



# UPPER BRAES

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 Linzi Matheson.**

**Order of Service – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2024 (11.00am)**

*We offer ourselves to God in worship*

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

Welcome and Notices

(Linda McGarry)

Call to Worship

**Hymn CH4 465 – Be Thou My Vision**

Prayer of Approach, Confession and Lord's Prayer

*We listen for God speaking to us*

Scripture Reading: Psalm 118:1, 4-14, 26-29

(Fiona Miller)

**Hymn MP 50 – Be still**

Message

*We ask for God's help and respond to Him*

**Hymn CH4 561 – Blessed Assurance**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and for Others

**Hymn CH4 191 – Do Not Be Afraid**

Benediction and Threefold Amen

**Doxology with May the God of peace go with us\*** (Tune: Ae fond kiss)

\* the short songs at the beginning and end are copied within the news sheet, and during these we stand as the Bible is brought in and taken out.

## **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. \*\* 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](http://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](mailto:info@upperbraes.org.uk) for Zoom login details.

## **Funeral Details – Robert Inglis**

Robert Inglis, a Farmer late of Avonbridge passed away on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024. After a private burial, a memorial service is to take place in the Sanctuary at Brightons Ministry Centre on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January at 11.30am. Please remember Robert's Wife Mary, Sons Robert and Jack and Daughter Elsbeth and their families in your prayers.

## **Please Remember in your Prayers**

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Bill Brodie, Husband of Helen Brodie. Please remember Helen and wider family in your prayers. Funeral details will be shared once these are confirmed.

## **Minister and Pastoral Assistant Holidays**

Please note that Scott will be on holiday from 26<sup>th</sup> December – 5<sup>th</sup> January inclusive. Ian Baillie is on holiday from 23<sup>rd</sup> December. Please contact Rev Monica MacDonald for any pastoral needs and Judith Norton for any other church matters.

## **Collection to mark the Retirement of Pastoral Assistant**

Ian Baillie has indicated his wish to step down as Pastoral Assistant on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024. The Kirk Session has agreed to a collection being available as a way of expressing our thanks to Ian for his ministry, and there will be a presentation and thanksgiving tea on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025 after the morning service – please fill in the sign up sheets at the front and rear doors if attending. Donations can be made via cheque, cash or contactless payment. Please clearly mark any donations as being for this collection or send an e mail to the Treasurer.

### **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.

### **Daily Bread Reading Notes**

The latest edition of the Daily Bread Reading Notes for January – March are now available at a cost of £5.99 each. Please see Heather O'Neill if you wish to purchase one of these. They are a very useful tool for your daily devotions. Alternatively, please e mail [heather.oneill5@btinternet.com](mailto:heather.oneill5@btinternet.com).

### **What are you doing at Hogmanay?**

Update on our Hogmanay Ceilidh: There is now a sign-up sheet at the front of both of our ministry centres. If you have already given your name, please check it is on the list. Please add your name if you would like to come along. This is instead of tickets.

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 will do some ceilidh dancing, sing some Scottish songs and do a quiz. We would love people to get involved. If you would like to play an instrument, 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.

### **Men's Breakfast – 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

Join us for the next Men's Breakfast on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at our Brightons Ministry Centre, 9.30am – 11.30am, for breakfast, worship and message from Malcolm Field at Wholeness Through Christ (Falkirk). Sign-up sheets are at the front and rear doors of both ministry centres.

## Gathering Moment

As we are gathered, Jesus is here  
one with each other, Jesus is here;  
joined by the Spirit, washed in His blood,  
part of the body, the Church of God.  
As we are gathered, Jesus is here,  
one with each other, Jesus is here.

## Doxology

May the God of peace go with us  
As we travel from this place  
May the love of Jesus keep us  
Firm in hope and full of grace.

<b>Minister</b>	Rev Scott Burton	☎: 341590 scott.burton@churchofscotland.org.uk <b>Sabbath on Friday 13:30 - Saturday 13:30</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	Ian Baillie	☎: 719641 or 07795 034728 ianb@upperbraes.org.uk <b>Days Off: variable at present</b>
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	Rev Monica MacDonald	☎: 07833 102874 monica.macdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk
<b>Session Clerk</b>	Judith Norton	☎: 07919 998300 sessionclerk@upperbraes.org.uk
<b>Safeguarding Coordinator</b>	Eileen Hope	safeguarding@upperbraes.org.uk
<b>Church Office</b>	☎: 713855	info@upperbraes.org.uk
<b>Church Website</b>		www.upperbraes.org.uk
<b>Newssheet Notices</b>	Heather O'Neill	☎: 07745 564094 heather.oneill5@btinternet.com

## The Week Ahead at Upper Braes Parish Church

Date	Time	Activity	Location
TODAY Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> 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
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> December	8.00pm	Hogmanay Ceilidh	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	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