

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND  
THE PRESBYTERY OF PAISLEY

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Church of St. Mark, Oldhall

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The  
Laying of the Foundation Stone

BY

Sir HUGH SHAW STEWART, Bart., K.C.B.

Convener of the County of Renfrew

ON

WEDNESDAY, 25th MARCH, 1936

At 3 p.m.

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Officiating Ministers:

REV. ROBERT AITKEN, B.D.,

*Moderator of Presbytery;*

REV. JOHN HALL, D.D.,

*Joint-Secretary, Home Mission Department, Church of Scotland;*

REV. JAMES MARR, B.D.,

*Convener, Business Committee, Presbytery of Paisley;*

REV. A. W. SAWYER, B.D.,

*Convener, Home Mission Committee, Presbytery of Paisley;*

REV. WM. RUNCIMAN, B.D.,

*Clerk, Presbytery of Paisley.*

# Order of Service.

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## NARRATIVE.

### CALL TO PRAYER.

Brethren, we are gathered together here to lay the Foundation Stone of the building which it is in our hearts to erect on this spot as a House of God and, in due time, by His favour, to dedicate to His worship. Let us, therefore, draw near to the throne of heavenly grace, and invoke the blessing of God on this our undertaking, that all things may be done in accordance with His will, and to the praise and honour of His Holy Name.

Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it.  
Our help is in the name of the Lord Who made heaven and earth.

## Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, by Whom of old the foundation of the earth was laid, mercifully grant Thy presence unto us who are about to lay the foundation stone of a House to be built for Thy worship. Be Thou the beginning, the increase, and the consummation of this our work that, undertaken for Thy service, it may be carried on and perfected to Thy glory through Jesus Christ our Lord, who livest and reignest with Thee, the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. AMEN.

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontious Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body; And the Life everlasting. AMEN.

## HYMN.

THE Church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ her Lord:  
She is His new creation  
By water and the word;  
From heaven He came and sought her  
To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her,  
And for her life He died.

'Mid toil and tribulation,  
And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace for evermore,  
Till with the vision glorious  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest.

The Moderator then says,

*Let the Foundation Stone be laid.*

## Laying the Stone

After the records and coins have been deposited, the person appointed for the purpose, having received the trowel and mallet from the architect, and assisted by the builder with the level, lays the stone in its place, and, after sounding the mallet on the stone, says,

*I declare this Foundation Stone to be well and truly laid.*

The Moderator then marks the stone for the mason to cut the cross upon it, and, laying his hand on the stone, says,

*In the Faith of Jesus Christ, we lay this Foundation Stone of a House  
of God that shall be named the Church of St. Mark. In the  
Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.*

AMEN.

## PSALM.

ALL people that on earth do dwell,  
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.  
Him serve with mirth, his praise forth  
tell,  
Come ye before him and rejoice.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
The God whom earth and heaven adore,  
Be glory, as it was of old,  
Is now, and shall be evermore.

AMEN.

## Prayers and Lord's Prayer

O Eternal God, mighty in power, of majesty incomprehensible, Whom the heaven of heavens cannot contain, much less the walls of temples made with hands; Who yet hast promised to be present wherever two or three are gathered together in Thy name; vouchsafe to guide and bless the efforts now being made to raise a House for Thy worship and service in this parish, and grant us such success as may tend most to Thy glory and the salvation of Thy people; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

O God, Who art the shield and defence of Thy people, be ever at hand, we beseech Thee, to protect and succour the builders of this house; keep them in their building from all sin and profaneness, and shelter them from all accident and peril; that the work which, through Thy mercy, hath now been begun may, by their labour, be brought to a happy end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

Look upon us and hear us, O Lord our God, and assist us in this endeavour to please Thee which Thou Thyself hast granted. As Thou hast given us the first act of will, so give us the continuation of the work, that we may be able to maintain and strengthen what Thou hast granted us to begin; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. AMEN.

## Address

## The Blessing