



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 Jill Dickson.

Order of Service – Sunday 23rd March 2025 (11.00am)

We offer ourselves to God in worship

Welcome and Notices

(Judith Norton)

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

The Choir: 'Majesty'

Call to Worship

Hymn CH4-110 Glory be to God the Father

Hymn MP-1168 Everyone needs compassion

All Together Time

Hymn – Good news

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

Prayer and Lord's Prayer*

Scripture Reading: Luke 23:26-43 (page 1060)

(Alison Cassells)

Prayer for Others

(Richard McManus)

Hymn MP-674 There is a green hill

Message

We respond to God

Hymn MP-1151 Amazing grace (My chains are gone)

Benediction and 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. 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.

Teaching Series up to Easter

From 23rd March, we will be exploring the 7 sentences of Jesus as He hung upon the cross and then His risen words on Easter Sunday. We pray that this series will help us appreciate the Cross afresh and prepare our hearts as we journey towards Easter. At Slamannan today, Gayle Miller will be preaching.

Betty Scott

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of one of our members, Mrs Betty Scott, of Lawers Crescent, Polmont on 10th March. Betty's funeral will be held at 10.45am on 31st March at Falkirk Crematorium. Please keep Betty's three sons and wider family in your prayers.

Blackbraes and Shieldhill Building

We are moving towards the sale of our Blackbraes and Shieldhill building to St Andrew's Mar Thoma Church on 28th March 2025. Consequently, we will have a Closing Service on Thursday 27th March 7pm at our Blackbraes and Shieldhill building. (There will be no Thursday Live Prayer that evening.) We would be greatly encouraged if as many as possible from across the united congregation were to attend and journey with those from the legacy Blackbraes and Shieldhill membership through this next step in their journey of the Union.

Half Hour Service – Thursday 27th March

Please note that there will be a Half Hour Service at Brightons Ministry Centre on Thursday 27th March at 11.30am.

The Guild

The next Guild meeting will tomorrow, Monday 24th March at 2pm. The AGM will take place that afternoon followed by our guest speaker, Gayle Miller, who is coming along to tell us about her journey into the ministry.

Men's Book Group

The next meeting of the Men's Book Group will be on Monday 24th March at 7.30pm in the Vestry at Brightons Ministry Centre.

Kirk Session

Please note that the next Kirk Session Meeting will take place on Tuesday 25th March at 7.15pm in the Small Hall at Brightons Ministry Centre.

Senior's Lunch Club – once a month at Slamannan Ministry Centre

The first of our lunches start up again after the winter on Wednesday 26th March at 12.30pm. A great time of fellowship to be had over a fairly simple meal. Cost is £5 and anyone wishing to attend should contact Linda McGarry (01324-851840) by Monday (tomorrow) so that catering can be done accordingly.

Daily Bible Reading Notes

The Daily Bread Nible Reading Notes are now available for April – June at £5.99 each. Please see Heather O'Neill if you would like a copy. These are a great tool to help with your daily devotions.

Communications Team

The latest update from the Communications Team is uploaded to the website with printed copies available in the church foyer.

Lent Retreat Opportunity

Our placement candidate, Gayle Miller, is attending a Lent Retreat at Braehead House in the Clyde Valley on Saturday 12th April, 9.30-4pm. If anyone would like to attend with Gayle, then please speak with her for more info and/or car sharing/lifts. The cost is £30, including light lunch and refreshments. The Retreat will give space for reflection, prayer, short walks, and conversation – come be refreshed!

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. Please note that there will be no Easter Cards on the stall on 30th March but they will be available again after that.

Prison Outreach at Easter

At Easter, Upper Braes Parish Church sends an Easter Card together with a small Easter egg to all the inmates at the local HMP/YOI at Polmont. At present there are over 500 inmates there. To cover the cost of these gifts, roughly £220, we would invite you, our church family, to consider donating £1 (a suggestion). Should you wish to donate, a collection box will be available for cash donations. Card donations may also be received. Card machine and donation box will be found in the front vestibule at Brightons Ministry Centre.

Articles for Connect

Please can you send articles for the summer edition of Connect to Margaret Sim at connect@upperbraes.org.uk by Sunday 20th April. Look forward to hearing from all the teams. Thank you.

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.

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

Jesus Said “Let the Little Children Come to Me (Matthew 19:14 NIV)”

Many of you will already have contributed to recent collections for the Scottish Bible Society and the Guild supporting their “Bibles for Bairns” project where the vision is to reach every baby born in Scotland each year by sending them books of Bible stories every birthday from 1 year to 5 years old. The books are designed to be read to the Children by their parent/s. The 2 books being sent as 2nd birthday gifts are “Numbers: A Nativity Story” and “Colours: A Noah’s Ark Story”. You can still register a baby born in 2024 until 31st March 2025. Registration for Babies born in 2025 will open later this year. Spread the word to all the new Parents you know and ask their permission to register. Please pray for the growth of “The Bibles for Bairns” project. Register a baby at bible.scot/bfb. Further information is in the Bible Society Magazine “Transform”.

Friends of Jesus Group Fundraiser

Please put Wednesday, 14th May, 7pm in your calendar. Friends of Jesus group would love you to join them for an evening of fun and entertainment with 'the People's Puppets'. It will be a show suitable for adults and children of all ages. Entry will be by donation and all proceeds will go to support the work of Prospects Across Scotland. Thanks.

Golf Outing

The next church golf outing will be held at Binny Golf Club, Ecclesmachan, Broxburn, West Lothian, EH52 6NL on Thursday 29th May. Please contact Billy Rankine if you're interested in playing. Billyrankine@btinternet.com or 07860527899.

Tea and Coffee – Brightons Ministry Centre

23rd March – Jim Hope, Eileen Hope, Jim Kerr, Jamie McIntosh.

30th March – June Arkless, Peter Arkless, Jane Bell, Maralyn Stirling.

Flowers in Church

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

Delivering the Flowers after today's service will be Nancy Lees.

Delivering the Flowers after next week's service will be Pat Paterson.

Thanks to all those who contributed in different ways

Alison Cassells, Jill Dickson, Richard McManus, Jean Meek, Judith Norton, Heather O'Neill, the Praise Band and Organist, the AV Team, the Choir and the Welcome Team.

Minister	Rev Scott Burton	☎: 341590 scott.burton@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Friday 13:30 - Saturday 13:30
Pastoral Assistant	Rev Monica MacDonald	☎: 07833 102874 monica.macdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Friday
Youth Development Worker	Caroline Whittit	☎: 07848 480801 cwhittit@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Saturday
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 Notices	Heather O'Neill	☎: 07745 564094 newsheet@upperbraes.org.uk heather.oneill5@btinternet.com

The Week Ahead at Upper Braes Parish Church

Date	Time	Activity	Location
TODAY Sunday 23 rd 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
Monday 24 th March	2.00pm	Guild	Brightons Ministry Centre
	2.00pm	Art Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Men's Book Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.45pm	Fellowship Group (CA)	Off Site Event
Tuesday 25 th March	9.30am	Pre 5s	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.15pm	BB Anchor Boys	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.15pm	Kirk Session	Brightons Ministry Centre
Wednesday 26 th March	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Slamannan Community Centre
	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 27 th March	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.30am	Thursday Service	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Closing Service	Blackbraes and Shieldhill
Friday 28 th March	6.15pm	BB Junior Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	BB Company Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.00pm	BB Sleepover	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 29 th 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	Evening Service	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Fellowship Group (T)	Off Site Event