

Morning Service 10.30am

Date	Subject	Speaker
7th Jan Communion	DBC Covenant & Commissioning Service	Alistair Purss
New series: The Great I Am - Studies on John's Gospel		
14th Jan IP Communion	I am the Bread of Life	Eoghan Paterson
21st Jan	Baptismal Service	Alistair Purss
28th Jan All Age Talk	I am the light of the world - John 8:12	Eoghan Paterson
4th Feb Communion	I am the door - John 10:9	Alistair Purss
11th Feb IP	I am the good shepherd - John 10:11	Alistair Purss
18th Feb	ALL AGE WORSHIP SERVICE	Eoghan Paterson & All Age Team
25th Feb	I am the resurrection and the life - John 11: 25-26	Alistair Purss
3rd Mar Communion	I am the way, the truth and the life - John 14:6	David White
10th Mar IP	I am the true vine - John 15:1,5	Eoghan Paterson
17th Mar Communion	Before Abraham was born, I AM - John 8:58	Alistair Purss
24th Mar	ALL AGE WORSHIP SERVICE : The Triumphal Entry	Eoghan Paterson & All Age Team
31st Mar IP All Age Talk	Easter Celebration: I believe in the resurrection of the body and eternal life	Alistair Purss

All Age Talk = Service includes an All Age Talk
IP = Service includes an Intercessory Prayer

Evening Service 6.30pm

Date	Subject	Speaker
New Series: What you believe matters - Studies on the Apostles Creed		
7th Jan	What you believe matters!	Alistair Purss
14th Jan	I believe in God the Father	Alistair Purss
21st Jan Communion	I believe in God the Son: His birth and identity	Eoghan Paterson
28th Jan IP Communion	I believe in God the Son:	Alistair Purss
4th Feb	CENTRE POINT	Eoghan Paterson & Alistair Purss
11th Feb Communion	I believe in God the Son: His resurrection	Alistair Mackay
18th Feb Communion	I believe in God the Son: His ascension	Alistair Purss
25th Feb IP Communion	I believe in God the Son: His second coming	Eoghan Paterson
3rd Mar	CENTRE POINT	Eoghan Paterson
10th Mar Communion	I believe in the Holy Spirit	Alistair Mackay
17th Mar	I believe in the church	Eoghan Paterson
24th Mar IP Communion	Walking with Jesus through Holy week	Alistair Purss
31st Mar Communion	Easter Celebration (Incl the DBC Singing Group)	Alistair Purss

Important Contact Details

Alistair Purss	Lead Pastor	07882 698428
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The Great I AM - Studies on the I AM statements of Jesus from John's Gospel

The 'INVICTUS GAMES' were founded by Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex. It's an international multi-sport event first held in 2014, for wounded, injured and sick servicemen and women, both serving and veterans. The word 'invictus' means 'unconquered'! The word was chosen to embody the fighting spirit of the wounded, injured and sick service personnel and what they can achieve despite their life changing injuries both psychological and physical.

The 'INVICTUS GAMES' is cleverly advertised and promoted highlighting the second 'I' of Invictus and the 'AM' of Games, therefore projecting the powerful message of 'I AM UNCONQUERED'! This points us to the perseverance,



resilience and 'can do' attitude of every participant in the Games despite the difficulties and challenges they face.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus makes seven statements beginning with the words "I AM". Each of these "I AM" statements of Jesus proclaim who He is and why He has come and therefore helps us to understand Jesus' ministry in the world. They also link Jesus to the Old Testament revelation of God.

In the Old Testament, God revealed His name to Moses: "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you'" ([Exodus 3:14](#)). So therefore, in Judaism, "I AM" is unquestionably understood as a name for God. Whenever Jesus made an "I AM" statement He was proclaiming His deity, identifying Himself as God incarnate. Wow!

Don Carson helpfully points out that "the framework for Jesus' understanding of his own mission is shaped by the Scriptures mediated by the Jews". In other words, Jesus is the fulfilment of God's redemptive story throughout the Old Testament. As we study each statement we will go back to the Old Testament reference of it and show how Jesus is its fulfilment, reminding us that the Bible is one book, with one story about one person!

Although the "I AM" statements of Jesus are metaphorical (ie he is not actual physical bread, a door or a vine etc) they are an accurate description of who He is and why He has come to be

the Saviour of the world. This fits with John's purpose for writing the gospel: "these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ" - John 20:31.

Finally, it's important to recognise that Jesus remains 'The Great I AM' today, through his living, dying, rising and exaltation, and with the certainty of His Second Coming, Jesus is the true and only INVICTUS! The undefeated and unconquered One!

What You Believe Matters - Studies on the Apostles Creed

When you think of the word creed and you're into rock music, then you might well be thinking of the American rock band called 'Creed', who were well known and very successful from the mid 90's into the 2000's, and who still exist today! Despite using the word creed as their name and religious imagery in some of their songs the band state on their website; "We are not a Christian Band!"

Mark Tremonti the lead guitarist of Creed explaining one of their most successful albums entitled 'Human Clay' said this; "...what we are is up to us, we lead our own path and make our own destiny...". A creed that could not be further away from true Christian teaching.

The word creed comes from the Latin word 'credo', which literally means 'I believe'. In a world where it increasingly seems acceptable to believe in anything and anyone other than the God of the Bible, we must be equipped and able to defend our faith, contend for it and build our lives upon its truth as we give an answer for the hope that we profess - 1 Peter 3:15-18.

Sadly many Christians, local churches and whole denominations are moving away from Christian orthodoxy and like Mark Tremonti, believe that "...what we are is up to us, we lead our own path and make our own destiny...". As Christians our lives ought to be shaped by Scripture not culture and this is where the Apostles Creed helps us and reminds us of the foundational and non-negotiable Biblical truths of Christian orthodoxy. What you believe matters, not only for time but for eternity!

*I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,*

*who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.*

Al Mohler Jr in a very helpful article on the Apostles Creed says this; "A cultural revolution has swept across the West, blurring the lines between reality and fiction. Entire Christian denominations have capitulated to the whims of this revolution and surrendered the fundamental truths of their faith. In this surrender these churches have lost their identity as God's people.

All churches, therefore, must recapture and reinvigorate their zeal for all the doctrines contained in the Apostles' Creed. Each and every credo encapsulates the very essence and foundation of what the people of God believe—and what they have always believed.

In light of this reality, Christians must stand firm and stand together on the essential truths of Scripture. The church fathers understood this fact, which is why they laboured so diligently to give the church faithful summaries of Scripture's teaching, like the Apostles' Creed".

Special Diary Dates

21st January 2024 morning - Baptismal Service

4th Feb & 3rd March evenings - Centre Point

31st March - Easter Celebrations morning & evening. Evening service includes the DBC Singing Group.

Dumfries Baptist Church

Worship | Grow | Reach | Serve



Dumfries Baptist Church Jan - Mar 2024 PROGRAMME

THE BREAD OF LIFE · THE LIGHT
OF THE WORLD · THE DOOR OF
THE SHEEP · THE GOOD SHEPHERD
· THE RESURRECTION AND THE
LIFE · THE WAY, THE TRUTH,
AND THE LIFE · THE TRUE VINE

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BAPTISM/MEMBERSHIP

If you'd like to be baptised or would like to find out more about baptism and/or church membership, please speak to Alistair Purss or Eoghan Paterson.