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 today by Linzi Matheson.

Order of Service – Sunday 22nd November 2026 (11.00am)

We offer ourselves to God in worship

Welcome, Notices and Gathering Moment

Call to Worship

Hymn MP 1086 – Light of the world

Hymn MP 1040 – Come, now is the time to worship

All Together Time

Hymn – Be bold, be strong

We listen for God speaking to us and ask for His help

Prayer and Lord's Prayer*

Choir: Tell me the old, old story

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 29:4-14 (Page 789)
Jeremiah 31:31-34 (Page 794) (Alison Cassells)

Prayers for Others (Rev Monica MacDonald)

Hymn MP 1227 – How great is our God

Message

We respond to God

Hymn MP 200 – Great is Thy faithfulness

Benediction and Threefold Amen

We have Youth Church for all children and young people, as well as a creche space.

Refreshments are available after in the Heriot Hall.

➢ *New items are identified with this icon*

Scottish Charity No SC001385. CCLI Licenses - #61000/#538071.

Welcome to the Upper Braes

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 the service or to go out to the Youth Church groups or creche space. Families are welcome to accompany them if they wish.**

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.

➢ Children and Young People

- Needing more info? See our website (Get Involved page) for details of Boys' & Girls' Brigades, Youth Church, or Pre-5s Groups
- Speak with our Youth Development Worker (Caroline) or Youth Church Coordinator (Alie)

Quiet Room – open to all

We know that sometimes a quiet space is helpful, and so once the service has started, the vestry is available for this purpose – you can also watch the service there on the big TV. If a number of people need this space, please be collaborative.

General information

➢ December Communion Collection

Please note that the collection at the Communion Service in December will be for our Missionary Partners in South Africa, the Duncans. There will be an opportunity to donate either by cash or by using the contactless card machines.

Youth Church Forms

Please could parents/guardians of children and young people complete return registration forms into any Youth Church leaders ASAP so we have an up to date record of all in each section of Youth Church. If you need a form, please ask any leaders for one. Any questions, please see Alie Drackford or Caroline Whittit.

BB & Camp Memories Group - Falkirk Area – Museum in the Howgate Centre

A group of former members of the Boys' Brigade have been successful in securing a let of Unit 13 (near the cafe) in the Howgate centre in Falkirk for use as a museum to display items and pictures relating to the history of the BB in this area and nationally. The official opening of the museum was on Saturday 14th November and all who are interested are invited to come along and see what's there. The normal opening hours will be from 11am to 4pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday each week. The plan is to display as much history as possible about the past and present BB companies in the Falkirk area so we are always on the lookout for BB memorabilia and photos. Please contact Billy Rankine on 07860 527899 if you would like more information or if you have any photographs or other items which could be displayed in the museum.

Scottish Charity No SC001385. CCLI Licenses - #61000/#538071.

➢ **Last Minute Christmas Gifts for Babies Born this Year**

A Bible story every birthday from 1-5 yrs from Scottish Bible Society "Bibles for Bairns". Costs nothing. For someone who has everything but has something to celebrate. A Bible in their name to be placed in a hotel room/cabin etc. from the Gideons. Cost – donation. A donation for this year's GUILD project - "HOPE" or to any charity of your choice. Lots of problems solved? For more information, speak with Linda Gillespie.

Volunteering Opportunities



➢ **Christmas deliveries**

Can you spare an hour to help? We are looking for volunteers to deliver our Christmas cards and Connect magazines. They are pre-sorted by street and locality into 50 manageable bundles of 10 or fewer and can be collected from the rear vestibule. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Let there be Light Event – Saturday 5th December

This event will be held in Brightons Ministry Centre. Would you be able to donate some mince pies, shortbread or gingerbread men? Please speak with Iris O'Neill. Thank you to all the people who have come forward to volunteer to serve tea and coffee.

Invitation to Fruitful Futures Learning Community

Scott shared with us an invitation to be part of learning community that would seek to equip us in how we lead and serve, how we make decisions, and how we discern God's leading. The group would start in January 2027. A handout is available at the doors, if you wish a copy. Please speak with Scott or Judith if interested or curious.

Do you have a spare bed?

Over 28-30 January 2027, we are looking for host homes to provide 1+ bed(s)/bedroom(s) and breakfast to a group of 12 ministers and pastors from across Scotland, England and the USA who are meeting in our Brightons Ministry Centre to deliver the training course Scott has undertaken on "remissioning". This would be a generous way to bless others, as well as provide opportunities to hear/share stories of what God is doing in congregations, ours and theirs – we all might learn together! If you are able to offer 1+ beds for 2 nights during these days, please let Scott know by end of November.

Upcoming events

Half-Hour Service: Thursday 26 November, 11.30am
The next short service will include Communion, and all are welcome to attend. Please share the invitation with others who might benefit from a shorter service.

