



# 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 by Rev. Charlene Condeco.**

## **Order of Service – Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025 (11.00am)**

*We offer ourselves to God in worship*

Welcome

(Judith Norton)

Gathering Moment

The Choir – “In times like these”

Call to Worship

**Hymn MP-478 My song is love unknown**

**Hymn MP162 The servant King**

All Together Time- International Woman’s Day

**Hymn MP-49 Be bold, be strong**

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

Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

Scripture Readings: Luke 4: 1-13 (Page 1047)

Romans 10: 8b-13 (Page 1134)

(Sharon Glass)

Prayer for Others

(Rena Moore)

**Hymn MP-400 Lead us heavenly Father**

Message

*We respond to God*

**Hymn MP-770 Will your anchor hold in the storms of life**

Benediction Threefold Amen

*\*The words to the Lord’s Prayer will appear on screen.*

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

*Refreshments served afterward in the Heriot Hall.*

## **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](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.

## **Braes Pulpit Swap - Today**

We welcome Rev Charlene Condeco, Locum for Laurieston linked with Redding and Westquarter Churches, to lead worship this morning as part of the Annual Braes Pulpit Swap. At Slamannan, Rev Adam Stevenson from Wallacestone Methodist Church is leading worship, and Scott is leading a joint service of the Lower Braes Churches at Redding and Westquarter.

## **New and updated Governance Policies**

We recently drew your attention to our new and updated congregational governance policies which are available on the Governance page of our website and in the policy booklets available in both Ministry Centres (which can be borrowed if you wish to read a hardcopy.) Two policies we want to draw particular notice to are: 1. Vehicle Use - for employees/volunteers who use their own vehicle for church business, and have a responsibility for driving others (eg to church for Friendship plus; to young people's groups; or to hospital), particularly noting the need to check with/notify your insurer that you are covered for volunteer driving. Note this does not apply if you are driving a friend to church or a group; only if you've been asked to drive others in a volunteer role. 2. Lone Working - for employees/volunteers who may work in the church, carry out home visits or travel alone, particularly noting the principles and responsibilities we ask you to observe to keep yourself safe. If you have any questions about any of the above please see Judith Norton (Session Clerk) or James Falconer.

## **Retiring Collection - Scottish Bible Society - Communion Service**

Thank you to all who contributed - a fantastic £358.31 was raised from cash and contactless donations.

## **Life and Work Magazine**

Life and Work for March now available and can be uplifted as you leave church this morning.

## **Pastoral Visitors Needed**

The Pastoral Care Team is looking for FIVE people who would be willing to do occasional visits in Slamannan and surrounding area to folk in the congregation who are mostly shut in. Volunteers would be “partnered up” with a specific person/family. If this could be you, please speak to our Pastoral Assistant Rev Monica MacDonald, or to Rev Scott Burton.

## **Volunteers for Creche**

We are looking to restart the crèche in the small hall as we did prior to COVID times to let parents return to the service. This would be on a 4 weekly rota basis to help with the care of our under 3s. I am looking for at least 8 helpers to accommodate this. We are also looking for an additional helper for the junior section (P2 to p4). If you hear god calling you to either of these posts please get in touch with Alie Drackford at [sundayschool@upperbraes.org.uk](mailto:sundayschool@upperbraes.org.uk).

## **The Guild**

The Guild will meet at 2.00pm on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March in Brightons Ministry Centre. The speaker that afternoon will be Norman Liddle who is coming along to tell us more about Bibles for Bairns project. All are welcome.

## **Men's Breakfast - Saturday 15th March 9.30am**

Sign-up sheets for the next men's breakfast are at the front and rear doors - please add your name TODAY if you plan to attend. Speaker is Ian Batt, formerly Pastor at Community Heart Church in Shieldhill. We look forward to a time of encouragement together!

## **Easter Cards**

Easter Cards from Faith Mission Bookshop are now available to buy from the card stall in the Heriot Hall after Sunday services in the Brightons Ministry Centre.

## **Tea and Coffee Rota**

If you would like to be part of the Refreshment Team. Please speak to Maralyn Stirling. Your help would be very much appreciated. A great way to get to know more of your church family! Also, all donations given for your after church cuppa will go to Tearfund.

## **Tea and Coffee – Brightons Ministry Centre**

9<sup>th</sup> March – Iris O’Neill, Heather O’Neill, Pauline O’Rorke, Alison Cassells.

16<sup>th</sup> March – Alex Davis, Eileen McArdle, Jane Bell, Maralyn Stirling.

## **Flowers in Church**

The Flowers in Church today have been provided by Harry Oliver.

Delivering the Flowers after today’s service will be May Kennedy.

Delivering the Flowers after next week’s service will be Alison Cassells.

