

CHALMERS LECTURESHIP TRUST MAY 2024

Proposed Deliverance

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.

Report

1. CHALMERS LECTURES 2022-2026

1.1 The Trustees are grateful to the the joint Chalmers Lecturers, Rev Professor John Swinton and Dr Katie Cross, for their work in preparing detailed proposals for a series of lectures on the theme of 'Hope in today's world' for the Lectureship cycle 2022-2026.

2. DETAILED PROPOSALS FOR THE SERIES OF LECTURES

2.1 Each lecturer will deliver three online lectures with the opportunity for Q&A at the end of each lecture. Rev Professor John Swinton's lectures are entitled 'Being present: finding friendship in a 'hopeless' world.' Dr Katie Cross's lectures are entitled 'Hope is a verb: from witness to action in a traumatised world', which will examine our current state of a traumatised world, the importance of witnessing to trauma, and the idea of hope as an intentional practice or action. The final session of the series will be in hybrid format in Aberdeen at which both lecturers will take part in a facilitated dialogue and conversation about their different approaches to the overarching theme of 'Hope in today's world.'

2.2 The provisional dates for the online lectures are: 22, 24, 29 and 31 October, 3 and 5 December 2024 at 7pm. The final facilitated dialogue and conversation will take place on 9 December 2024 at 7 pm in hybrid form. Publicity will be produced to promote the lecture series throughout the Church and beyond.

2.3 The intention is for the lectures and dialogue to be published as a Lent book for congregations to use in 2025.

In the name of the Trust

FIONA E SMITH, *Chair*