

# Abbotsford Anglican Church St Andrews

**Sunday, 5 May 2024**

Another Order of Service for Prayer and the  
Hearing of God's Word AAPB p39

**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, especially those here for  
Poppy and Quinton's Baptism and those  
listening online. My name is Simon.

Helping me in today's service are our  
musicians Rosemary and Young-Lan.  
Reading to us from the Bible will be Lynn,  
leading us in prayer is Rosemary, and  
Trevor will bring our Bible teaching.

We here at Abbotsford Anglican Church  
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.

(Pause)

## **GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

We have met together to thank God,  
to meet with Jesus, and to encourage one  
another while we wait for Christ's return.  
We shall praise God with our words and  
by what we do. We shall hear from his  
holy word and we shall pray for the  
Church and for all people.

To prepare ourselves, let us hear from the  
word of God....

## **SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE**

Then Jesus said to them all: "Whoever  
wants to be my disciple must deny  
themselves and take up their cross daily  
and follow me." *Luke 9:23*

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, you have brought us  
here today. This time we meet with you  
and your people is special. Help us not to  
take this moment with you and your  
people for granted. Take our anxious  
thoughts and let us know your peace,  
your presence and your power. May we  
listen to your word with expectation,  
engage in what we pray and say, and  
worship you with all our heart, mind, soul  
and strength through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand and let us sing our first song

## **Come Praise and Glorify**

Tim Chester and Bob Kauflin

**Come praise and glorify our God  
The Father of our Lord  
In Christ he has in heavenly realms  
His blessings on us poured  
For pure and blameless in his sight  
He destined us to be  
And now we've been adopted through  
His Son eternally**

*Chorus*

**To the praise of your glory  
To the praise of your mercy and grace  
To the praise of your glory  
You are the God who saves**

**Come praise and glorify our God  
Who gives his grace in Christ  
In him our sins are washed away  
Redeemed through sacrifice  
In him God has made known to us  
The mystery of his will  
That Christ should be the head of all  
His purpose to fulfil** *Chorus*

**Come praise and glorify our God  
For we've believed the word  
And through our faith we have a seal  
The Spirit of the Lord  
The Spirit guarantees our hope  
Until redemption's done  
Until we join in endless praise  
To God, the three in one** *Chorus x2*  
© 2011 Sovereign Grace Music

## **BAPTISM - Trevor**

*Words on the screen*

God is the source of everything that is  
good. Children are his gift and he entrusts  
parents with the privilege and  
responsibility of nurturing them in his way.  
God wants our children to experience a  
loving home, to gain wisdom, to live  
generously for the good of all, to grow in  
faith, and to come at last to share in his  
eternal kingdom.

Jesus said: 'Let the little children come to  
me, and do not hinder them, for the  
kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

Truly I tell you, anyone who will not  
receive the kingdom of God like a little  
child will never enter it.'

Without Christ, we humans are far gone  
from God and trapped in our sin. Through  
the gospel, God addresses each one of us  
and calls us back to himself, resulting in a  
profound change. The act of baptism is  
about that change.

We follow the direction of Jesus, who said,  
'Go and make disciples of all nations,  
baptising them in the name of the Father  
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and  
teaching them to obey everything I have  
commanded you.'

Ordinary water is used to point to the  
extraordinary work of God in cleansing us  
from sin and giving us a new heart to trust  
and serve him, through the death and  
resurrection of his Son. Baptism provides  
a public opportunity to turn to Christ and  
express a personal trust in him and what  
he has done for us, and to ask for the  
renewing work of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus taught that none can enter the  
kingdom of God without being born of  
water and the Spirit. 'Flesh gives birth to  
flesh,' he said, 'but the Spirit gives birth to  
spirit'.

So let us pray to God the Father through  
our Lord Jesus Christ that he will grant to  
Poppy and Quinton what they cannot have  
by nature, that they may be born again by  
the Holy Spirit and be made living  
members of Christ's Church.

