**ALL I ONCE HELD DEAR**

All I once held dear, built my life upon

All this world reveres, and wars to own

All I once thought gain I have counted loss

Spent and worthless now, compared to this

*Knowing You, Jesus*

*Knowing You, there is no greater thing*

*You're my all, You're the best*

*You're my joy, my righteousness*

*And I love You, Lord*

Now my heart's desire is to know You more

To be found in You and known as Yours

To possess by faith what I could not earn

All-surpassing gift of righteousness

*Knowing You, Jesus…*

Oh, to know the power of Your risen life

And to know You in Your sufferings

To become like You in Your death, my Lord

So with You to live and never die

*Knowing You, Jesus…*

(CCLI No. 1045238)

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 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 17th March 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 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:** We are delighted to have Finlay Macdonald to lead us in worship at our 12.00 noon service in Inverinate. The reading is from Jeremiah chapter 9, verses 23-24, the sermon is entitled *Knowing God.* For the Glenelg service we will be watching an online sermon from Dowanvale Free Church, with Rev David Merideth preaching. Our weekly Prayer Meeting will follow the evening service. If you can’t attend the service and would like us to pray for you, then please speak to Ken or Colin.
* **Sunday School:** Our Sunday School will run this week as normal and there will also be a creche for the little ones.
* **Praise:**

Scottish Psalter 100 (page 362) – *All people that on earth do dwell*

Sing Psalms 42:1-5 (page 53) – *As pants the deer for flowing streams*

Sing Psalms 27:7-14 (page 32) – *Lord, hear me when I call to you*

Hymn (see back page) – *All I once held dear*

* **Sunday 24th March:** We look forward to welcoming back James Blackwell, who will lead us in worship for our 12.00 noon service in Inverinate and the 6.00pm service in Glenelg Church.
* **Dates for your Diary:** On Good Friday, 29th of March we will be holding our usual service at 7.00pm in Inverinate Hall, and Rev Roddie Rankin has kindly agreed to lead that service and to lead us in the Sacrament of Holy Communion during our Good Friday service. Then on Easter Sunday, we will have our 9.00am Easter Sunday morning service on Mam Ratagan, which Ken will lead and our 12 Noon Easter Sunday Service will be taken by Aviel Sela from International Mission to Jewish People. The 12 Noon service will be followed by a congregational lunch.
* **Prayer for One:** You will have received a Prayer for One invite card as you arrived this afternoon. Please do use them to pray for someone you would like to invite to our Easter Service and Lunch, then you can use the card itself as an invite to ask them along. There are more cards at the back of the church if you want to ask more than one person.
* **Joint Bible Study:** We will hold our first joint Bible Study this Wednesday evening (20th March) at the Chocolates of Glenshiel Café at 7.00pm. We will enjoy a fellowship meal and Ken will lead us in a time of Bible Study together. We would encourage everyone to come along, if you can, even if you have not attended the regular Bible studies – this event, like the weekly Bible study, is open to all. For catering purposes, it would be very handy if you could let Ken or Colin know that you plan to come.
* **Online Studies:** Our Ladies Study Group are continuing their Two Year Bible Read Through study. Our Men’s Study Group are doing the*Finding Mercy on the Way of Sorrow* study. If you are interested in joining either group please speak to Moira, Barbara or Colin.
* **POV Report:** Paper copies of the report from our recent Presbytery Oversight Visit pertaining to the congregation are available at the door for your information.
* **Free Church of Scotland Finance Update:** The Board of Trustees would like to thank congregations and individual members for their efforts to maintain remittance levels and mission donations during 2023. The Elders and Finance Committee would like to add our grateful thanks to you for your faithful service and commitment to our church family in time, talents, prayer and finance.
* **Ending Conversion Practices Consultation:** The Public Engagement Group has provided a response to the Scottish Government’s proposals on Ending Conversion Practices Consultation. The Public Engagement Group is encouraging Presbyteries, Congregations and Individuals to respond to the Consultation before the deadline (2nd April 2024) and would encourage everyone to commit these issues to the Lord in prayer. <https://freechurch.org/conversion-practices-scotland-group-response/>
* **In A Big Country Rural Conference:** Saturday 20th April. We are delighted to invite you to our third ‘In A Big Country Rural Conference’ on Saturday 20th April at Dingwall Free Church. More details to follow but note the date in your diary. We would love to see you there. Bookings open on Friday 8th March.
* **Heart for Home - Women for Mission:** Women for Mission have money in their Heart for Home fund, but they haven’t had any applications in the past 12 months. If you can think of anything our church needs for the good of our congregation and/or the wider community, please let Colin know. Up to £500 can be given in any single application for a wide variety of projects or equipment - they are open to suggestions. Further info and how to apply on the Women for Mission website.
* **Praying For One Another**: The Need for Prayer:
  + The Mission of the Church is not difficult; it is impossible. The resources are too few, the enemies are too strong and the avenues of potential service are too many. We don’t just need more people, more training or more resources – we need the power of God. Nothing less and nothing else will do. God promises both to hear and to respond to prayer. Prayer connects us with the one who alone can give life, hope and peace. Prayer expresses our faith and prayer expresses our hope in God.
  + Scotland is a post-Christian nation. Many have no understanding of the good news of Jesus, and making the Gospel known can seem like an impossible task. But we believe the brave new world of Scotland is not a reason for us to panic; rather it is a reason for us to pray. As Os Guinness states, “The ultimate factor in the church’s engagement with society is the church’s engagement with God.”
  + With a rich Christian history and heritage, the Free Church of Scotland is as committed today as it always has been to share one message: "*God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life*." JOHN 3:16 (NIV). This message of love and hope shapes everything we do as a Reformed Presbyterian denomination and is our primary message to Scotland and the nations.