



SUNDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2022

SERVICES ARE AT 11 AM & 6 PM (online & in-person).

Minister: **Rev Angus MacRae**. (01463) 832616; Mobile: 07506 006459; Email: angusmacrae1967@gmail.com.

Women's Pastoral Worker: **Carrie Marlow**.
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WELCOME TO THE FREE NORTH CHURCH, BANK STREET, INVERNESS

Welcome, especially if you are with us for the first time or are taking time to explore the Christian faith. We offer courses, small groups and resources to help people find their way in the Christian faith. In our services we usually stand for our praise songs and sit for other items of worship. Tea and Coffee is served in the church hall after both services. Please use a face covering indoors, unless exempt or seated at a table for refreshments, and avoid crowding or blocking exits. Please do not attend if you have any symptoms of coronavirus. Visit our YouTube channel for live online worship and to listen again at home: www.youtube.com/c/FreeNorthChurchInverness.

WELCOME & UNISON CALL TO WORSHIP (PSALM 34:1,3)
I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.
Glorify the Lord with me: let us exalt his name together. Amen.

PRAISE: BE THOU MY VISION

**Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou
art –
Thou my best thought, by day or by night;
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my
light.**

**Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true
word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father; and I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one.**

**Be Thou my battle-shield, sword for the
fight;
Be Thou my dignity, Thou my delight;**

**Thou my soul's shelter, and Thou my high
tower:
Raise Thou me heavenward, O Power of
my power.**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only the first in my heart,
High King of heaven, O ruler Thou art.**

**High King of heaven, Thy victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright
heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

From a 6th century Old Irish hymn, attributed to Dallán Forgaill.

PRAYER

TALK TO CHILDREN & LORD'S PRAYER

PRAISE: CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

**Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne,
while heaven's eternal anthem drowns
all music but its own!**

**Awake, my soul, and sing
of Him who died to be
your Saviour and your matchless King
through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Lord of life,
triumphant from the grave -
who rose victorious from the strife
for those he came to save:
His glories now we sing
who died and rose on high;
who died, eternal life to bring
and lives, that death may die.**

**Crown him the Lord of love!
Who shows his hands and side,
those wounds yet visible above
in beauty glorified!
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear the sight
But downward bends his burning eye
At mysteries so bright!**

**Crown him the Lord of peace!
His Kingdom is at hand,
From pole to pole, let warfare cease
And Christ rule every land!
A city stands on high,
His glory it displays,
And there the nations "Holy" cry
In joyful hymns of praise.**

**Crown Him the Lord of Years
The Potentate of Time;
Creator of the rolling spheres
In majesty sublime!
All hail, Redeemer, hail,
for you have died for me -
Your praise shall never, never fail
through all eternity!**

Matthew Bridges & Godfrey Thring, in this version © Jubilate Hymns.

BIBLE READING: PSALM 127:1-5 (NIV)

A song of ascents. Of Solomon.

¹ Unless the Lord builds the house,
the builders labour in vain.
Unless the Lord watches over the city,
the guards stand watch in vain.
² In vain you rise early
and stay up late,
toiling for food to eat –
for he grants sleep to those he loves.

³ Children are a heritage from the Lord,
offspring a reward from him.
⁴ Like arrows in the hands of a warrior
are children born in one's youth.
⁵ Blessed is the man
whose quiver is full of them.
They will not be put to shame
when they contend with their opponents in
court.

BIBLE READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:50-58 (NIV)

⁵⁰ I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Listen, I tell you a mystery: we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed – ⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³ For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: 'Death has been swallowed up in victory.'

⁵⁵ 'Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?'

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸ Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.

PRAISE: SING PSALMS 127:1-5

**Unless the LORD builds up the house,
its builders toil in vain;
Unless he keeps the city safe,
they vainly watch maintain.**

**In vain you rise before the dawn
and late hours vainly keep
That you may toil for food to eat—
he gives his loved ones sleep.**

Sons are a precious heritage,
a blessing from the LORD;
The children that are born to us
are truly his reward.

Like arrows in a warrior's hand
are children of one's youth.

The man whose quiver's full of them
is blessed by God in truth.

Such men will not be put to shame—
that will not be their fate—
When they contend against their foes
who face them in the gate.

(CM) – Sing Psalms Version © Free Church of Scotland, 2003.

SERMON OUTLINE – PSALMS CORAM DEO
PSALM 127 – THE PRINCE GIVES EVIDENCE CORAM DEO.

- 1). THE LIFE WE ALL WANT.
- 2). THE MESS WE ALL MAKE.
- 3). THE BUILDER WE ALL NEED.

PRAISE: WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION

*We will feast in the house of Zion.
We will sing with our hearts restored.
“He has done great things,” we will say
together.*

We will feast and weep no more.

We will not be burned by the fire;
He is the LORD our God.
We are not consumed, by the flood.
Upheld, protected, gathered up.
We will feast...

