From the squalor of a borrowed stable,
By the Spirit and a virgin’s faith;
To the anguish and the shame of scandal
Came the Saviour of the human race.
But the skies were filled with the praise of heaven,
Shepherds listen as the angels tell
Of the Gift of God come down to man
At the dawning of Immanuel.

King of heaven now the Friend of sinners,
Humble servant in the Father’s hands,
Filled with power and the Holy Spirit,
Filled with mercy for the broken man.
Yes, He walked my road and He felt my pain,
Joys and sorrows that I know so well;
Yet His righteous steps give me hope again –
I will follow my Immanuel.

Through the kisses of a friend’s betrayal,
He was lifted on a cruel cross;
He was punished for a world’s transgressions,
He was suffering to save the lost.
He fights for breath, He fights for me,
Loosing sinners from the claims of hell;
And with a shout our souls are free –
Death defeated by Immanuel.

Now He’s standing in the place of honour,
Crowned with glory on the highest throne,
Interceding for His own beloved
Till His Father calls to bring them home!
Then the skies will part as the trumpet sounds
Hope of heaven or the fear of hell;
But the Bride will run to her Lover’s arms,
Giving glory to Immanuel!

(CCLI No – 2733786)

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FREE CHURCH

GLENELG AND INVERINATE

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Sunday 1st December 2024

Service at 12.00 noon in Inverinate Hall

We warmly welcome you to this service of worship and would love you to join us for tea, coffee and refreshment

*he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tear from all faces;
he will remove his people’s disgrace from all the earth.
The Lord has spoken.* *In that day they will say, “Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.”* ***Isaiah 25:8-9***

**NOTICES**

* **Today’s Service:**We are delighted to have Rev. James Blackwell leading us in worship from Matthew 2:1-12 & Luke 2:8-20, Sermon – *People of the Nativity 1: who?* in Inverinate. There will be no 6.00pm service in Glenelg to allow us all to attend the Advent Carol Service in Glenelg this evening.
* **Praise:**

Sing Psalms 96(a):1-8 (page 126) – *O sing a new song to the Lord*

Scottish Psalter 148(1st):11-14 (page 448) – *Kings of the earth, all nations*

Sing Psalms 22:23-27 (page 27) – *Praise him, all you that fear the Lord*

Hymn – *From the squalor of a borrowed stable.* *(See back page)*

* **Sunday School:** Sunday School will run as usual today during our 12.00 noon service. There is also a creche for the very little ones.
* **Next Sunday 8th December:** Rev James Blackwell will lead us in worship at the 12.00 noon Service at Inverinate Hall and at 6.00pm in Glenelg.
* **Advent Carol Service:** Our Advent Carol Service takes place this evening at 6.30pm in Glenelg Community Hall. We will be meeting at 6.00pm at the Ferry Junction and walking to the hall for a time of Carols, readings and prayer at 6.30pm. There will be a collection for Bethany Christian Trust. **Any contributions towards the refreshments following the service would be most welcome. Please speak to Barbara if you can contribute.**
* **Advent Study**: We are looking to offer a whole church an Advent Bible Study again this year. The study we will undertake is called "The Coming of the King" and the study books are available at the door, so please do take one. We will be doing these as part of our house Bible Studies, our online Bible Studies and we would encourage you to join into one of those. However, if you cannot do so, then please consider reading it as a personal study, or part of a small group set up by yourselves. So do pick up a copy and join in.
* **AGM Update:**The Kirk Session would like to thank the congregation for attending last week’s AGM. We were delighted that Donnie Lamont, Ronnie Lamont, Craig Scobie and Moira Lane were elected as members of the Finance Committee. We also want to thank the congregation for their generosity and servant hearts, whilst also aware of our need for financial independence.

To that end we would ask the congregation to pray alongside us that we could reach the £50000 yearly income threshold that would allow us to become an unrestricted charge by 2026 allowing us to use our resources for future mission and evangelism. God bless and thank you all.

* At our last Meeting of Presbytery, Willie Fraser requested that he be allowed to stand down as Assessor Elder to our congregation, as we now have sufficient local elders. His request was granted and he was warmly thanked for his faithfulness to us, as were Murdo MacLeod, Rev. Roddie Rankin and the congregation of Plockton and Kyle for their continued support throughout what was a long time of vacancy
* **Church Prayer Meeting:** Please remember that our Church Prayer Meeting is now held every Sunday at 11.15am in Inverinate Hall before the Sunday Service. Prayer is the engine room of the church and this is a wonderful opportunity every Sunday to come together as brothers and sisters in Christ and pray together. So please do come along and join us in prayer to our Heavenly Father.
* **Wednesday Bible Studies:** Our Dornie Bible Study runs at Colin and Vivienne MacKenzie’s home at 7.30pm and our Glenelg Bible Study runs at Jon and Megan MacDonald’s home, also at 7.30pm. Please speak to James, Ken, Finaly or Colin if you want to join either study.

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* **Friday Youth Club, Kyle:** Timmy and the team are in need of an extra set of hands each week at Friday youth club (1.30-5.00pm). This club is run as drop in sessions for S1—S6. We are also looking for volunteers to provide a simple dinner each week (for about 20 - pizza, hot dogs, chicken nuggets, etc - to be eaten at 4.30pm at Kyle village hall). If you are interested in helping out with either of these please contact Megan on megan-mac@outlook.com for more details.
* **Praying for One Another:** Please add the following prayer points to your prayer diaries

**Lochs**: Please pray for the weekly gathering of believers on the Lord’s day, that as the congregation gather’s to worship, they would be strengthened and upheld. Give thanks for how the Lord is at work in His church and His people. Pray that they would know God’s strength and comfort with them always, and that they would have a renewed sense of His grace

**Board of Ministry**: Please pray for the Board of Ministry meeting taking place next Tuesday (10th). Give thanks for the work of the Board of Ministry over the past year, and pray that as they meet for the final time in 2024, the Lord would guide them and give them wisdom for the next year.

**Healthy Gospel Church**: Pray that God will spur on prospective leaders into Christian ministry. The Free Church is looking to recruit and train 70 new ministers over the next 10 years. Pray that God will raise up leaders for these roles.

**Stornoway High Free**: Please pray for the Christmas Praise night taking place on the 14th of December. Please that many would come along to worship and praise, and hear the good news of Jesus.