



Sunday Morning – 21st April 2024

Welcome to St Andrews Free Church! This morning Paul Clarke will preach on Hebrews 11:1-7.

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| <p>1 Come thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unchanging love.</p> | <p>3 O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love!
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.</p> |
| <p>2 Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.</p> | <p>4 O that day when freed from sinning
I shall see thy lovely face;
full arrayed in blood-washed linen,
how I'll sing thy sovereign grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry,
bring thy promises to pass,
for I know thy pow'r will keep me
till I'm home with thee at last</p> |

Robert Robinson (1735-90)

**Our Father in heaven,
we confess that we have done many things we should have left
undone, and failed to do many things you have commanded.
Forgive our sins and have mercy on us, we pray.
And help us to seek first your kingdom and your righteousness.
In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Come and stand before your maker

Full of wonder, full of fear;
Come behold his power and glory
Yet with confidence draw near,
For the one who holds the heavens
And commands the stars above
Is the God who bends to bless us
With an unrelenting love.

Rejoice!

*Come and lift your hands and raise your voice;
He is worthy of all praise,
Rejoice!
Sing the mercies of your King
And with trembling, rejoice.*

We are children of the promise,
The beloved of the Lord.
Won with everlasting kindness,
Bought with sacrificial blood.
Bringing reconciliation
To a world that longs to know
The affections of a father
Who will never let them go.
Rejoice...

All our sickness, all our sorrows
Jesus carried up the hill.
He has walked this path before us,
He is walking with us still;
Turning tragedy to triumph,
Turning agony to praise,
There is blessing in the battle
So take heart and stand amazed.
Rejoice...

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Interview

Notices

1) Youth Fellowship – If you are a S1-S6 age, come study Colossians with desert at John and Hilary's flat today from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. Send Hilary a message at hilaryous95@gmail.com for more details, including the address.

2) Lord's Supper – During this evening's service.

3) Graduate Sunday – To say goodbye to all the graduates in the church family who are moving on this Summer, we will have a church family lunch together in the Halls following the morning service on 28th April. Bring your own food; soup will be provided.

4) Prayer Meeting – Join us to pray as a church family on Wednesday 1st May at 1 Dempster Terrace. Come from 7:15pm for 7:30.

5) Hearing God's Voice – Join us for a Bible handling workshop in The Halls on Saturday 4th May, 9:15am-1pm. Whether you want to grow in confidence reading God's word on your own or you want to be better equipped to open the Bible with others, we would love to have you! There is also an optional session after lunch thinking about how to write a Bible study. Click [here](#) to sign up.

6) During the week – LifeGroups, Friday Fellowship and Voyagers continue as normal this week.

7) Summer Serving – With many of our number being away over the Summer, it would be very helpful if you would consider serving in one of the following areas: Projection, Sunday morning set-up, tea and coffee and music. Talk to a member of staff or complete the [serving form](#).

8) Giving – You can support the work of the church financially by electronic bank transfer, by contactless payment after the service or by clicking [here](#). Our bank details are – A/c name: St Andrews Free COS; S/c: 80-09-55; A/c no: 00295283. If you are eligible for Gift Aid, please email (treasurer@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk)

Click [here](#) if you're new and you would like to find out more about our church.

Children Leave for Sunday School

Prayer

**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.**

Psalm 12

- 1 Help, LORD, because the godly have quite vanished,
and faithful folk we can no longer see.
- 2 Each one tells falsehood even to his neighbour;
with flattering lips they speak deceitfully.
- 3 Now may the LORD cut off all lips which flatter,
and every tongue which speaks with boastful word.
- 4 Such people say, "We with our tongues will triumph;
we own our lips—who then can be our lord?"
- 5 "Because the weak have suffered great oppression,
and I have heard the needy's groaning cries,
Now I will guard them from those who malign them.
To help them," says the LORD, "I will arise."
- 6 The words proceeding from the LORD are flawless,
as pure as silver which by fire is tried,
Like silver which, when molten in a furnace,
from it emerges sev'n times purified.
- 7 O LORD, you will preserve us safe for ever
and from this evil age keep us secure;
- 8 For here the wicked strut about quite freely,
and praise is giv'n to all that is impure.

Hebrews 11:1-7

Intro: Isolation, pain and doubt

1. A Definition: Faith is trusting God's word about unseen reality

i) The principle – faith in the unseen

ii) The case study – creation

2. A Promise: Faith is rewarded by God

3. Three Examples: Faith that endures

i) Abel – faith unto death

ii) Enoch – walking by faith

iii) Noah – faith that works

Creator God, who shaped the earth and heavens,

Your glory shines in all that you have made.

You spoke the Word who broke into the darkness,

All earth replies: 'majestic is Your name.'

And who am I, though made below the angels,

That You my King are mindful of my ways?

As moon and stars sing out their joyful chorus,

I lift my voice to join with them in praise.

Redeeming God creation's song fell silent,

As on the cross the Light was pierced with dark.

The Word of life to death now hangs surrendered,

The One who spoke out stars now breathes His last.

And who am I, the lowliest of sinners,

That You would pay the price my sin deserves?

My Maker scarred for those who marred His likeness,

And from His wounds flows mercy unreserved.

O living God! You broke the tomb in glory,

Death could not hold the One who authored life!

His radiant light has shattered through our darkness,

And in our hearts His risen life now shines.

And who are we that You would call us children,

And raise us up from death to life with you?

Where we will sing the New Creation anthem:

'O praise the One who's making all things new.'

And so we wait in eager expectation,

And join the song as all creation groans:

'Lord haste the Day decay is slain by glory,

The Day you call Your sons and daughters home.'

O Church, arise, and put your armour on;
hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak
can say that they are strong
in the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
we'll stand against the devil's lies;
an army bold, whose battle cry is love,
reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war – to love the captive soul,
but to rage against the captor;
and with the sword
that makes the wounded whole,
we will fight with faith and valour.
When faced with trials on every side,
we know the outcome is secure,
and Christ will have
the prize for which he died –
an inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross,
where love and mercy meet,
as the Son of God is stricken;
then see his foes
lie crushed beneath his feet,
for the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away
and Christ emerges from the grave,
this victory march continues till the day
every eye and heart shall see him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in ev'ry stride,
Give grace for ev'ry hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When, with Christ, we stand in glory

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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This evening's sermon passage is Matthew 1:18-25.

Next week's services:

10.30am: Hebrews 11:8-22

6pm: Matthew 2:1-12

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