

# Abbotsford Anglican Church

## St Andrews

### Sunday, 20 September 2020

Service of Word and Prayer Form 3

**WELCOME** - David

#### **DRAWING NEAR TO GOD**

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.

In the words of Isaiah 55, “Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.” And the prophet Daniel tells us that “The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him; even though we have not obeyed the Lord our God or kept the laws he gave us through his servants the prophets”.

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

**Heavenly Father,  
you have loved us  
with an everlasting love,  
but we have often gone our own way,  
and rejected your will for our lives.  
We are sorry for our sins  
and turn away from them.**

**For the sake of your Son  
who died for us,  
forgive us, cleanse us, and change us.  
By your Holy Spirit,  
enable us to live for you,  
and to please you in every way,  
for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
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, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Give praise to the Lord, call on his name.  
**Make known among the nations  
what he has done.**

#### **HEARING GOD’S WORD**

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 Readings** - Diane

#### **Romans 7:1-25**

<sup>1</sup> Do you not know, brothers and sisters—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law has authority over someone only as long as that person lives? <sup>2</sup> For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is

released from the law that binds her to him. <sup>3</sup> So then, if she has sexual relations with another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress if she marries another man.

<sup>4</sup> So, my brothers and sisters, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God. <sup>5</sup> For when we were in the realm of the flesh, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in us, so that we bore fruit for death. <sup>6</sup> But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

<sup>7</sup> What shall we say, then? Is the law sinful? Certainly not! Nevertheless, I would not have known what sin was had it not been for the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” <sup>8</sup> But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of coveting. For apart from the law, sin was dead. <sup>9</sup> Once I was alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died. <sup>10</sup> I found that the very commandment that was intended to bring life actually brought death. <sup>11</sup> For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, deceived me, and through the commandment put me to death. <sup>12</sup> So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good.

<sup>13</sup> Did that which is good, then, become death to me? By no means! Nevertheless, in order that sin might be recognized as sin, it used what is good to bring about my death, so that through the commandment sin might become utterly sinful.

<sup>14</sup> We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. <sup>15</sup> I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. <sup>16</sup> And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

<sup>21</sup> So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup> For in my inner being I delight in God’s law; <sup>23</sup> but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. <sup>24</sup> What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God’s law, but in my sinful nature a slave to the law of sin. (NIV)

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

## AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

Please stand.  
Let us affirm our Faith together...

**Jesus Christ, in very nature God did not consider equality with God something to be used to his advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*Philippians 2:6-11*

### Sermon - Trevor

'How, when I am always struggling with sin?'

*Sermon series: Righteousness revealed*

## SONG

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

### Every Promise of Your Word

Keith & Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend

From the breaking of the dawn to the setting of the sun,  
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Words of power, strong to save, that will never pass away,  
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.  
For your covenant is sure,  
And on this I am secure—  
I can stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

When I stumble and I sin, condemnation pressing in,  
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.  
You are faithful to forgive that in freedom I might live,  
So I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.  
Guilt to innocence restored,  
You remember sins no more—  
So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

When I'm faced with anguished choice, I will listen for your voice,  
And I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Through this dark and troubled land  
You will guide me with your hand  
As I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.  
And you've promised to complete  
Ev'ry work begun in me—  
So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Hope that lifts me from despair, love that casts out ev'ry fear,  
As I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.  
Not forsaken, not alone, for the comforter has come,  
And I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.  
Grace sufficient, grace for me,  
Grace for all who will believe—  
We will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

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## 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.**

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

### Prayers - Brian

#### SET PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the church is governed and sanctified: receive our prayer which we offer before you for the many different members of your holy church; that every one of them in his vocation and ministry may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CLOSE

Lord God,  
we rejoice in your greatness and power,  
your gentleness and love,  
your mercy and justice.  
Enable us by your Spirit  
to honour you in our thoughts,  
and words and actions.  
Please send us out with confidence in your word, to tell the world of your saving acts,  
and bring glory to your holy name. **Amen.**

## THE GRACE

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.**