## **Thanks to all those who contributed in different ways**

Sharon Glass, Jean Meek, Rena Moore, Judith Norton, Heather O’Neill, the Praise Band, the AV Team, the Choir and the Welcome Team.

<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>	Rev Monica MacDonald	☎: 07833 102874 monica.macdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk <b>Sabbath on Friday</b>
<b>Youth Development Worker</b>	Caroline Whittit	☎: 07848 480801 cwhittit@churchofscotland.org.uk <b>Sabbath on Saturday</b>
<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>Newsheet Notices</b>	Heather O’Neill	☎: 07745 564094 heather.oneill5@btinternet.com

## The Week Ahead at Upper Braes Parish Church

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	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	Holy Spirit Praise and Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	2.00pm	Art Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	2.00pm	Guild	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.45pm	Fellowship Group (CA)	Offsite Event
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30am	Pre 5s	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	BB Anchor Boys	Brightons Ministry Centre
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00am	Wednesday Book Group	Off Site Event
	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Slamannan Community Centre
	1.30pm	Rendezvous	Shieldhill Building
	5.15pm	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 13 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Choir	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.15pm	Thursday Evening Live Prayer	Online Event
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	2.00pm	Long Covid Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	BB Junior Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	BB Company Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30am	Men's Prayer Breakfast	Brightons Ministry Centre

*Continued over...*

Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	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
	7.00pm	Ian Lawson Fellowship Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Fellowship Group (T)	Off Site Event
	7.45pm	Young Adults Group	UBPC Manse

# Praying with your eyes open



"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you."

Ephesians 1:18

## What do you see?

What are the physical features of the place?

- Housing – age, style, state of repair, accessibility, colour
- Spaces – open, common, private, vandalism, play areas, sports fields
- Green areas – gardens, parks, trees, flowers, open/closed aspects
- Community spaces – shopping centre, churches, schools, centres
- Cars – registration date, make, size, state of repair, or public transport
- Gathering spaces – pubs, cafés, betting shops, clubs, centres, take-aways

What do you observe about the people?

- Ages, groups, clothes, pace, economic status, activity, dogs
- Faces, eyes, moods, body language

## What do you sense?

- How do you feel about this community? Why? Is that about you or the place
- What is the 'spirit' of the place?
- What do you know about its background? What would you like to know?

Jesus saw problems beneath the surface

- What problems might you expect here?

Jesus saw the potential of a large harvest.

- What are the areas of potential for mission?

## What questions do you have?

- What would you like to know?
- How would you find out?
- Who would you like to speak to?

## What prayer is rising up within you?

- What would you ask God for this place and these people?
- What scripture passages come to mind as you look and listen?
- If you were to carry one image / situation / person away, what would it be?



## **Brightons Village Community Hall**

### **Transfer of ownership from Falkirk Council on 1<sup>st</sup> April**

Some of you will be aware that Falkirk Council approved the business plans so the Brightons Village Hall Committee will take over the repairs and maintenance of the hall from 1st April 2025. This is great news for us (as we use the Village Hall for some direct and related church activities) and for the wider community!

The Committee need help to see the Hall continue well into the future and have asked for volunteers for a range of tasks outlined below (tasks can be split up). If you'd like to get involved, please contact the Committee on [BrightonsVillageHall@outlook.com](mailto:BrightonsVillageHall@outlook.com), 01324 327652 or via [Facebook.com/BrightonsVillageHall](https://www.facebook.com/BrightonsVillageHall)

#### **Members:**

Not necessarily taking on direct tasks, rather supporting and check what the Committee do, keeping them on the right path (a bit like grandparents!).

#### **People:**

Who understand how to run and design social media

With creative advertising and marketing skills

To write emails and newsletters

To look after electric/gas meter readings and check bills

To operate a manual system to take bookings, check availability and/or consider, test and source online process for booking systems

To talk to the public, take bookings and give advice

To manage cash and income from bookings

To help with facilities compliance - check & maintain the Hall is up to date with fire, water, ventilation, insurance ( 3rd party, buildings contents, public ), safety, electrical etc

To help with security, keeping the system checked and renewal certificates up to date

To be key holders for letting visitors and maintenance access

To carry out grounds or buildings maintenance

To help with accounts / spreadsheets to assist a Treasurer

To read occasional legal documents.

#### **In addition, the Committee have shared the following updates to the hall have been made:**

Refurbished toilets, upgraded changing facilities and new blinds installed.

Wi-Fi installed and public Wi-Fi connection provided.

Phone line, cinema screen, digital projector, digital blue tooth speaker sound connection installed.

Office Hub and desks installed for hire in the meeting room.

Secured over £30,000 funding and funding for a new room to be created.