Mary Balow

Mary Balow’s Funeral will be at our Brightons Ministry Centre on Monday 9th December at 1.30pm, followed by the committal at Falkirk Crematorium.

Funeral Details – Cameron (Skip) Sharpe

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Cameron (Skip) Sharpe on 27th November. There will be a thanksgiving and committal service at 10am on Thursday 12th December at Falkirk Crematorium. Please remember sons Craig and Iain and the wider family in your prayers.

Prison Outreach – LAST DAY TO DONATE

At present, there are approximately 600 inmates in Polmont HMP/YOI. Each year, as part of our outreach, we send a Christmas card, plus a small gift, to all the inmates. We have always been blessed by the generous giving from our congregation to cover the cost of the “chocolate bars”. A suggested donation of £1 would be helpful. Your generosity, as always, is greatly appreciated. A donation box will be placed at the front foyer to accept cash donations. Card donations may also be made.

Life and Work

Life and Work for December is now available and can be uplifted as you leave church today. Please note annual subscription is due this month and a letter is enclosed with the magazine. If you are interested in ordering Life and Work on a regular basis, please speak to Anne Smith at any time.

Sunday Service Prayer Leaders

We are looking to include a “prayer leader” at the Slamannan service, who would lead the prayer of thanksgiving and for others. If you would be willing to be involved in this, whether you worship more regularly at either ministry centre, then please contact Jean Meek.

Men’s Book Group

The Men’s Book Group will meet on Monday 2nd December at 7.30pm in the Vestry at Brightons Ministry Centre. All are welcome.

Bereavement Service – 8th December 6.30pm

Next Sunday is the annual “Blue” Christmas Bereavement Service at Slamannan Ministry Centre. All are welcome, from across the parish and congregation.

Slamannan Bible Fun Club Nativity Evening - 11th December 5.30pm

Instead of a nativity/carol service on 18th Dec, the Bible Fun Club will have a nativity evening on 11th December, which is for children and families connected to the group. Please keep this time in prayer.

Joint Service - 15th December - Brightons Ministry Centre

We will be holding a joint service to allow us to formally welcome and commission Rev Monica MacDonald as our additional Pastoral Assistant. The service will also be our Sunday School Nativity Service. There will be no service at our Slamannan Ministry Centre and lifts are being organised to enable everyone to join in worship - please contact Linda McGarry if you need help with this.

Christmas Card Delivery – Boys’ Brigade

Once again, the Boys’ Brigade will be delivering Christmas Cards in the local area. See the table and postage box in the rear vestibule for details.

What are you doing at Hogmanay?

Come and join us in the church halls at the Brightons Ministry Centre for a Ceilidh/Scottish night. It will be held from 8pm until midnight and all ages are welcome. We’re forming a ceilidh band for some ceilidh dancing. We will sing some Scottish songs and do a quiz. We would love people to get involved. If you would like to be in the ceilidh band, recite a poem, sing a song, do some Highland dancing or anything else, we would love for you to take part. There is no charge for coming along and we will provide some refreshments. We will put out a bucket for an optional food bank donation. If you are interested in coming along please let Jill Dickson or Linda McGarry know and we will get tickets to you nearer the time.

The Week Ahead at Upper Braes Parish Church

Date	Time	Activity	Location
TODAY Sunday 1 st December	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service (Live Streamed)	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Sunday School Groups	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.45pm	Young Adults Group	UBPC Manse
Monday 2 nd December	2.00pm	The Art Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	2.00pm	The Guild	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Men's Book Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
Tuesday 3 rd December	9.30am	Pre Fives	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	BB Anchor Boys	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Community Outreach Team Meeting	Brightons Ministry Centre
Wednesday 4 th December	12.30pm	Seniors Lunch Club	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Slamannan Community Centre
	2.00pm	Janet Heeps Funeral Service	Brightons Ministry Centre
	3.15pm	Janet Heeps Crematorium Service	Falkirk Crematorium
	5.30pm	Bible Fun Club	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	GB Explorers	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	GB Juniors	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	GB Brigaders	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
Thursday 5 th December	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Choir	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.15pm	Thursday Evening Live Prayer	Online Event
Friday 6 th December	1.00pm	ASN Support	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	BB Junior Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	BB Company Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 8 th December	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service (Live Streamed)	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Sunday School Groups	Brightons Ministry Centre

Brass Band Concert – Laurieston Church

Laurieston Church presents the Unison and Kinneill Brass Band in Concert in Laurieston Church on Thursday, 5th December at 7-30 p.m. Tickets cost £10.00 and may be obtained by calling 07471151471 or you can pay at the door. Tea/coffee biscuits included. Youngsters under 16 are welcome at no charge. If you could come along, you can be assured of a warm welcome.

Falkirk Caledonia Choir

The Falkirk Caledonia Choir are holding 2 Christmas concerts this year: A Family Christmas Concert at 3pm on Sunday, 15th December in St Andrew's West Church (tickets £5) and a Christmas Carol Concert on Monday, 16th December at 7.30pm in Larbert East Church (tickets £10). Tickets can be bought from Alison Cassells (07881861048) or via the link at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/falkirk-caledonia-choir>.

Tea and Coffee – Brightons Ministry Centre

1st December – Heather McManus, Marion Graham and Roy Graham.

8th December – Iris O'Neill, Heather O'Neill and Margaret Sim.

Flowers in Church – Brightons Ministry Centre

The Flowers in Church today have been provided by May McGill.

Delivering the Flowers after today's service will be Sheila Colebrook.

Delivering the Flowers after next week's service will be Jean Callahan.

Thanks to all those who contributed in different ways to today's service

Stuart Beaton, Linda Clarke, Laura Eckles, James Falconer, Kaiden Falconer, Jon-Luke Kirton, Monica MacDonald, Jamie McIntosh, Susan McIntosh, Ewan McManus, Richard McManus, Jean Meek, Judith Norton, Heather O'Neill, The Welcome Team and The Choir.

Minister	Rev Scott Burton	☎: 341590 scott.burton@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Friday 13:30 - Saturday 13:30
Pastoral Assistant	Ian Baillie	☎: 719641 or 07795 034728 ianb@upperbraes.org.uk Days Off: variable at present
Session Clerk	Judith Norton	☎: 07919 998300 sessionclerk@upperbraes.org.uk
Safeguarding Coordinator	Eileen Hope	safeguarding@upperbraes.org.uk
Church Office	☎: 713855	info@upperbraes.org.uk
Church Website		www.upperbraes.org.uk
Newsheet	Heather O'Neill	☎: 07745 564094
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