



UPPER BRAES PARISH CHURCH

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

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

Order of Service – Sunday 28th December 2025 (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 MP 491 – O come all ye faithful

Prayer of Approach, Confession and Lord's Prayer

Hymn MP 342 – Infant holy, infant lowly

We listen for God speaking to us

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38

(Bobby Robertson)

Hymn MP 714 - Unto us a child is born

Message

We ask for God's help and respond to Him

Hymn MP 71 - Child in a manger

Prayers of Thanksgiving and for Others

(David MacAskill)

Hymn MP 116 - Down from His glory

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.

➤ New items in the newssheet are marked with this icon.

Welcome and general updates



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.

Sunday Morning 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.

Thursday Evening Live Prayer

Join us online (via Zoom, YouTube or Facebook) 8.15-9pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. Email info@upperbraes.org.uk for Zoom details. Then we meet in-person on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, 8-9pm, in the small hall.

➤ James Reid

Please remember in your prayers, the family of Mr James Reid from Slamannan who passed away on 12th December 2025. His funeral will take place at 1:45pm on Tuesday 6th January 2026 at the Falkirk Crematorium.

Willie Rankine

Please continue to remember the family of Willie Rankine, Patricia, Billy, Marion and Kate and Willie's brother, John in your prayers at this time. The funeral is on Friday 9th January 2026 at Brightons Ministry Centre at 10.15am, followed by a committal service at 11.30am at Falkirk Crematorium.

Newsletter from Duncans in South Africa

The latest news from Graham and Sandra Duncan is available at the front and back doors, and is also on the noticeboard in the cloakroom corridor. Please take the opportunity to have a look!

Tearfund

Send an e-card to your MP and let them know you are praying for them in 2026. Each e-card comes with a unique design and a message which can be edited. This is a good way of encouraging your MP to speak up on an issue you are passionate about. Click on tearfund.org/church-mp-e-card or via the QR code.



Daily Bread

The Daily Bread books are now available for January – March. These are available from Heather O'Neill and are £6.25 each.

Ministry Staff Holidays

Caroline will be on annual leave 22nd Dec to 4th Jan inclusive, and Scott will be on annual leave 26th Dec to 4th Jan inclusive. For pastoral assistance during Scott's leave, contact Monica or Gayle. For wider church business, contact Judith.

Upcoming events



Hogmanay 2025

Please note that the back of this year's Christmas card mentions a Hogmanay Ceilidh. This was an error as there is no Hogmanay Ceilidh this year. Hopefully you enjoyed the two ceilidhs earlier in the term.

Save the Date

We're delighted to be holding our 2nd Prayer Weekend at Upper Braes Parish Church, building on the encouragement and good response from the first in September. Get ready to join us for 48 hours of prayer from 6th - 8th February, so please take a note of the date as we'd love to have you with us if you can.

The Week Ahead at Upper Braes Parish Church

TODAY Sunday 28 th December	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
Sunday 4 th January	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	2.00pm	St Margaret's Service	St Margaret's Care Home

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.

Minister	Rev Scott Burton	On Holiday from 26 th December to 4 th January
Lead Pastoral Assistant	Rev Monica MacDonald	☎ 07833 102874 monica.macdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Friday
Pastoral Assistant	Gayle Miller	☎: 07720 256336 gayle.miller@churchofscotland.org.uk Sabbath on Friday 16:00 - Saturday 16:00
Youth Development Worker	Caroline Whittit	On Holiday from 22 nd December to 4 th January
Session Clerk	Judith Norton	☎: 07919 998300 session.clerk@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 heather.oneill5@btinternet.com newsheet@upperbraes.org.uk