**AND CAN IT BE**

And can it be that I should gain

an interest in the Saviour’s blood?

Died He for me, who caused His pain?

For me, who Him to death pursued?

Amazing love! How can it be

that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

‘Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies:

who can explore His strange design?

In vain the first born seraph tries

to sound the depths of love divine.

‘Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,

let angel minds inquire no more.

He left His Father’s throne above –

so free, so infinite His grace –

emptied Himself of all but love,

and bled for Adam’s helpless race.

‘Tis mercy all, immense and free;

For, O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay

fast bound in sin and nature’s night;

Thine eye diffused a quickening ray –

I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;

my chains fell off, my heart was free.

I rose, went forth and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread;

Jesus and all in Him, is mine!

Alive in Him, my living Head

and clothed in righteousness divine,

bold I approach the eternal throne

and claim the crown through Christ my own.

**(CCLI No. 3351545)**

*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 7th July 2024**

**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**

*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:** Today we are delighted to welcome our Interim Moderator Rev Gordon Martin to lead us in worship at the 12.00 noon Inverinate service. We are looking forward to hearing what God has laid on his heart for us today. Rev Martin will preach a sermon entitled *You Must Be Born Again* with the reading from John chapter 3, verses 1 to 21. For the 6.00pm service in Glenelg we will be starting a new three-part series on prayer; Rev Thomas Davis will be preaching on Psalm 62, a sermon entitled *Pouring Out Your Heart.* The evening service will be followed by our weekly Prayer Meeting, please speak to Ken or Colin if you would like a prayer said on your behalf.
* **Sunday School:** Sunday School is taking a break now and will restart at the end of the summer holidays. However there will be a creche for the very little ones.
* **Praise:**

Sing Psalms 122:1-9 (page 169) – *“To the LORD’s house!” they were calling*

Sing Psalms 147:1-7 (page 192) – *O praise the LORD, how good it is*

Sing Psalms 130:1-8 (page 173) – *LORD from the depths I call to You*

Hymn (see back page) – *And can it be*

* **Congregational Meeting:** There will be a congregational meeting following today’s 12.00 noon service to approve a closed call being given to Rev James Blackwell, probationer, currently acting as congregational worker with pastoral responsibilities in Fort William.
* **Next Sunday 14th July:** Finlay MacDonald will lead us in worship at the 12.00 noon Inverinate service and for the 6.00pm Glenelg service we will listen to part two of the online sermon series on Prayer from Carloway Free Church. The evening service will be followed as usual by our weekly Prayer Meeting.
* **Online Studies:** Our Ladies Study Group are continuing their Two-Year Bible Read Through study. Our Men’s Study Group are continuing their study on Paul’s letters and are studying the book of Colossians. If you are interested in joining either group please speak to Moira, Barbara or Colin.
* **Bible Studies:** Both of our Wednesday evening Bible studies are on this week. The Dornie group meet at 7.30pm at Colin and Vivienne MacKenzie’s home. In Glenelg we have recently begun a new study on John’s gospel. We meet at Jon and Megan MacDonald’s home for a 7.30pm start. All are warmly welcome to both studies.
* **Holiday Bible Clubs/Youth Activity Weeks:** Not long to go now! It’s that exciting time of the year again when we are busy finalising our plans for the Holiday Bible Club (15th to 19th July) for Primary age children and the Youth Activity Week (16th to 19th July) for P7 and High School Youth. Please do pray for the leaders and children.
* **Scripture Union Scotland Prayer Update:**
* Pray for the gap year students, previous gap year students and leader Elizabeth McDowall who leave for their mission trip to Hungary on Wednesday. They will be working with Hungarian volunteers to run an English camp at the church Nagytarcsai Evangelikus where they will deliver bible stories, songs, memory verses, teaching English, sharing testimonies and playing games with local children.
* Pray for the 15 events for children and young people happening across Scotland this week.
* Pray for campers from difficult home backgrounds that their SU holiday would be a place of respite and fun where they can enjoy time with people of their own age. Pray for those who are carers for their parents or younger siblings, those with parents in prison, those from abusive or unhappy family homes. Pray for those who have had a hard year at school, whether through exam pressures or bullying or other challenges, those who are struggling with their identity. Pray each young person will have a fantastic holiday and will know that they are accepted and loved by God.
* Pray for children and young people coming along to Holiday Clubs, the Youth Activity Week and Magnitude in July.
* **Praying For One Another**: Please add the following to your Prayer diaries:
	+ **Dumbarton:** Give thanks for the congregation. Pray they would be strengthened by the Spirit for works of service and that they would grow in knowledge and wisdom as they serve and seek Christ. Pray for the congregation in their time of vacancy, pray that the Lord would be with His people and grant them all wisdom. Give thanks for Rev Colin Buchanan who is resident supply and pray the Lord would bless him.
	+ **Free Church Youth Camps:** Pray for Oswestry Seniors 2 and Oswestry Juniors heading to camp on Friday and Renfrew Girls who head out Saturday. Pray that through the witness of Christ over the week the Lord would bring many of the young people to salvation in Jesus Christ.
	+ **Hope Church Leith:** pray for Hope Church Leith Church Plant as they think and pray more about the core values (identity, focus, DNA) of HCL that they will be guided and inspired by God to be as Christ centred as possible in their thinking and acting.
	+ **Osamu and Mairi, Japan:** They are planning to start a drop-in café for the community some time in the autumn. Please pray for the preparation in this. Later this month Tohoku Keswick Convention committee members meet to discuss getting more churches in Tohoku region interested in Keswick. Please pray for wisdom and guidance.