

Abbotsford Anglican Church St Andrews

Sunday 12 November 2023

Service of Word and Prayer Form 2B
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 Adele and Young-Lan.

Heather will read to us from the Bible, and Simon will lead us in prayer.

Cameron 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 you to know God with us.

INTRO TO BIBLE TEACHING

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

MISSION FOCUS REMINDER

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

"I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death". *Philippians 1:20*

Please stand and let us sing our first song

Only a Holy God

Farren, Robinson, Smith and Thompson

**Who else commands
all the hosts of heaven
Who else could make
every king bow down
Who else can whisper
and darkness trembles
Only a holy God**

**What other beauty
demands such praises
What other splendour
outshines the sun
What other majesty rules with justice
Only a holy God**

Chorus

**Come and behold him
The one and the only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a holy God
Come and worship the holy God**

**What other glory consumes like fire
What other power can raise the dead
What other name remains undefeated
Only a holy God** *Chorus x 2*

**Who else could rescue
me from my failing
Who else would offer his only Son
Who else invites me to call him Father
Only a holy God
Only my holy God!** *Chorus*
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GREETING TIME

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

PRAISING GOD

Please be seated. Let's say together...

**You are worthy our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and
power, for you created all things and
by your will they created and have
their being. You are worthy, Lamb of
God, for you were slain, and with your
blood you ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language and
people and nation. To him who sits
upon the throne and to the Lamb be
praise and honour and glory and
power, forever and ever. Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD - Trevor

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.**

Our Bible reading this morning is Daniel, chapter 3. You will find it on page 884 of the pew Bibles or follow along on the screen.

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

Bible Reading - Heather

Daniel 3

¹ King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of gold, sixty cubits high and six cubits wide, and set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. ² He then summoned the satraps, prefects, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates and all the other provincial officials to come to the dedication of the image he had set up. ³ So the satraps, prefects, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates and all the other provincial officials assembled for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up, and they stood before it.

⁴ Then the herald loudly proclaimed, "Nations and peoples of every language, this is what you are commanded to do: ⁵ As soon as you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, you must fall down and worship the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. ⁶ Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace."

⁷ Therefore, as soon as they heard the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp and all kinds of music, all the nations and peoples of every language fell down and worshiped the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

⁸ At this time some astrologers came forward and denounced the Jews. ⁹ They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "May the king live forever! ¹⁰ Your Majesty has

issued a decree that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music must fall down and worship the image of gold,¹¹ and that whoever does not fall down and worship will be thrown into a blazing furnace.¹² But there are some Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon—Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego—who pay no attention to you, Your Majesty. They neither serve your gods nor worship the image of gold you have set up.”¹³ Furious with rage, Nebuchadnezzar summoned Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. So these men were brought before the king,¹⁴ and Nebuchadnezzar said to them, “Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up? ¹⁵ Now when you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, if you are ready to fall down and worship the image I made, very good. But if you do not worship it, you will be thrown immediately into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?”¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, “King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. ¹⁷ If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty’s hand. ¹⁸ But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold

you have set up.”¹⁹ Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and his attitude toward them changed. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual²⁰ and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace.²¹ So these men, wearing their robes, trousers, turbans and other clothes, were bound and thrown into the blazing furnace.²² The king’s command was so urgent and the furnace so hot that the flames of the fire killed the soldiers who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego,²³ and these three men, firmly tied, fell into the blazing furnace.²⁴ Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, “Weren’t there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?” They replied, “Certainly, Your Majesty.”²⁵ He said, “Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods.”²⁶ Nebuchadnezzar then approached the opening of the blazing furnace and shouted, “Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!” So Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the fire,²⁷ and the satraps, prefects, governors and royal advisers crowded around them. They saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their heads singed; their robes were not scorched, and there was no

smell of fire on them.²⁸ Then Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king’s command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. ²⁹ Therefore I decree that the people of any nation or language who say anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego be cut into pieces and their houses be turned into piles of rubble, for no other god can save in this way.”³⁰ Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the province of Babylon. (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 – Cameron Blair

(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...

Undivided
Rob Smith

**Give me an undivided heart
That I might fear your name
Teach me to walk in righteous paths
And follow in your ways**

**For you are gracious and forgiving
Hear, O Lord, and answer me**

**Give me an undivided mind
That I might love your word
Help me to hunger for your voice
And know your Spirit’s sword
For you are good, your truth
unchanging
Life is found in serving you**

Chorus

**Undivided, I want to live for you
Single minded, all that I say,
all that I do
Sanctify me, take me
and make me new
That I might live for Christ, my Lord**

**Give me an undivided love
For all that you desire
Make me a living sacrifice
Ignite in me your fire
For you O Lord are God eternal
All my ways are known to you *Chorus***

**Undivided, counting my gains as loss
Single minded, whatever the pain,
whatever the cost
Sanctify me, help me take up my cross
And live for him who died for me
© 2010 Smith, Rob**

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

WHAT WE BELIEVE

**We believe in one God,
who made us and loves all that is.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
God’s only Son, our Lord,**

**who was born, lived, died
and rose again,
and is coming to call all to account.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who calls, equips
and sends out God's people,
and brings all things to their true end.
This is our faith,
the faith of the Church.
We believe in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

*(A simplified affirmation of Faith from
Page 87 of Common Prayer)*

Please be seated

PRAYING TO GOD – Diane

“Blessed is the one whose transgressions
are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord
does not count against them and in
whose spirit is no deceit.

When I kept silent, my bones wasted
away through my groaning all day long.
For day and night your hand was heavy
on me; my strength was sapped as in the
heat of summer. Then I acknowledged
my sin to you and did not cover up my
iniquity. I said, “I will confess my
transgressions to the Lord.” And you
forgave the guilt of my sin.” *Psalm 32:1-5*

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.

*(Prayer Leader comes forward unannounced and
continues prayer)*

Further Prayer – Simon

The Lord be with you
And also with you
Let us pray.

Lord, teach us to 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 for God's protection.

Father, watch over your family and keep
us safe in your care, for all our hope is in
you. Grant 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.** *Set prayer for the day.*

*(Further prayers for our community, the mission
focus, government, our world, local community
and for the church. When finished prayer leader
returns to the congregation and service leader
comes forward to give announcements and
introduce last song)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Diane

As we prepare to leave let's stand and
sing...

O Great God

Bob Kauflin

**O great God of highest heaven
Occupy my lowly heart
Own it all and reign supreme
Conquer every rebel power
Let no vice or sin remain
That resists Your holy war
You have loved and purchased me
Make me Yours forevermore**

**I was blinded by my sin
Had no ears to hear Your voice
Did not know Your love within
Had no taste for heaven's joys
Then Your Spirit gave me life**

**Opened up Your Word to me
Through the gospel of Your Son
Gave me endless hope and peace**

**Help me now to live a life
That's dependent on Your grace
Keep my heart and guard my soul
From the evils that I face
You are worthy to be praised
With my every thought and deed
O great God of highest heaven
Glorify Your Name through me**

**You are worthy to be praised
With my every thought and deed
O great God of highest heaven
Glorify Your Name through me**

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SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

“I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no
way be ashamed, but will have sufficient
courage so that now as always Christ will
be exalted in my body, whether by life or
by death”. *Philippians 1:20*

GOING OUT TO SERVE

Together...

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

Romans 15:13