**O FOR A CLOSER WALK WITH GOD**

O for a closer walk with God,

A calm and heavenly frame;

A light to shine upon the road

That leads me to the lamb.

Where is that blessedness I knew

When first I saw the Lord?

Where is that soul-refreshing view

Of Jesus and his word?

What peaceful hours I once enjoyed,

How sweet their memory still!

But they have left an aching void

The world can never fill.

Return, O holy dove, return,

Sweet messenger of rest!

I hate the sins that made thee mourn

And drove thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known,

Whate'er that idol be,

Help me to tear it from thy throne

And worship only thee.

So shall my walk be close with God,

Calm and serene my frame;

So purer light shall mark the road

That leads me to the lamb.

(CCLI No 4723505)

Interim Moderator: Reverend Gordon Martin 01463 871223

Elders: Ken MacDonald 07895 678496 Colin MacDonald 01599 522719

Assessor Elders: Murdo MacLeod

 Willie Fraser

 Reverend Gordon Martin

Finance Committee: Iain Fraser

 Donnie Lamont

 Ronnie Lamont

Safeguarding Co-ordinators: Barbara MacDonald O1599 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 3rd September 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**

*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:** We are delighted to have Arran MacDonald leading us in worship for our 12 noon Inverinate service today. He will be preaching from Genesis, chapter 11, verse 27 to chapter 13, verse 18, in a sermon entitled ‘*How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place.’* For the Glenelg 6.00pm service we will be continuing our online series from Smithton Free Church called ‘*Following Jesus*.’ This evening Rev Ian Hamilton will be preaching the second part of the series, in a sermon entitled ‘*Continuance is the Test of Reality*.’ The Evening Service will be followed as usual by our Prayer Meeting. If you are unable to join us and have prayer requests, then please let Ken know.
* **Sunday School:** We are delighted to have our Sunday School today, it will run, as usual, during our Inverinate 12 noon Service.
* **Praise:**

Sing Psalms 116:1-9 (page 154) – *I love the Lord because he heard my voice*

Scottish Psalter 84:1-9 (page 338) – *How lovely is thy dwelling place*

Scottish Psalter 133 (page 424) – *Behold, how good a thing it is*

Hymn (see back page) – *O for a closer walk with God*

* **Wednesday Evening Bible Studies**: Both the Glenelg and Dornie groups will meet this coming Wednesday at 7.30pm. The Glenelg group will meet at Peter and Moira Lane’s home and are starting a new series on Prayer. The Dornie group meet at Vivienne and Colin MacKenzie’s home and are continuing their study through Luke’s Gospel. All are most warmly welcome.
* **Next Sunday 10th September:** Ken MacDonald will lead us in worship for our 12.00 noon Inverinate. We will be continuing with our online sermon series, ‘*Following Jesus’* at the Glenelg 6.00pm service.
* **Online Studies:** Our Men’s Online Study Group continue with our *‘Bible Read Through’* study and are starting a new study on 1 & 2 Corinthians; if you would like to join the study please speak to Colin. Our Ladies Study Group are continuing their study on 1 Peter, called ‘*Following Jesus’.* This would be a great time to join either study group so please speak to Moira, Barbara or Colin to join up.
* **Healing Hurting Hearts:** Following the recent success of the Healing Hurting Hearts the organisers are running the courses for a second time. Again it will be geared for those who have experienced adverse circumstances in their lives or for those who would like to help others. The dates are 9th September in Kyle Free Church, 9.30am to 4.00pm. A second course – Strength from Weakness – 28th October, 11th November, 20th January will also be run. For more information and to book a place speak to Anne MacLeod.
* **COOL Alltnacriche Youth Weekend 2023 Friday 15th to Sunday 17th September:** We are very excited to announce the bookings are now open for our Youth Weekend at SU’s Alltnacriche Outdoor Centre, Aviemore. Open to all High School aged young people. It’s going to be a great weekend with lots planned - outdoor activities like ropes course or zip line, climbing, wide games, great food, inspiring thoughts from the bible, discussion groups, camp fire, and lots of time to hang out with friends. Spaces are limited, so please book at - <https://coolscotland.org.uk/alltnacriche-yw23/> - don’t miss out!
* **Healthy Church Gathering:** (Skye and Wester Ross Presbytery) Wednesday 27th September in Kyle Free Church 6.30pm for coffee, 7.00pm start, 9.30pm finish. The hope is to bring together congregations for a time of input and then discussions. There will be updates on how some churches have taken hold of the vision as well as time to discuss some main topics and pray together. For more details and to book go to Healthy Church Gatherings – Free Church of Scotland.
* **Big Free Rally:** Saturday 30th September in Smithton Church Inverness from 11.00am to 3.30pm for young people from P5 to S6 with Davi de Paula the main speaker. More information will follow in due course.
* **Praying For One Another:** We urge you to pray for Christians at home and in countries far and wide. Please pray for:

**Barvas:** Pray for the elders and deacons as they prepare a Development Plan for the congregation.Give thanks for a growing youth fellowship, praying that they would come to know the Lord while they are still young.

**Campbeltown:** Please pray for our youth group which meets every fortnight, that the young people will be built up in the faith and discipled. Give thanks for the induction of Rev James Murray who will be joining the congregation with his family. Give thanks to God for the provision of a minister for the congregation. Please pray that James and his family will be of great blessing to the congregation and wider community.

**ETS:** Give thanks for the new term beginning this week. Please pray for all the staff and students, that God would encourage them, and pray particularly for new students, that they would settle well into their studies and be encouraged by the teaching of God’s word.

**Sashko, Poland:** Please pray for the leadership of the church as we are planning our autumn schedule and as we are trying to decide which ministries should be developed and continued and which ones should be terminated. Please give thanks for the two projects we were able to run for the displaced Ukrainian teenagers.