Parents, Grandparents & Carers of Young People - this one's for you!
How can we best support our young people in their journey of faith? We invite parents, grandparents and carers to come along and share their thoughts as we consider how the church can partner with families in nurturing faith at home and in church. Our aim is to create stronger foundations for young people's faith, recognising that faith development happens throughout the week, not just on Sundays. You are invited to come along to the meeting on Sunday 29th November, just after the Altogether Time during the church service, to meet with other parents in the hall. Let Caroline know if you can attend or just come along on the day.

- **The Senior's Lunch Club Christmas Lunch**

The next Lunch takes place on Wednesday 2nd December 2026 at 12.30pm. Since booking is essential for catering purposes, please confirm by **Monday 30th November** if you wish to attend. Phone Linda McGarry 01324-851850 where you can leave a message, or Monica MacDonald on 07833102874. Please also indicate any special dietary requirements.

Family Singalong Christmas Concert
Once again Falkirk Caledonia Choir will be performing a family friendly singalong Christmas concert in Brightons Ministry Centre on Sunday, 13th December at 3pm. It's a concert suitable for all ages with plenty of audience participation and home baking and drinks available in the Heriot Hall afterwards. Tickets costing £5 (under 5s free) can be bought from Alison Cassells (07881 861048) every Sunday after the church service in BMC or via Ticketsource and the QR code on the poster on the church noticeboard.

- **BB – Christmas Cards**

BB boys will be selling stamps at the church for the next three weeks for our annual Christmas card delivery service. We will cover Laurieston, Redding, Reddingmuirhead, Shieldhill, Brightons, Polmont and Maddiston areas. Stamps are 2 for £1 and all cards will be delivered the weekend of the 12th and 13th of December. The post-box for cards will be in the rear vestibule and last date for receiving cards will be Thursday 10th of December.

- **Rescheduled Information Evening on Supporting Young People**

Just to let you know the information evening has been rescheduled to 25th January 7-8pm, in the small hall at Brightons Ministry Centre - so please save the date and let Caroline know if you would like to come along. Together with Paul Beautyman from Youth Work Journeys, we'll explore how building relationships and attending events can help create a wider network of trusted adults around our young people. This is an opportunity to learn more and join the discussion, with no commitment required.

Sermon Notes

key verses:

Minister	Rev Scott Burton	☎: 341590 scott.burton@churchofscotland.org.uk **Sabbath on Friday 2.30pm to Saturday 2.30pm**
Pastoral Assistant (lead)	Rev Monica MacDonald	☎: 07833 102874 monica.macdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk **Sabbath on Friday**
Pastoral Assistant	Gayle McLachlan	**On leave 17th to 29th November inclusive**
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
Newssheet Notices	Heather O'Neill	☎: 07745 564094 newssheet@upperbraes.org.uk
Web & Social Media Links	facebook.com/upperbraeschurch ~~ instagram.com/upperbraeschurch youtube.com/@upperbraeschurch WhatsApp Messaging (no calls): @upperbraeschurch or 07447 440581	

Scottish Charity No SC001385. CCLI Licenses - #61000/#538071.

The Week Ahead at Upper Braes Parish Church

TODAY Sunday 22nd November	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Youth Church	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	12.30pm	Youth Band	Brightons Ministry Centre
Monday 23rd November	9.30am	Slamannan Pre 5s	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	2.00pm	Art Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	2.00pm	Guild	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Fellowship Group (KW)	Off Site Event
Tuesday 24th November	9.30am	Pre-5s	Brightons Ministry Centre
	1.30pm	Huddle 26S	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	6.00pm	BB Anchor Boys	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.15pm	Kirk Session	Brightons Ministry Centre
Wednesday 25th November	8.45am	Property Team	Brightons Ministry Centre
	1.00pm	Martha's Pantry	Slamannan
	2.00pm	Friendship Plus	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.00pm	GB Juniors/Explorers	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.00pm	Youth Alpha	The Cross, Brightons
	7.30pm	GB Brigaders	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	Band Practice	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.00pm	Youth Development Project Management Team Meeting	Off Site Event
Thursday 26th November	10.00am	Coffee Morning	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.30am	Thursday Service	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.45pm	Friends of Jesus Group	Brightons Ministry Centre
	8.00pm	Thursday Evening Live Prayer (In Person)	Brightons Ministry Centre
Friday 27th November	6.00pm	BB Junior Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
	7.30pm	BB Company Section	Brightons Ministry Centre
Sunday 29th November	10.15am	Morning Prayer	Brightons Ministry Centre
	10.40am	Morning Prayer	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Youth Church	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service Live Streamed	Brightons Ministry Centre
	11.00am	Morning Service	Slamannan Ministry Centre
	12.30pm	Youth Band	Brightons Ministry Centre
	6.30pm	Evening Service	Brightons Ministry Centre

Scottish Charity No SC001385. CCLI Licenses - #61000/#538071.