Abbotsford Anglican Church

St Andrews

Sunday 13th September 2026

Service of Word and Prayer Form 2A
from Common Prayer

WELCOME – Michael
(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 Michael.
Helping me in todays service are our musicians …
Reading to us from the Bible will be Simon, 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 – Michael
(Service leader invites Bible teacher up to give a one-minute intro to their sermon)

MISSION FOCUS REMINDER - Michael

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE – Michael

"Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it"

Luke 11:28

Please stand and let us sing our first song

SONG – Ten Thousand Reasons

(Chorus)
Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul
Worship his holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship your holy name

The sun comes up
it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing your song again
Whatever may pass
and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing
when the evening comes

(Chorus)

You're rich in love
and you're slow to anger
Your name is great
and your heart is kind
For all your goodness,
I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons
for my heart to find

(Chorus)

And on that day,
when my strength is failing
The end draws near,
and my time has come
Still, my soul will sing your praise unending
Ten thousand years,
and then forevermore!

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul
Worship his holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship your holy name
Worship your holy name
Lord, I'll worship your holy name

Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship your holy name
Worship your holy name
Worship your holy name

Jonas Myrin |Matt Redman

LITTLE PEOPLES" BIBLE STORY TIME and SONG - Trevor

GREETING TIME – Michael

Please, take a moment to greet the people nearby you. The children leave us now for Kid's Church.

PRAISING GOD – Michael

Please be seated. Let's say together…

Gracious God,
we humbly thank you for all your gifts so freely given to us,
for life and health and safety,
for power to work, leisure to rest,
and for all that is beautiful in creation and human life.
But, above all, we praise you for our Saviour Jesus Christ,
for his death and resurrection,
for the gift of your Spirit, and
for the hope of sharing in your glory.
Fill our hearts with all joy
and peace in believing;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD - Michael

Thank you, Heavenly Father that all Scripture is God-breathed, and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. Open our hearts to receive your word, that we may know you better and be thoroughly equipped for every good work, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Our Bible reading this morning is from the Hebrews Chapter 12 verses 18 to 29. Please open your Bibles to page 1214 or follow along on the screen or on the handout in your News and Notes.

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

Bible Reading - Simon

Hebrews Chapter 12 verses 18 to 29
18 You have not come to a mountain that
can be touched and that is burning with
fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; 19 to a
trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking
words that those who heard it begged
that no further word be spoken to

them, 20 because they could not bear
what was commanded: "If even an animal
touches the mountain, it must be stoned
to death."[Exodus 19:12,13] 21 The sight was so
terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling
with fear."[Deut. 9:19]
22 But you have come to Mount Zion, to
the city of the living God, the heavenly
Jerusalem. You have come to thousands
upon thousands of angels in joyful
assembly, 23 to the church of the
firstborn, whose names are written in
heaven. You have come to God, the
Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous
made perfect, 24 to Jesus the mediator of
a new covenant, and to the sprinkled
blood that speaks a better word than the
blood of Abel.
25 See to it that you do not refuse him who
speaks. If they did not escape when they
refused him who warned them on earth,
how much less will we, if we turn away
from him who warns us from
heaven? 26 At that time his voice shook
the earth, but now he has promised,
"Once more I will shake not only the earth
but also the heavens."[Haggai 2:6] 27 The
words "once more" indicate the removing
of what can be shaken—that is, created
things—so that what cannot be shaken
may remain.
28 Therefore, since we are receiving a
kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be
thankful, and so worship God acceptably
with reverence and awe, 29 for our "God is
a consuming fire."[Deut. 4:24] (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
"See to it that you do not refuse Him who speaks" – Hebrews 12:18-29
Sermon series: Don't give up. Press on.

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

Please stand and let us sing again…

SONG – Only a Holy God

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

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

Come and behold him
The one and the only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a holy God
Come and worship the holy God

Come and behold him
The one and the only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a holy God
Come and worship the holy God

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!