**Heavenly Father,  
we thank you that in your great love  
you have called us to know you and to  
trust you. Increase this knowledge and  
strengthen our faith.  
Grant that Poppy and Quinton may be  
born again by the Holy Spirit, cleansed  
from all sin, and inherit your eternal  
kingdom; through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. Amen.**

*The minister invites the sponsors to stand with the  
child to be baptised and says to them.*

God promises forgiveness and the gift of  
the Holy Spirit to all who turn to him in  
Christ. This promise also embraces the  
children of God's people, whom we bring  
to him in faith. Children must themselves  
express faith in Christ when they are able  
to do so. They must turn away from sin  
and put their trust in him. In due course,  
they should come to reaffirm these  
promises and receive prayer for  
strengthening in confirmation.

Those of you who already trust in Christ,  
and are willing to teach and encourage  
Poppy and Quinton in the same faith, are  
invited to make the baptismal promises on  
her behalf. Therefore, I ask you,

Are you yourself a follower of Jesus  
Christ, trusting the gracious promises of  
God?  
**I am.**

Are you willing to sponsor Poppy and  
Quinton, answering for them now and  
accepting responsibility for their Christian  
upbringing in the life of the Church?  
**I am willing.**

I now ask to answer on behalf of Poppy  
and Quinton.

Do you turn to Christ?  
**I turn to Christ.**

Do you repent of your sins?  
**I repent of my sins.**

Do you reject selfish living and all that is  
false and unjust?  
**I reject them all.**

Do you renounce Satan and all evil?  
**I renounce all that is evil.**

Almighty God deliver you from the powers  
of darkness, and lead you in the light of  
Christ to his everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

Poppy and Quinton have been brought  
here for baptism. Let us all affirm the faith  
into which they are to be baptised. Please  
stand. Together...

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived of 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 again 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.**  
\*catholic = "of the whole," universal, complete

*The minister says to the sponsors*

I ask you to answer on behalf of Poppy  
and Quinton. Do you affirm this faith as  
yours?

**I do.**

Will you follow Jesus faithfully, and obey  
his commands throughout your life?  
**With God's help, I intend to do so.**

Do you ask for baptism in the faith you  
have affirmed?

**I do.**

*Congregation sits. Parents and Godparents move  
to the font with the child, the minister says.*

Let us pray.  
Merciful God, for Jesus Christ's sake,  
grant that Poppy and Quinton whom we  
baptise in this water, may be saved  
through the washing of rebirth and  
renewal by the Holy Spirit. May they die to  
sin and rise again to righteousness. May  
your Spirit live and work in them, that they  
may be yours forever; through Jesus  
Christ our Lord who died and rose again  
for us. **Amen.**

*The minister says to the parents of the child*

Name this child.

*Then the minister baptises the child, saying*

Poppy Joy Harris/Quinton Robert Harris, I  
baptise you in the name of the Father and  
of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*After the child has been baptised the minister and  
congregation together address them.*

**God has called you into his church.  
We therefore receive and welcome you  
as a fellow member of the body of  
Christ, as a child of the same heavenly  
Father, and as an inheritor with us of  
the kingdom of God.**

*The minister makes a sign of the cross on the  
child's forehead and says*

I sign you with the sign of the cross to  
show that you are to be true to Christ  
crucified and that you are not to be  
ashamed to confess your faith in him.  
Fight bravely under his banner against sin,  
the world and the devil, and continue  
Christ's faithful soldier and servant to  
your life's end.

God has called you out of darkness into  
his marvellous light.

**Shine as a light in the world to the  
glory of God the Father.**

*The minister invites all to pray.*

**Gracious God, we thank you that  
through the death and resurrection of  
your Son, you have brought us from  
death to life. Enable us by your Spirit to  
resist the power of sin and give  
ourselves to you as a living sacrifice.  
May we not be conformed to the  
pattern of this world, but be  
transformed by the renewing of our  
mind, so that we serve and please you  
in every way. Amen.**

**A Prayer for the Parents - Rosemary**

Heavenly Father, we pray for Poppy and  
Quinton's parents Emily and Guy, and for

their godparents. Give them the spirit of wisdom and love, that they may teach her by word and example to fulfil the promises made in her name. In our homes, give us the joy that comes from being faithful followers of the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Bible and Certificates given to parents and Godparents. Parents and Godparents return to the congregation.*

**SONG** – Be Strong and Courageous.  
*Video on the screen.*

### **GREETING TIME**

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

### **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

Our Bible reading this morning is Luke 18:15-33. Please open your Bibles to page 1051 or follow along on the screen or on the handout in your News & Notes.

