

Abbotsford Anglican Church St Andrews

Sunday, 11 October 2020

Service of Word and Prayer Form 2

WELCOME - Fiona

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 103

¹ Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. ² Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits - ³ who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, ⁴ who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, ⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

⁶ The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel: ⁸ The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. ⁹ He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; ¹⁰ he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. ¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

¹³ As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; ¹⁴ for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are

dust. ¹⁵ The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field; ¹⁶ the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more. ¹⁷ But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children - ¹⁸ with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.

¹⁹ The Lord has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all. ²⁰ Praise the Lord, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. ²¹ Praise the Lord, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will. ²² Praise the Lord, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the Lord, my soul. (NIV)

OPENING PRAYER

PRaising GOD

Gracious God, we humbly thank you for all your gifts so freely given to us, for life and health and safety, for power to work, leisure to rest, and for all that is beautiful in creation and human life. But, above all, we praise you for our Saviour Jesus Christ, for his death and resurrection, for the gift of your Spirit, and for the hope of sharing in your glory. Fill our hearts with all joy and peace in believing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Thank you, Heavenly Father that all Scripture is God-breathed, and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. Open our hearts to receive your word, that we may know you better and be thoroughly equipped for every good work, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Bible Readings - Max

Romans 9:1-29

¹ I speak the truth in Christ - I am not lying, my conscience confirms it through the Holy Spirit - ² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race, ⁴ the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. ⁵ Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen. ⁶ It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. ⁷ Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." ⁸ In other words, it is not the children by physical descent who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring. ⁹ For this was how the promise was stated: "At the appointed time I will return, and Sarah will have a son."

¹⁰ Not only that, but Rebekah's children were conceived at the same time by our father Isaac. ¹¹ Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad - in order that God's purpose in election might stand: ¹² not by works but by him who calls - she was told, "The older will serve the younger." ¹³ Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

¹⁴ What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! ¹⁵ For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

¹⁶ It does not, therefore, depend on human desire or effort, but on God's mercy. ¹⁷ For Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." ¹⁸ Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden.

¹⁹ One of you will say to me: "Then why does God still blame us? For who is able to resist his will?" ²⁰ But who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'"

²¹ Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use?

²² What if God, although choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath - prepared for destruction? ²³ What if he did this to make the riches of his glory known to the objects of his mercy, whom he

prepared in advance for glory - ²⁴ even us, whom he also called, not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles? ²⁵ As he says in Hosea: "I will call them 'my people' who are not my people; and I will call her 'my loved one' who is not my loved one," ²⁶ and, "In the very place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' there they will be called 'children of the living God.'" ²⁷ Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: "Though the number of the Israelites be like the sand by the sea, only the remnant will be saved. ²⁸ For the Lord will carry out his sentence on earth with speed and finality." ²⁹ It is just as Isaiah said previously: "Unless the Lord Almighty had left us descendants, we would have become like Sodom, we would have been like Gomorrah." (NIV)

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon - Trevor

'Why? Because God chooses to be merciful.'

Sermon series: Righteousness Revealed

On the screen to listen to...but at home sing along!

The Lord Is My Salvation

Keith & Kristyn Getty

The grace of God has reached for me
And pulled me from the raging sea
And I am safe on this solid ground
The Lord is my salvation
I will not fear when darkness falls
His strength will help me scale these walls
I'll see the dawn of the rising sun
The Lord is my salvation

Chorus:
Who is like the Lord our God?
Strong to save, faithful in love
My debt is paid and the vict'ry won
The Lord is my salvation
My hope is hidden in the Lord
He flow'rs each promise of His Word
When winter fades I know spring will come
The Lord is my salvation
In times of waiting, times of need
When I know loss, when I am weak
I know His grace will renew these days
The Lord is my salvation *Chorus*

And when I reach my final day
He will not leave me in the grave
But I will rise, He will call me home
The Lord is my salvation *Chorus*

Glory be to God the Father!
Glory be to God the Son!
Glory be to God the Spirit!
The Lord is our salvation.
(C) 2016 Getty Music Label

PRAYING TO GOD

Although we are the people of God,
Scripture reminds us that we still sin.
We need to confess our failures,
knowing that the Lord Jesus died for us and
intercedes for us with the Father.
Let us draw near to God, who freely
forgives, through his infinite goodness and
mercy, and pray to him with sincerity and
confidence.

**Heavenly Father, we praise you
for adopting us as your children
and making us heirs of eternal life.**

**In your mercy you have washed us
from our sins and made us clean in your
sight. Yet we still fail to love you
and serve you as we should.
Forgive us our sins and renew us by
your grace, that we may continue to
grow as members of Christ,
in whom alone is our salvation. Amen.**

God is slow to anger and full of
compassion. He forgives all who humbly
repent and turn to his Son Jesus Christ, in
whom there is no condemnation. **Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your
name, your kingdom come, your will be
done on earth as in heaven. Give us
today our daily bread. Forgive us our
sins as we forgive those who sin against
us. Lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil. For the kingdom,
the power, and the glory are yours, now
and forever. Amen.**

*Further prayers are read for our community,
our nation and our world*

Prayers - Diane

SET PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Graciously hear us, Lord God; and grant
that we, to whom you have given the desire
to pray, may by your mighty aid be
defended and strengthened in all dangers
and adversities; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. **Amen.** *AAPB page 258*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHAT WE BELIEVE

Do you believe in God the Father?
**We believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in God the Son?
**We believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the
Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**universal, complete*

GOING OUT TO SERVE

**Father, take us and use us to love and
serve you and all people, in the power of
your Spirit and in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and
peace as you trust in him, so that you may
overflow with hope by the power of the Holy
Spirit. **Amen.**