

Abbotsford Anglican Church St Andrew's

Growing together as followers of Jesus

Sunday 6 December 2020

Service of Word and Prayer Form 1

WELCOME - David

ACKNOWLEDGING GOD

Great and wonderful are your deeds, Lord God the Almighty. Just and true are your ways O King of the nations. Who shall not revere and praise your name, O Lord?

For you alone are holy. All nations shall come and worship in your presence. For your just dealings have been revealed.

To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour and glory and might, for ever and ever. Amen.

DRAWING NEAR TO GOD

The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead." *Acts 17:30–31*

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. 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 are repentant,
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.**

Almighty God and loving Father, we rejoice that you have demonstrated your righteousness through presenting Christ as a sacrifice of atonement for us. We trust that you pardon and forgive those who truly repent and sincerely believe your holy gospel. Grant us true repentance and your Holy Spirit, that we may live godly, righteous and holy lives, and finally come to your eternal glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 Reading - Kay

Romans 15:14-33

¹⁴ I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another. ¹⁵ Yet I have written you quite boldly on some points to remind you of them again, because of the grace God gave me ¹⁶ to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles. He gave me the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

¹⁷ Therefore I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God. ¹⁸ I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me in leading the Gentiles to obey God by what I have said and done— ¹⁹ by the power of signs and wonders, through the power of the Spirit of God. So from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ. ²⁰ It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation. ²¹ Rather, as it is written:

"Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard will understand."

²² This is why I have often been hindered from coming to you.

²³ But now that there is no more place for me to work in these regions, and since I have been longing for many years to visit you, ²⁴ I plan to do so when I go to Spain. I hope to see you while passing through and to have you assist me on my journey there, after I have enjoyed your company for a while. ²⁵ Now, however, I am on my way to Jerusalem in the service of the Lord's people there. ²⁶ For Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the Lord's people in Jerusalem. ²⁷ They were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them.

For if the Gentiles have shared in the Jews' spiritual blessings, they owe it to the Jews to share with them their material blessings.

²⁸ So after I have completed this task and have made sure that they have received this contribution, I will go to Spain and visit you on the way. ²⁹ I know that when I come to you, I will come in the full measure of the blessing of Christ.

³⁰ I urge you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me. ³¹ Pray that I may be kept safe from the unbelievers in Judea and that the contribution I take to Jerusalem may be favourably received by the Lord's people there, ³² so that I may come to you with joy, by God's will, and in your company be refreshed. ³³ The God of peace be with you all. **Amen. (NIV)**

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

Bible Teaching - Trevor
Learn from those who teach us --heed their wisdom
Sermon Series: Righteousness Revealed

SONG

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

Servants of the Gospel

Philip Percival - Emu Music.

Though we were undeserving
Christ died to wash us clean
He bore the Father's anger
While nailed upon the tree
In darkness and in turmoil
The judgment fell on Him
Bringing us forgiveness
That new life might begin

Chorus:
As servants of the gospel
Christ's work we carry on
That through our prayer and witness
By grace we might win some
We call on every nation
To turn to Christ the Lord
Refuge in His mercy
And marvel at His love

The grave could not contain Him
From death the Son broke free
Exalted by His Father
To rule eternally
And in His grace He calls us
To be His chosen church
As His holy temple
His priests to all the earth *Chorus:*

Marked with His Holy Spirit
And guided by His word
Christ gathers us together
Prepares us for good works
And so with grace apportioned
We serve each other's needs
Sharing in each blessing
And helping in our grief *Chorus:*
Emu Music

WHAT WE BELIEVE

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 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.
*catholic = literally "of the whole," universal, complete

PRAYING FOR GOD' WORLD

Prayers - Fiona

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 prayer for our world, community and church.

SET PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Blessed Lord, you have caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning,
grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn
and inwardly digest them, that, encouraged
and supported by your holy Word, we may
embrace and always hold fast the joyful
hope of everlasting life, which you have
given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen. AAPB page 181

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOING OUT TO SERVE

Lord Jesus Christ,
send us out with confidence in your word,
to tell the world of your saving acts,
and bring glory to your name. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
in the name of Christ. Amen.