

Abbotsford Anglican Church St Andrews

Sunday, 12 September 2021

Service of Word and Prayer Form 2

WELCOME - Trevor

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

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.

KID's SPOT and KID's SONG

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 – Kay

Ecclesiastes 3:1-14

¹ There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
² a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
³ a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
⁴ a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
⁵ a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
⁶ a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
⁷ a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
⁸ a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.
⁹ What do workers gain from their toil?
¹⁰ I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. ¹¹ He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart;

yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. ¹² I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. ¹³ That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil - this is the gift of God. ¹⁴ I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him. (NIV)

Luke 6:20-23

²⁰ Looking at his disciples, he said:
"Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.
²¹ Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you will be satisfied.
Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.
²² Blessed are you when people hate you,
when they exclude you and insult you
and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.
²³ "Rejoice in that day and leap for joy,
because great is your reward in heaven.
For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. (NIV)

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon - Trevor

Does God laugh?

Sermon series:

Questions we may not think to ask God

Amazing Grace

John Newton, John P. Rees

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

The Lord has promised good to me;
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.
Public Domain

PRAYING TO GOD - David

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, mission (the Thomas family),
Police Force Chaplaincy, and our world.*

SET PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Let us pray that God will keep us faithful in his service.

Almighty God, our creator and guide, may we serve you with all our heart, and know your forgiveness in our lives. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** *AAPB page 253*

COVID 19 PRAYER

Sovereign Lord, you know all things and through all circumstances of life you accompany your people. Prosper the work of those providing a vaccine for the coronavirus and its distribution. Protect and strengthen those who are treating the sick. Comfort the sick and those who mourn the loss of loved ones or are living in fear of this disease. Give to the governing authorities wisdom in their management of this crisis, and grant to your people patience, compliance and peace, generous and wise hearts and a renewed trust in your sovereign goodness and glory. Turn the hearts of many experiencing fear and anxiety to you that they may find that peace which only you can give, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.**