### **BIBLE READING** – Lynn

#### **Luke 18:15-33**

<sup>15</sup> People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. <sup>16</sup> But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. <sup>17</sup> Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

<sup>18</sup> A certain ruler asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

<sup>19</sup> "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. <sup>20</sup> You know the commandments: 'You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, honour your father and mother.'"

<sup>21</sup> "All these I have kept since I was a boy," he said.

<sup>22</sup> When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

<sup>23</sup> When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy.

<sup>24</sup> Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

<sup>26</sup> Those who heard this asked, "Who then can be saved?"

<sup>27</sup> Jesus replied, "What is impossible with man is possible with God."

<sup>28</sup> Peter said to him, "We have left all we had to follow you!"

<sup>29</sup> "Truly I tell you," Jesus said to them, "no one who has left home or wife or brothers or sisters or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God <sup>30</sup> will fail to receive many times as much in this age, and in the age to come eternal life."

<sup>31</sup> Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. <sup>32</sup> He will be delivered over to the Gentiles. They

will mock him, insult him and spit on him; <sup>33</sup> they will flog him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again." (NIV)

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

**BIBLE TEACHING** – Trevor  
*Who then can be saved?*

The difficulty of leaving things behind in a relationship with God and the way forward.

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

### **CONFESSION/FORGIVENESS**

Let us confess our sins to almighty God...

**Most merciful God, we humbly admit that we need your help. We confess that we have wandered from your way: we have done wrong, and we have failed to do what is right. You alone can save us. Have mercy on us: wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others. Bring forth in us the fruit of your Spirit that we may live as disciples of Christ. This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.**

God wills that all people should be saved and in response to his call we acknowledge our sins. He pardons those who humbly repent and truly believe the gospel. Therefore, we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be blessing and honour for ever. **Amen.**

Sing to the Lord a new song.  
**For he has done marvellous things.**

Please stand, and let us sing again.

### **I Stand Amazed**

Charles Hutchinson Gabriel

**I stand amazed in the presence  
Of Jesus the Nazarene  
And wonder how he could love me  
A sinner condemned unclean**

*Chorus*

**How marvellous, how wonderful  
And my song shall ever be  
How marvellous, how wonderful  
Is my Saviour's love for me**

**For me it was in the garden  
He prayed not my will but thine  
He had no tears for his own griefs  
But sweat drops of blood for mine**

*Chorus*

**In pity angels beheld him  
And came from the world of light  
To comfort him in the sorrows  
He bore for my soul that night** *Chorus*

**He took my sins and my sorrows  
He made them his very own  
He bore the burden to Calvary  
And suffered and died alone** *Chorus*

**When with the ransomed in glory  
His face I at last shall see  
'Twill be my joy through the ages  
To sing of his love for me** *Chorus*

Public Domain

Please be seated.

**PRAYER – Rosemary**

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.**

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.**

Let us pray that we may practise the faith  
we profess.

Ever-living God, help us to celebrate  
joyfully the resurrection of the Lord and to  
express in our lives the love we celebrate.

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 5th Sunday after Easter.*

*Further prayers for the community, the world,  
mission focus and for the work of the church.*

Almighty God, you have given us grace to  
bring before you with one accord our  
common supplication, and you promise  
that when two or three are gathered  
together in your name you will grant their  
requests; fulfil now Lord, the desires and  
petitions of your servants, as may be most  
expedient for them, granting us in this  
world knowledge of your truth, and in the  
world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS - Simon**  
*(See News and Notes)*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, accept our giving  
towards ministry in this place and beyond.  
We bring them to you as a token of our  
love and gratitude; grant that they maybe  
wisely used towards your kingdom work  
and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**AS WE LEAVE**

The sentence of Scripture for today is...

Then Jesus said to them all: "Whoever  
wants to be my disciple must deny

themselves and take up their cross daily  
and follow me" *Luke 9:23*

Let us say together...

**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.**

Please stand to sing our final song

**O Great God**

Bob Kaufflin

**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**

© Sovereign Grace Praise