

## Moderator acceptance speech — General Assembly 2022

### Rev Dr Iain Greenshields

Right Reverend, Your Grace, fellow commissioners and honoured guests. I am genuinely humbled, honoured and privileged to be appointed as Moderator and to serve both you, this Church and our Lord in this capacity.

I am very much looking forward to the coming days as we are together both in person and on line. I am also, along with Linda and my chaplains positively anticipating the year that lies ahead, God willing and representing the our church.

May God grant me the wisdom fit for the task as well as your support and prayers.

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Lord Wallace, Jim. I am delighted to offer the sincere thanks of this church to you for the service you have rendered to us over these last 12 months as Moderator. Your appointment was both unique and imaginative and has proved a great success. You have brought great experience from your political life and your Christian Faith and commitment to the Church of Scotland as an elder, to the Office of Moderator.

There is no doubt that you have been a good ambassador for this church and that your have been very ably supported by Lady Wallace, Rosie, your wife – very much a team.

You came to this task at a difficult time both for the country and the church and had to be very adaptable as well as having to face a great deal of uncertainty about foreign travel in particular. Nevertheless, it has been a busy year and the church is in your debt for the many and diverse ways in which you have served church and country and enriched so many lives by your presence and wisdom.

You have worked diligently and with vigour right to the right up until the last week when you visited Hungary and Ukraine. Thank you for your service to this church – our church and your church.