Come and behold him
The one and the only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a holy God
Come and worship the holy God
Come and worship the holy God

Farren, Robinson, Smith, Thompson

Please remain standing as we say together what we believe…

WHAT WE BELIEVE - Michael

Do you believe in God the Father?
We believe in God, the Father
Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in God the Son?
We 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.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
We 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 TO GOD – Michael

"If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness".
1 John 1:8,9

"Come now, let us settle the matter,"
says the Lord.
"Though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red as crimson,
they shall be like wool."
Isaiah 1:18

Although we are the people of God, Scripture reminds us that we still sin. We need to confess our failures, knowing that the Lord Jesus died for us and intercedes for us with the Father. Let us draw near to God, who freely forgives, through his infinite goodness and mercy, and pray to him with sincerity and confidence.

Heavenly Father, we praise you for adopting us as your children and making us heirs of eternal life. In your mercy you have washed us from our sins and made us clean in your sight. Yet we still fail to love you and serve you as we should. Forgive us our sins and renew us by your grace, that we may continue to grow as members of Christ, in whom alone is our salvation. Amen.

God is slow to anger and full of compassion. He forgives all who humbly repent and turn to his Son Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation. **Amen.**

(Prayer Leader comes forward unannounced and continues prayer)

Further Prayer - Michael

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.**

(Further prayers are read by the service leader)

A prayer for Sydney Synod meeting this week and next…

God our Father, you judge your people with wisdom and rule us with love. Give a spirit of understanding to the synod of this diocese that it may make wise decisions that will give glory to you and be a blessing to your people. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**

A prayer for our brothers and sister in Christ in the Anglican Diocese of Bathurst.

Almighty God, we thank you for the Anglican Diocese of Bathurst, for Bishop Mark Calder and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ who belong to the 28 Parishes making up a Diocese that covers almost two thirds of NSW. We thank you for their faithfulness to share the gospel in their communities and care for one another. May they see growth for their hard labour. Lord, provide for the churches that do not have clergy. We bring before you the parishes of Blaney, Collah-Dunedoo, Coonabarabran, Coonamble, Nyngan, Trundle, Wellington and West Wyalong. Strengthen the Lay Ministers that lead these congregations, answer their prayers and see people through tough times of drought, flood and isolation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray that the gospel maybe our rule of life in our church and diocese:

God our Father, your light of truth guides us in the way of Christ. May all who follow him reject what is contrary to the gospel. 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 15th Ordinary Sunday.

Father, hear our prayers.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Michael

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

SONG – Sovereign over us

**There is strength within the sorrow
There is beauty in our tears
And You meet us in our mourning
With a love that casts out fear
You are working in our waiting
You're sanctifying us
When beyond our understanding
You're teaching us to trust.**

**Your plans are still to prosper
You have not forgotten us
You're with us in the fire and the flood
You're faithful forever
Perfect in love
You are sovereign over us.**

**You are wisdom unimagined
Who could understand Your ways
Reigning high above the Heavens
Reaching down in endless grace
You're the lifter of the lowly
Compassionate and kind
You surround and You uphold me
And Your promises are my delight**

**Your plans are still to prosper
You have not forgotten us
You're with us in the fire and the flood
You're faithful forever
Perfect in love
You are sovereign over us.**

**Even what the enemy means for evil
You turn it for our good
You turn it for our good and for Your glory
Even in the valley, You are faithful
You're working for our good
You're working for our good
And for Your glory.**
(Repeat)

**Your plans are still to prosper
You have not forgotten us**

You're with us in the fire and the flood
You're faithful forever
Perfect in love
You are sovereign over us
You're faithful forever
Perfect in love
You are sovereign over us.

Michael W Smith

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE – Michael

"Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it"

Luke 11:28

GOING OUT TO SERVE - Michael

Together…

Father, take us and use us to love and serve you and all people,
in the power of your Spirit and in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

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