

Abbotsford Anglican Church St Andrews

Sunday 5th January 2025

Service of Word and Prayer Form 1A
from Common Prayer

WELCOME – Diane

(Service Leader welcomes people to church and introduces people involved in the service)

Good morning. Welcome to church.
A special welcome to those who are
visiting us today or listening online.
My name is Diane.

Helping me in today's service are our
musicians Rosemary, Young-Lan and
Trevor. Reading to us from the Bible will
be Janice, I will lead us in prayer, and
Trevor will bring our Bible Teaching.

We here at Abbotsford Anglican
are a group of local people
of all ages and backgrounds
who have come to find meaning and
purpose for life by living life God's way
according to his word the Bible.
We invite all to know God with us.

INTRO TO BIBLE TEACHING – Trevor

*(Service leader invites Bible teacher up to give a
one-minute intro to their sermon)*

MISSION FOCUS REMINDER - Trevor

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE – Diane

“He (Jesus) came to that which was his
own, but his own did not receive him. Yet
to all who did receive him, to those who
believed in his name, he gave the right to
become children of God”. *John 1:11,12*

Please stand and let us sing our first song

SONG – Psalm 96

**Sing unto the Lord a new song
Sing unto the Lord all the earth
Sing to the Lord, bless his name
Tell of his salvation day by day**

**Majesty and honour are his
Strength and beauty, glory and
righteousness
Great is the Lord, and deserving of
praise
He is to be feared above all gods**

Chorus:

***Worship the Lord
In holy array
Tremble before him all the earth
Our God reigns***

**Let all the creation be glad
The earth and the sea sing for joy
Before the Lord, the judge of the earth
Who judges us in righteousness and
truth**

Chorus (x2)

**Little People's Bible Story Time and
Song** - Trevor

GREETING TIME – Diane

Please, take a moment to greet the
people nearby you. The children leave us
now for Kid's Church.

DRAWING NEAR TO GOD – Diane

Please be seated.

“Since we have a great high priest who
has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son
of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we
profess. For we do not have a high priest
who is unable to empathize with our
weaknesses, but we have one who has
been tempted in every way, just as we
are—yet he did not sin. Let us then
approach God's throne of grace with
confidence, so that we may receive
mercy and find grace to help us in our
time of need”. *Hebrews 4:14-16*

The Bible tells us not to hide our sins
from God our heavenly Father, but to
confess them with a repentant and
obedient heart, so that we may be
forgiven through his boundless goodness
and mercy.

We ought to admit our sins to God at all
times, and especially when we come
together like this, to give thanks for the
benefits we have received from him, to
offer the praise that is due to him, to hear
his holy word, and to ask him to supply
whatever we need.

So let us approach the throne of our
gracious God, with a true heart in full
assurance of faith, and pray together...

**Merciful Father,
we have strayed from your ways
like lost sheep.
We have followed too much
the schemes and desires
of our own hearts, and have broken
your holy laws.
We have left undone
what we ought to have done,
and we have done
what we ought not to have done.
Yet good Lord, have mercy on us,
restore those who repent,
according to the promises
declared to us through your Son,
Jesus Christ.
Grant merciful Father, for his sake,
that from now on,
we may live godly and obedient lives,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God desires that no one should perish,
but that all should turn to Christ and live.
We confess our sins in response to his
call. God pardons those who humbly
repent and truly believe the gospel.
Therefore, we have peace with God,
though Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good.
His steadfast love endures forever!

HEARING GOD'S WORD - Diane

Thank you, Father, for making yourself
known to us and showing us the way of
salvation through faith in your Son. Teach
us through your word and equip us for

every good work, for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

(Bible Reader comes forward unannounced and reads the Bible reading)

Bible Reading – Janice

Matthew 2:1-12

¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.

⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen

when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route. (NIV)

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

(Bible Reader returns to the congregation and Bible Teacher comes forward)

BIBLE TEACHING – Trevor

“Why Magi”? - Matthew 2:1-12

(Bible Teacher returns to the congregation and Service Leader comes forward and invites congregation to sing the next song)

Please stand and let us sing again...

SONG – We three kings

**We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.**

Refrain:

***O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.***

**Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign.**

Refrain:

**Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising,
worshiping God on high.**

Refrain:

**Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.**

Refrain:

**Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
sounds through the earth and skies.**

Refrain:

Please remain standing as we say
together what we believe...

WHAT WE BELIEVE - Diane

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ,
his 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.
I 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*

Please be seated

PRAYING FOR GOD’S WORLD – Diane

(Prayer Leader comes forward unannounced and continues prayer)

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Let us pray.

**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.**

Let us pray that all mankind may be enlightened by the Gospel.

God of power and life, glory of all who believe in you, fill the world with your splendour, and show the nations the light of your truth. 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.**

(A Set Prayer for the day).

(Further prayers for our community, the mission focus, Anglicare Chaplaincy, Government, our world, local community and for the church. When finished, the prayer leader returns to the congregation and Service Leader comes forward to give announcements and introduce last song)

Be exalted, Lord, above the heavens.
Let your glory cover the earth.

Keep our nation under your care.
And guide us in justice and truth.

Let your way be known on earth.
Your saving power among all nations.

Send out your light and truth.
That we may tell of your saving works.

Hear our prayers, O Lord.
For we put our trust in you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Trevor

GOING OUT TO SERVE - Diane
As we prepare to leave let's stand and sing...

SONG – Be Thou my vision

**Be thou my vision
O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me
Save that thou art
Thou my best thought
By day or by night
Waking or sleeping
Thy presence my light**

**Be thou my wisdom
And thou my true word
I ever with thee
And thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father
I thy true Son
Thou in me dwelling
And I with thee one**

**Be thou my breastplate
My sword for the fight
Be thou my armour and
Be thou my might
Thou my soul's shelter
Thou my high tower
Raise thou me heavenward
O power of my power**

**Riches I heed not
Nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance
Now and always
Thou, and thou only
The first in my heart
High King of heaven
My treasure thou art!**

**High King of heaven
My victory won
May I reach heaven's joys**

**O bright heaven's sun
Christ of my own heart
Whatever befall
Still be my vision
O ruler of all**

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE – Diane

“He (Jesus) came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God”. *John 1:11,12*

PRAYER - Diane

Eternal God and Father,
by whose power we are created
and by whose love we are redeemed,
guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,
that we may give of ourselves to your
service and live this week in love
to one another and to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ. Amen.

WP1A - SERVICE OF THE WORD AND PRAYER
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