

Abbotsford Anglican Church St Andrews

Sunday 4 February 2024

Service of Word and Prayer Form 1A
from Common Prayer

WELCOME – Simon

(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 Simon.

Helping me in today's service are our
musicians Adele, Young-Lan and Trevor.
Reading to us from the Bible will be
Coral, 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

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

MISSION FOCUS REMINDER

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

The Lord is good and his love endures
forever. *Psalm 110:5*

Please stand and let us sing our first song

Worthy of all Praise

Rob Smith

**Jesus, Lord of creation,
King of Salvation,
Great God of grace.
Messiah, promised redeemer
Our risen saviour,
Author of peace.**

Chorus

**You are worthy of all praise,
Worthy of all honour,
Worthy of glory, wisdom and strength.
And so we'll sing through endless
days
That you alone are worthy;
Worthy of all power,
Worthy of all praise.**

**For you sought us,
wonderfully bought us
You paid for us dearly,
The price was your blood.
And you freed us,
brought us to pardon,
Back to the garden,
Safe in your love.** *Chorus x 2*

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GREETING TIME

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

DRAWING NEAR TO GOD

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!

KID'S SPOT AND SONG

The Bible reading this morning is
Romans 8:18 to 39. You can find it on
page 1133 of your pew Bibles, on the
sermon summary in your News & Notes,
or follow along on the screen.

As Coral comes up to read let me pray.

PRAYER FOR 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 Reader comes forward unannounced and
reads the Bible reading)*

Bible Reading – Coral

Romans 8:18-39

¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. ²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. ²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the

image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (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

God is ALL GOOD and LOVING:
'Omnibenevolent'

Big 'O' words from the Bible about God

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

PSALM - Simon

Join me in saying Psalm 139:13-18

**For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.
My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.
How precious to me are your thoughts, God!
How vast is the sum of them!
Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand—
when I awake, I am still with you. (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...

Your Grace Is Strong Enough

Michael Morrow

**Grace came down to seek and save
The lost were found and the dead were raised**

**Grace rang out, the nations came
In honour of the King
And when they gather
I will be there**

And this will be my song:

**Your grace is strong enough
Your arms are wide enough
Let the sinner call your name
We are lost without your grace
Your love is deep enough
Finding every one of us
Every nation stand and say:
All our hope is in your grace!**

**Grace so strong it burst the walls
The heart of God reaching out to all
Grace so loud it must be told
The hope of all the earth
A new day coming
Dawn will arise
The world will see your light**

Your grace is strong enough...

**The King is coming
Jesus, our Lord
And every knee will bow
And when I see him**

This I will say:

Your love is better than life!

Repeat last section

Your grace is strong enough...

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Remain standing as we say together what we believe...

WHAT WE BELIEVE

**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 –
Young-Lan**

(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 Christ will be our light.

Father, you call your children to walk in the light of Christ. Free us from darkness and keep us in the radiance 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.**

Set Prayer for the 4th Sunday after Epiphany

(Further prayers for our community, the mission focus, Anglicare Chaplaincy, Government, our world, local community and for the church.)

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.

(When finished, the prayer leader returns to the congregation and the Service Leader comes forward to give announcements and introduce last song)

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Simon

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

My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness
Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

**My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who bore my pain
Who plumbed the depths
of my disgrace
And gave me life again
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness
And clothed me with His light
And wrote His law of righteousness
With power upon my heart**

**My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who walks beside
Who floods my weaknesses
with strength
And causes fears to fly
Whose every promise is enough
For every step I take
Sustaining me with arms of love
And crowning me with grace**

**My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who reigns above
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace
Whose every thought is love
For every day I have on earth
Is given by the King
So I will give my life my all
To love and follow Him**

Repeat last 4 lines

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SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

The Lord is good and his love endures forever. *Psalm 110:5*

GOING OUT TO SERVE

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.