

welcome to

**ELGIN**  
FREE CHURCH

&

**BURGHEAD**  
FREE CHURCH

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**Song: Behold Our God**

- 1 Who has held the oceans in His hands?  
Who has numbered every grain of sand?  
Kings and nations tremble at His voice,  
all creation rises to rejoice.  
  
Behold our God, seated on His throne.  
Come, let us adore Him.  
Behold our King, nothing can compare,  
come, let us adore Him!
- 2 Who has given counsel to the Lord?  
Who can question any of His words?  
Who can teach the One who knows all things?  
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?
- 3 Who has felt the nails upon His hand,  
bearing all the guilt of sinful man?  
God eternal, humbled to the grave,  
Jesus, Saviour, risen now to reign!

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**Final Prayer** (please remain standing, please stay for refreshments).

**If you're new to church - welcome!**

- This sheet will guide you through our service.
- Please stay for coffee at the end.
- You can also scan the code below to connect with us online.



**Scan to connect  
with us online**

## Welcome, Church Family News & Call to Worship (Davi de Paula, Minister in Training)

### Song: Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

- 1      Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me;  
I once was lost, but now I'm found,  
was blind, but now I see.
- 2      'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear,  
the hour I first believed!
- My chains are gone, I've been set free,  
my God, my Saviour has ransomed me.  
And like a flood His mercy reigns,  
unending love, amazing grace.*
- 3      The Lord has promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.  
*My chains are gone...*
- 4      The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
the sun forbear to shine.  
But God, who called me here below  
will be forever mine.  
*My chains are gone...*

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**Prayer** – thanksgiving & confession

**Bible Reading:** Joel 1:1-2:17 (p912; read by Mandie Thomas)

### Song: Psalm 50 v7-15 (Sing Psalms)

- 7      “Hear, O my people, listen while I speak;  
Against you, Isr’el, I will testify:  
You are my people; I am God, your God.  
Hear me as I address you from on high.
- 8      “I will not blame you for your offerings,  
The sacrifices which you give to me.
- 9      I have no need of cattle from your stalls,  
Or of the goats you bring me constantly.

- 10      “Mine are the cattle on a thousand hills,  
The forest animals are all my own.
- 11      The creatures of the field belong to me;  
To me the mountain birds are all well known.
- 12      “I would not tell you if I needed food,  
Because the world and all its wealth are mine.
- 13      Do I require to drink the blood of goats?  
On flesh of bulls do I delight to dine?
- 14      “But sacrifice thank-offerings to God;  
Fulfil the vows you made to the Most High.
- 15      Call on me in the day when trouble comes;  
I'll save you, and my name you'll glorify.”

**Prayer** –intercession (led by Peter Turnbull)

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Sermon: **Peter Turnbull, Minister** | Joel 1:1-2:17 | SPACE FOR NOTES

Intro: the past and the future...

### 1. Remember the day of the Locusts (Joel 1:2-20)

# CHURCH FAMILY *news*

Elgin, Forres & Burghead Free Church | week beg. **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | Reg Charity SC016070/SC038129

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## welcome!

If this is your first time with us, we're glad you've come. We hope you feel at home. We're one church family across two locations – Elgin and Burghead. Please do...

- pick up a **welcome pack**
- stay for **refreshments** at the end of the service.
- and **connect with us online**.

You can also sign up to keep in touch with us via our weekly email by visiting **[elginfreechurch.org](http://elginfreechurch.org)** or **[burgheadfreechurch.org](http://burgheadfreechurch.org)**.

## keep IN TOUCH

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## what's on THIS WEEK?

