



Sunday 13th December 2020

We warmly welcome everyone to Worship.
Annual Gift Day for Belfast City Mission



Reading: Luke 2: 8-20

First Ballyeaston Presbyterian Church Registered Charity in N. Ireland NIC104880
Minister: Rev Eddie McDowell, 10 Lower Ballyboley Rd, Ballyeaston
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Clerk of Session: Mr Euel Agnew Tel: 07740 074794 Email: euel.agnew1@btinternet.com

Church Website: www.firstballyeaston.org

Order of Service

Welcome & Announcements Eddie McDowell
Praise: Light of the World
Prayer of adoration and confession
Reading: Luke 2: 8-20 Lewis Arthur
Children's Talk
Praise: Silent Night, Holy night
Sermon: God chooses the Shepherds
Prayer for Others
Praise: While humble shepherds watched their flocks
Benediction

This Week

Sunday 20th December 11.30am All-Age Nativity Service
7pm Online Carol Service (pre-recorded)
Friday 25th 10.30 Online Christmas morning Worship
(pre-recorded)
Sunday 27th 11.30am Morning Worship
Speaker: Rev James Rogers
(Eddie will be in Ballynure)

If you wish to be in the Church or Galbraith Hall for our Sunday morning services then **please reserve your seat in advance by using the following link to our booking page and follow the instructions from there.** www.ticketsource.co.uk/First-Ballyeaston-Presbyterian-Church. **Should you not have access to the internet, please call our Church mobile on 0770 9930 372** and we will make a reservation on your behalf. Further information about reserving seats is on our church website. Services start at 11.30am but, as we are live streaming these on the internet, we would be grateful if you could be seated by 11.20am.

Church Information

Gift Day. Thank you to everyone who has brought gifts along today for the Belfast City Mission – we know they are tremendously appreciated.

First Ballyeaston Christmas Post Box. In recent years we have had a post box in the vestibule of our church in December, in which members could "post" Christmas cards to other members of the congregation. Because of the unique circumstances this year we will not be operating the "First Ballyeaston Christmas Post". Hopefully we will be able to do so in December next year !!

PW Mission Boxes. November was traditionally Box opening month however due to current circumstances we have been unable to have our normal monthly meetings. For anyone who has their PW mission box please

empty the contents place into an envelope with your name on it. There is a box in the vestibule today **Sunday 13th December** to receive these. Alternatively, if you are unable to come to church please contact Florence Norris to arrange collection PH: 07752076066. The Mission boxes support the Home & Overseas mission projects. This year we are supporting the work of CARE NI ministering to those who have experienced miscarriage and the Okhaldhunga Community Hospital's work in Nepal offering essential medical care to expectant mothers. presbyterianireland.org/PW-Special-Projects

Presbyterian Children's Society. This Society exists to support Presbyterian children in Ireland. It works to alleviate poverty and financial hardship for children and their families by regular and exceptional grants. The Society currently assists 870 children in 450 families in over 200 Congregations throughout Ireland. Donations can be forwarded to our Treasurer (details below)

Pastoral care. Rev McDowell & Rev Tosh are continuing to maintain contact with members by phone. If you are aware of anyone who would appreciate a phone call then please do contact Eddie 9332 2578.

Prayer Ministry. We offer everyone an opportunity to ask for prayer whether it be for themselves, a friend or a loved one. Contact Jean Woodside Tel: 07484767751 or Email: woodside880@btinternet.com

Church Organisations. Our church organisations have been unable to resume their usual programmes. We will update you when we are able to do so. This includes Sunday school, Bible Class, Youth Fellowship, Creche, Children's Church, GB, PW, Bowling Club and Midweek meetings.

Boys Brigade will be postponed until at least January 2021. The situation will be assessed again in January and will of course keep you informed of any change.

Girls' Brigade. GB headquarters has advised that no GB activities or meetings will take place until the beginning of January 2021. Thank you for your patience and we pray that your families will continue to keep well.

From our Treasurer - If you are able to contribute to the work of the Church, please bring your envelopes to Church or alternatively:
- post your contributions to me at 35 Rathmena Drive, Ballyclare BT39 9HZ. Make cheques payable to First Ballyeaston Presbyterian Church (do not post cash) and remember to include your name, address or WFO Number; or
- set up a Standing Order for a regular monthly payment. Please contact me on 07889348337 if you want to do so. Many Thanks, Joe.

Moderator's Christmas Appeal. Rt Rev Dr David Bruce, has launched a special Christmas Appeal to provide support to those in countries most affected by Covid 19. If you are able, envelopes to donate are in your packs which you should be receiving from the church shortly.

Newtownabbey Foodbank is extremely grateful for all your donations of food, money or time. Please leave any **donations** in the Foodbank trolley at ASDA during their opening hours or at Ballyclare Presbyterian Church each Thursday 2.30-5pm. Current items most in need include: **UHT Milk, Diluted juice, Tinned meats, Rice & pasta Sauce, Tea bags & Coffee, Cleaning Products, Tinned fruit and Soap.**

Church Services. We understand some members will be wary about returning to services in church and no one should feel under pressure to come. We will continue to provide services on the internet and CD. Please do not come if:

You have any symptoms of COVID19, or

You are isolating due to contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID19, or

You or a member of your household are awaiting results of COVID19 test.

Please also bring your own Bible. There will be a Retiring offering.

A face covering is now mandatory when entering and leaving the building and during the service. Singing – yes – but softly behind your face mask!

Bereavement Notice: *As a congregation we convey our sympathy to the family circle of Mr Jonathan Cherry who died on Wednesday past. A private funeral service took place yesterday morning as per current COVID-19 guidelines. We commend all who mourn to the loving arms of Almighty God.*

Local Event/Information

Ballyclare Area Churches Drive-In Carol Services at Sixmile Leisure centre carpark, Ballyclare Tonight, Sunday 13th December. You can choose to come to either the 5pm service or the 7pm service. Each Service - 1 hour. Members of our congregation will be taking part. To manage the large volume of cars it is essential to book your car in. Follow the link below theunitedparish.org.uk/drive-in-carol-service/

Antrim Area Hospital has introduced a **Phone First** system for patients including children with an injury or illness which requires urgent treatment but is not immediately life threatening. The system operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. **PH 0300 123 1123.** Anyone with a life-threatening condition/injury should still contact 999.

Please keep up to date with all current Government advice and Stay Safe. nidirect.gov.uk/covid-19