**The head that once was crowned with thorns**

The head that once was crowned with thorns

is crowned with glory now;

a royal diadem adorns

the mighty Victor's brow.

The highest place that heaven affords

is His, by sovereign right,

the King of kings and Lord of lords,

He reigns in perfect light.

The joy of all who dwell above,

the joy of all below,

to whom He manifests His love,

and grants His name to know.

To them the cross with all its shame,

with all its grace, is given,

their name, an everlasting name,

their joy, the joy of heaven.

They suffer with their Lord below,

they reign with Him above,

their profit and their joy, to know

the mystery of His love.

The cross He bore is life and health,

though shame and death to Him:

His people's hope, His people's wealth,

their everlasting theme.

(CCLI No 2688965)

Interim Moderator: Reverend Gordon Martin 01463 871223

Elders: Ken MacDonald 07895 678496

 Colin MacDonald 01599 522719

 Finlay MacDonald 07445 646444

Assessor Elders: Murdo MacLeod

 Willie Fraser

Finance Committee: Donnie Lamont

 Ronnie Lamont

Safeguarding Co-ordinators: Barbara MacDonald 01599 522719

 Moira Lane 01599 522709

*I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.* ***Psalm 119:10-11***

###### **Free church**

# FREE CHURCH

# GLENELG AND INVERINATE

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

**Sunday 10th December 2023**

**Services at 12.00 noon in Inverinate Hall**

 **and**

**6.00pm in Glenelg Church of Scotland**

**We warmly welcome you to this service of worship and would love you to join us for tea, coffee and refreshments following the service**

*Lord, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, Lord: Repeat them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy.* **Habakkuk 3:2**

**NOTICES**

* **Today’s Services:** Ken MacDonald will lead us in worship at today’s 12.00 noon service in Inverinate with a reading from Philippians chapter 2, verses 5-11 is a sermon entitled *Be more Jesus (The Incarnation.)*. For the evening service in Glenelg we will be listening to a sermon from Rev Alasdair MacLeod from Smithton Free Church entitled, *Unexpected (Mary’s news.)*
* **Sunday School:** The older children will leave us for Sunday School during the Inverinate Service and there will be a creche for the very little ones.
* **Praise:**

Sing Psalms 103:1-11 (page 135) – *Praise God my soul! With all my heart*

Sing Psalms 2 (page 2) – *Why do the heathen nations rage?*

Hymn (see back page) – *The head that once was crowned with thorns*

Sing Psalms 110 (page 149) – *The Lord said to my Lord*

* **Advent Evening:** All are warmly invited to an Advent Evening of carol singing at Colin and Barbara MacDonald’s home in Glenelg tonight at 8.00pm. Please do come along and enjoy this time of singing and fellowship.
* **Sunday 17th December:** Phil Pickett will lead us in worship at the 12.00 noon service in Inverinate and will deliver the message at the Carols at the Castle service at 5.00pm at Eilean Donan Castle. Phil writes, “*Hi I'm Phil. I am married to Helen and we have a 10 month old called Lachlan. I am in my final year of training for ministry. During my training I have worked for St. Andrews Free Church, and then Carloway Free Church while studying part time at Cornhill in Glasgow, and now Edinburgh Theological Seminary (ETS) part time. I'm looking forward to meeting you all.”*
* **Christmas Lunch:** Next Sunday (17th December) we will hold our Christmas Lunch following our 12 noon service in Inverinate, to which all are warmly invited, please do plan to stay behind and share this meal together as a church family. If anyone wants to contribute to the lunch please speak to Mairi MacRae who is coordinating.
* **Carols at the Castle:** Sunday 17th December at 5.00pm at Eilean Donan Castle. This is a great outreach opportunity for people to come along and hear the gospel. Please do invite friends and family to come along. Finlay Macdonald is organising a leaflet drop in the Dornie area to advertise the event, if you are able to help, please speak to him.
* **Wednesday Evening Bible Studies**: Our Dornie group will meet this coming Wednesday at 7.30pm at Vivienne and Colin MacKenzie’s home and will be studying our Advent Study ‘Comfort and Joy’. Everyone is very welcome to join the group. There will be no Bible Study in Glenelg this week at it is the Primary School Christmas Concert.
* **Online Studies:** Both of our online Study Groups – the Ladies and the Men’s Study Groups – are working through our Advent Bible Study ‘Comfort and Joy’. Study books are still available at the door and if you are interested in joining either group please speak to Moira, Barbara or Colin.
* **Prayer for One Invite Cards:** The Invite Cards are available at the back of the hall. They are for use for all of our Christmas and New Year Services. Please do take as many as you want and pray for a person or people who you would like to invite to any of these services and then use the Invite Card to invite them along.
* **Christmas and New Year Services:**

**Sunday 24th December**

* 12.00 noon Christmas Eve Service in Inverinate Hall
* 4.30pm Family Christmas Eve Carol Evening in Inverinate Hall

**Sunday 31st December**

* 12.00 noon Hogmanay Service in Inverinate Hall
* 6.00pm short Thanksgiving service of Bible readings and Prayer for the New Year in Glenelg

**Monday 1st January**

* 12.00 noon New Years Day service in Kyle Free Church
* **Praying For One Another:** We urge you to pray for Christians at home and in countries far and wide. Please pray for:

**St. Columba's:** Please pray for the congregation during this time of transition - for unity, vision and energy. Give thanks for their commitment, growth in grace, and hard work. Pray for Cory Brock, the assistant minister, who will bear the burden of ministry during the vacancy and, Lord willing, beyond that time. Pray for the Derek and Catriona Lamont, who finish in St Columba's in Jan 2024 to take up a church re-plant in Leith.

**Turkey:** Once again, a number of foreign Christians serving various ministries in Turkey have been expelled from the country and permanently banned from returning. Pray for them and their families, as well as for the ministries they have left behind. At this time of year shop windows in Turkey are filled with decorations of Santa Claus, tinsel, snowflakes, etc. Many Turks do not know the difference between Christmas and the New Year celebrations. Pray for Christians there, as they try to communicate the real story of Christ's coming into the world

**Richard and Barbara, a European City:** We have less contact with some of the young people we have known over the years. We have shared much with them in the past and they have some understanding of the word of God. Pray that they would remember what they have heard and turn to the Lord. At this time of year we try to visit island friends whom we are unable to visit regularly. We leave them with a Bible calendar. Pray that the verses would be read and that our visits would remind them of what they have heard in the past.