### TODAY - SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup>

**10am Elgin Morning Service –**

*A Harvest of Eternal Life* | John 4:27-42 – Paul

**11:15am Burghead Morning Service –**

*'A Study on Fools'* | Ecc. 10 – Davi

**6pm – Joint Evening Service** (in Burghead)

*Joel: A Prophecy for Today* | Joel 1.1-2.17 – Peter

### MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup>

**10-11am – Mission & Vision prayer meeting**

Meeting ID: 895 1469 9363 | Passcode: 123456

### TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup>

**10:15am – Ladies Daytime Small Group**  
(Burghead)

**9:30am – School Easter Experience** (Elgin)

**7pm – Pathfinders Youth Bible study** (15  
Mason Haugh Rise, Burghead)

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### WEDNESDAY 27<sup>th</sup>

**9:30am – School Easter Experience** (Elgin)

**7:30pm – Joint Church Family Prayer Meeting**  
(Burghead)

### THURSDAY 21<sup>st</sup>

**9:30am – Burghead Primary Whole School  
Easter Assembly/Service** (in the Burghead  
church)

**1-3pm – Free Church Café** (Burghead)

### FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup>

**1pm – Arthritis Pain Group** (Elgin building  
hire)

### NEXT SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup>

**10am Elgin EASTER INVITATION Service –**  
Luke 24:1-12 – Peter

**11:15am Burghead EASTER INVITATION  
Service –** Luke 24:1-12 – Peter

**6pm – Joint Evening Service** (in Burghead)  
*Joel: A Prophecy for Today* | Joel 2.18-27 – Peter

# Church family **NEWS**

## **EASTER SUNDAY INVITATION SERVICES – IN BOTH LOCATIONS**

Easter Sunday (31<sup>st</sup> March) brings another excellent opportunity to invite along friends, family, neighbours and colleagues who wouldn't normally be in church. Flyers are enclosed for your use.

## **ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS – REPORT & THANKS TO ALL WHO CAME**

Thanks to all who joined us at our annual church meetings last week in both Elgin and Burghead. We had a productive, positive, and prayerful time as we reflected on past ministry and looked to the future. Current members of our Finance committees were re-appointed for **Elgin** (Chris Harris, Lesley Morrison, Stewart Campbell), and **Burghead** (Chris Harris, Fiona Harris, Donald Tolme, Philip McPherson). In addition, the following new members were added to the **Elgin** group – Alice Urquhart, Gavin Thomas, Ian Davies. We're grateful to all who serve us.

## **JOINED US RECENTLY?**

We would love to keep in touch with you about church life, news and events. Scan the QR code to fill in our online contact form.



## **PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER**

(Across the Free Church of Scotland)

### **Monday - Covenant Church, Newmilns**

Please pray for the Kirk Session as they think through how to be a healthy gospel church, particularly working this year on healthy prayer, healthy mission and healthy leadership.

### **Tuesday - Richard and Barbara, a European City**

As we tell our island friends that we will be leaving later this year, may the Lord give them the desire to continue hearing the word of God; and may that word bear fruit in their lives.

### **Wednesday - Dumisani**

Give thanks to the Lord for the wonderful Graduation Exercises at Dumisani Theological Institute on March 2nd with nineteen graduating. Student speakers were Mbombe Sivenathi and Mhlali Njoli. Family and friends were well represented and this was very encouraging. Thanks be to the Lord.

### **Thursday - In a Big Country Rural Conference**

Pray for preparations for the third In A Big Country rural conference which is taking place in Dingwall Free Church on Saturday 20th of April. Please pray that many will attend and be equipped for ministry in rural contexts across a Scotland.

### **Friday - Covenant Church, Newmilns**

Please give thanks for a number of growing connections with the local community, and pray that many will come along at easter time, particularly to the 'flowers and praise' event Monday 25th March.

### **Saturday- Richard and Barbara, a European City**

Pray for A, her son B in prison, her 6 other children (one daughter has plans to marry soon), her son-in-law and two grandchildren. May the Lord open her heart and the hearts of her family to receive the good news they have heard. May He be present as we continue visiting with her and sharing.

### **Sunday- Dumisani**

Give thanks to the Lord as Dr Wilbert Chipenyu, the principal at Dumisani Theological Institute, was ordained on March 2nd in the Reformed Church. We rejoice with him and the whole Dumisani community for this recognition of his ministry and calling.