

Abbotsford Anglican Church St Andrews

Sunday 21 April 2024

Service of Word and Prayer Form 3B
from Common Prayer.

WELCOME – Fiona

(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 listening online. My name is Fiona. Helping me in today's service are our musicians Adele, Young-Lan and Rosemary. Reading to us from the Bible will be Robyn, leading us in prayer is Young-Lan 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 you to know God with us.

INTRO TO BIBLE TEACHING

MISSION FOCUS REMINDER

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

Many are the plans in a person's heart,
but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

Proverbs 19:21

Please stand to 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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DRAWING NEAR TO GOD

Please be seated.

We have come together to meet with God and to take our part in the building of his church. Christ himself bore our sin in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed.

Let us acknowledge our failure to serve him as he deserves, and return to the Lord with repentance and faith, praying 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.

As high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God's love towards those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

KID'S SPOT AND SONG

GREETING TIME

Please, take a moment to greet the people near you.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Heavenly Father, give us faith to receive your word, understanding to know what it means, and the will to put it into practice, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Our Bible reading this morning is Acts 1:12-26. Please open your pew Bibles to page 1090 or follow along on the screen or in the handout in your News and Notes.

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

Bible Reading – Robyn

Acts 1:12-26

¹² Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. ¹³ When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) ¹⁶ and said, "Brothers and sisters, the Scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those

who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷ He was one of our number and shared in our ministry.”

¹⁸ (With the payment he received for his wickedness, Judas bought a field; there he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out. ¹⁹ Everyone in Jerusalem heard about this, so they called that field in their language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.)

²⁰ “For,” said Peter, “it is written in the Book of Psalms:

“May his place be deserted; let there be no one to dwell in it,” and,

“May another take his place of leadership.’

²¹ Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us, ²² beginning from John’s baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection.”

²³ So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. ²⁴ Then they prayed, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs.”

²⁶ Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles. (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
Waiting, Praying, Choosing

(Bible Teacher returns is seated and Service Leader comes forward to invite congregation to say the Psalm and sing the next song)

A PSALM

Join me in saying Ps119, verses 73-80.

**Your hands made me and formed me;
give me understanding to learn your
commands.**

**May those who fear you rejoice when
they see me,**

for I have put my hope in your word.

**I know, Lord, that your laws are
righteous, and that in faithfulness you
have afflicted me.**

**May your unfailing love be my comfort,
according to your promise to your
servant.**

**Let your compassion come to me that I
may live, for your law is my delight.**

**May the arrogant be put to shame for
wronging me without cause;
but I will meditate on your precepts.**

**May those who fear you turn to me,
those who understand your statutes.**

**May I wholeheartedly follow your
decrees,
that I may not be put to shame. (NIV)**

Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
**As it was in the beginning so now and
forevermore. Amen.**

Please stand and let us sing again...

Hear Our Prayer

Greg Cooper and Andy Judd

**Hear our prayer, God above
As we come to you and seek your
patient love**

**Hear our hearts, hear our minds
Hear the echoes of the words we
cannot find**

**Be our hope, be our guide
In our wanderings of weakness break
our pride
Not for ease shall we pray
But for strength that we may walk with
you this day**

Chorus

**So we pray in faith, your will be done
As we long to see your kingdom come
We ask with one voice
We ask with one voice
Through Jesus Christ our Lord**

**Hear our prayer, faithful one
Shape our yearnings to the gospel of
your Son
Free our hearts, free our minds
From the war that sin will wage till you
arrive *Chorus***

**Be our joy, be our stay
Give us eyes to see you answer prayer
this day
Hear us praise all you’ve done
We rejoice as we receive the victory
won *Chorus***

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Please be seated.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

**Christ is the image of the invisible
God, the firstborn over all creation.
For in him all things were created,
things in heaven and on earth,
visible and invisible: all things have
been created through him and for him.
He is before all things, and in him all
things hold together.**

**He is the head of the body the church.
He is the beginning, and the first born
from the dead, so that in everything
he might have the supremacy.**

**For God was pleased to have all his
fullness dwell in him, and through him
to reconcile to himself all things,
whether things on earth or things in
heaven, by making peace through his
blood shed on the cross. Amen.**

Colossians 1:15-20 (abbreviated)

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

PRAYING TO GOD – Young-Lan

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 that Christ our shepherd will lead us.

Almighty and ever-living God, you give us new strength from the courage of Christ our shepherd. May he lead us to join the saints in heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Set Prayer for the 3rd Sunday after Easter..

(Further prayers are read for our community, the monthly mission focus, Anglican Chaplaincy, Government, our world, local community and the church. Prayer Leader then returns to the congregation and Service Leader comes forward to give announcements and introduce last song).

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Fiona

Before we go out for morning tea, please stand and let's sing...

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Horatius Bonar (1846)

**I heard the voice of Jesus say
"Come unto me and rest
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down
Thy head upon my breast"
I came to Jesus as I was
So weary, worn, and sad
I found in him a resting place
And he has made me glad**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say
"Behold, I freely give
The living water, thirsty one
Stoop down, and drink, and live"
I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life-giving stream
My thirst was quenched, my soul
revived
And now I live in him**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say
"I am this dark world's light
Look unto me, your morn shall rise
And all your day be bright"
I looked to Jesus, and I found
In him my star, my sun
And in that light of life I'll walk
Till travelling days are done**

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SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

Many are the plans in a person's heart,
but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.
Proverbs 19:21

GOING OUT TO SERVE

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.

WP3B - SERVICE OF THE WORD AND PRAYER
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