In the dark of night, before the dawn,

My soul, be not afraid;
For the promised morning, oh how long!
O God of Jacob, be my strength.
We will feast...

Every vow we've broken and betrayed,
You are the Faithful One;
And from the garden to the grave,
Bind us together, bring shalom.
We will feast...

*Words & Music Sandra McCracken & Joshua Moore.
Drink Your Team Music © 2015*

BENEDICTION

SUNDAY AT SIX PM – LIVE IN-PERSON & ON YOUTUBE AT 6 PM.

**HEBREWS 13:7-16 – THE GOSPEL FOR INVERNESS.
REMEMBER JESUS, REMEMBER YOUR LEADERS**

Evening Praise: *Sing Psalms 147:1-7; There is a Fountain; Sing Psalms 103:8-18.*

DIARY, NEWS & PRAYER

Join us after both services for teas and coffees and a chance to chat with others in the church hall. Our Home Groups, Road to Recovery, Bible Studies / Book Groups for Women and for Men have returned to meeting in-person once again.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today: There is a creche and holiday Sunday School for younger children this weekend.

Monday: Men are welcome to the **Guys Group**, meeting from 7 pm on Monday 21st February at 19 Mingary Crescent. We will chat about the book *Disciplines of a Godly Man*. It will help to have read chapter 8 (p. 121-136) on *The Discipline of Prayer*. Future dates: 7th and 21st March.

Tuesday: The **Women's Bible Study** begins a new series on **Genesis 1-11** this Tuesday (22nd), 10.30am (at Effie Finlay's, 62 Leachkin Avenue) and 7.45pm (at Ann Macrae's, 19 Mingary Crescent). We start with an introduction to Genesis looking at Genesis 1:1. There is a Guide for the first study available or get in touch with Carrie for a copy. All are welcome to join us, even if you've not been before. Future dates this term: 8th & 22nd March. Get in touch with Carrie for more information or if you need a lift.

Wednesday: The Deacons' Court meets briefly at 7.30 pm followed by an elder's time of prayer. There is no Wednesday Church Night, as we encourage our folk to attend Smithton this Thursday.

Thursday: Please support a **Release International** meeting at Smithton Church this Thursday at 7.30 pm. The speaker is Asif, who leads '*Operation Philip*' supporting persecuted refugees.

Thursday: Road to Recovery meets at 7.30 pm offering support to those recovering from addiction.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Christians in Sport host a **Sports Quiz** with a talk about the Christian faith at **Fairviews Golf Course**, 7.30 pm on Thursday 3 March. This is a fantastic opportunity to form teams and invite friends including non-Christian colleagues and teammates. Teams can vary in size from 4-8, with the optimum being 4-6. Interested? Email: kirsten@christiansinsport.org.uk to book your team.

Dr Peter Williams, Principal of Tyndale House in Cambridge, is on a teaching tour of Scotland. He will speak at Inshes Church on Friday 4th March at 7.30 pm. The topic is, "*Is the Bible Reliable?*"

Pray for our elders, deacons and associate deacons, as they meet for training and to develop our vision for mission with Rev David Meredith, the Free Church Mission Director, on 15th March.

Our monthly **Home Groups** will meet at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 23rd March.

There is a Joint Youth Fellowship hosted by the Free North on Saturday 26th March.

Our next **Free North Week of Prayer** starts on Monday 28th March, with daily prayer in the church hall at 8 am, and some evening events. The week of prayer will end with a prayer breakfast on Saturday 2nd April and Communion on Sunday 3rd April.

PRAYER

Ishbel Graham passed away peacefully at Kingsmills Nursing home on Saturday morning. We commend her children Fiona and Derek and their families to God's loving care and comfort. Pray for Dorothy & Danny MacKenzie, as they look forward to the arrival of a new child. Donnie Mackenzie and Angus Campbell have each recently been in hospital for surgeries. Pray for *Passion for Life* outreach around the UK. We plan some small-scale events and Guest Services on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday (10th and 17th April). Pray for all of our attempts to share the gospel with others. Pray that the Lord will help us when we are unsure of what to say or feel timid. Pray that people will come to put their trust in Jesus, that we'll all grow in faith and come to love him more throughout the year. Pray for the FC Youth Camps. Some camps still have space.

SUPPORT

Staying in touch: Contact Angus, Carrie or any of the elders for pastoral support. Email office@freenorthchurch.org to request a weekly email update and to request Zoom log-on codes. You can sign up for regular prayer information from the Free Church at: <https://freechurch.us6.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=bfe4fb815ef2db28dab25b8e1&id=c962f325af>.

Giving: You can donate at our website (PayPal logo), in the offering plate, or directly to our "Free North Church" account (82-65-18, a/c 40246657). Enquiries to treasurer@freenorthchurch.org.