UPPER BRAES PARISH CHURCH

We seek to invite, encourage and enable peple 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 Scott Burton.

Order of Service – Sunday 8th December 2024 (11.00am)

We offer ourselves to God in worship

Welcome and Notices

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

Call to Worship

Hymn – Promises

Hymn MP-1036 Blessed be Your name

All Together Time: Testimony

Hymn – I'm following the King

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

Prayer and Lord's Prayer*

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38 (page 1025-1026) (Isabel Scougal)

The Choir: 'Infant holy'

Prayer for Others (Gayle Miller)

Hymn MP-337 In the bleak midwinter

Message

We respond to God

Hymn MP-25 All to Jesus I surrender (v1-2, 4)

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***

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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.

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.

Retiring Collection - Scottish Bible Society
Last Sunday there was a retiring collection for Scottish Bible Society. We are giving another opportunity to donate as you may have missed, or not been aware of, this retiring collection. We have setup the Contactless Card Machine if you would prefer to donate this way located in the church front vestibule.

Free Will Offering Envelopes
Members who use envelopes for their giving can collect 2025 envelopes from the rear vestibule. Envelopes are arranged by area and then alphabetically. Please take your own envelope and/or envelopes for friends and neighbours. Thank you.

Bereavement Service – TONIGHT at 6.30pm
Next Sunday is the annual "Blue" Christmas Bereavement Service at Slamannan Ministry Centre. All are welcome, from across the parish and congregation.

Joint Service - 15th December - Brightons Ministry Centre
We will be holding a joint service NEXT SUNDAY 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.

Christingle Service 15th December – Brightons Ministry Centre
The Girls' Brigade will lead the Christingle Service next Sunday evening 15th December at 6.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

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
There will be a thanksgiving and committal service at 10am on Thursday 12th December at Falkirk Crematorium for Cameron. Please remember sons Craig and Iain and the wider family in your prayers.

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.

Kirk Session
Please note that the next Kirk Session Meeting will be at 7.15pm on Tuesday 10th December at Brightons Ministry Centre.

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.

Thank You
Lena Hodgson would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who sent her cards and good wishes for her 90th Birthday.

Delivery of Church Flowers Rota – Brightons Ministry Centre
More volunteers are needed to help with the delivery of flowers after the service. If you would like to be added to the rota please contact Carol Callahan on 07999573806 or e mail carol.callahan@blueyonder.co.uk.

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.

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 8th 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
	6.30pm	Bereavement Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
Monday 9th December	1.30pm	Thanksgiving Service for Mary Balow	Brightons Ministry Centre
	2.30pm	Committal Service For Mary Balow	Falkirk Crematorium
	7.45pm	Fellowship Group K	Off Site Event
Tuesday 10th December	9.30am	Pre Fives	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	BB Anchor Boys	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.15pm	Kirk Session	Brightons Ministry Centre
Wednesday 11th December	10.00am	Wednesday Book Group	Off Site Event
	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Slamannan Community Centre
	1.30pm	Rendezvous	Shieldhill Building
	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
	8.00pm	Huddle Catch Up	UBPC Manse
Thursday 12th December	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.00am	Cameron Sharpe Cremation Service	Falkirk Crematorium
	6.45pm	Friends of Jesus Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Choir	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.15pm	Thursday Evening Live Prayer	Online Event
Friday 13th December	2.00pm	Long Covid Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	BB Junior Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	BB Company Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 15th December	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	JOINT Nativity & Commissioning Service	Brightons Ministry Centre (Live Streamed)
	11.00am	Sunday School Groups	Brightons Ministry Centre

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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 (07881861048) or via the link at:
https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/falkirk-caledonia-choir.

Tea and Coffee – Brightons Ministry Centre

8th December – Iris O'Neill, Heather O'Neill and Margaret Sim.
15th December – Tom Nimmo, Alan Oliver and Edna Oliver.

Flowers in Church – Brightons Ministry Centre

The Flowers in Church today have been provided by Anne Tomlinson.
Delivering the Flowers after today's service will be Jean Callahan.
Delivering the Flowers after next week's service will be Jessie Wallace.

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

Lindca Clarke, Jill Dickson, Laura Eckles, James Falconer, Kaiden Falconer, Susan McIntosh, Ewan McManus, Richard McManus Neil Matheson, Jean Meek, Gayle Miller, Heather O'Neill, Andrew Philp, Isabel Scougal, 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
Newssheet Notices	Heather O'Neill	☎: 07745 564094 heather.oneill5@btinternet.com

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