



**Free Church
of St Andrews**

Morning Service – 28th December 2025

Welcome to St Andrews Free Church! This morning Paul Clarke will speak on Luke 2:21–40.

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
while Heaven's eternal anthem drowns
all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died to be
your Saviour and your matchless King
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of Life
triumphant from the grave,
who rose victorious from the strife
for those he came to save:
his glories now we sing
who died and rose on high;
he died eternal life to bring
and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of Years,
the Potentate of Time,
Creator of the rolling spheres
Ineffably sublime:
all hail, Redeemer, hail,
for you have died for me;
your praise shall never, never fail
through all eternity!

"Crown Him With Many Crowns" Matthew Bridges,
Godfrey Thring, Word & Music
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What is our hope in life and death?

Christ alone, Christ alone.

What is our only confidence?

That our souls to Him belong.

Who holds our days within His hand?

What comes, apart from His command?

And what will keep us to the end?

The love of Christ, in which we stand.

O sing hallelujah!

Our hope springs eternal;

O sing hallelujah!

Now and ever we confess

Christ our hope in life and death.

What truth can calm the troubled soul?

God is good, God is good.

Where is His grace and goodness known?

In our great Redeemer's blood.

Who holds our faith when fears arise?

Who stands above the stormy trial?

Who sends the waves that bring us nigh

Unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

O sing hallelujah!

Unto the grave, what shall we sing?

"Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!"

And what reward will heaven bring?

Everlasting life with Him.

There we will rise to meet the Lord,

Then sin and death will be destroyed,

And we will feast in endless joy,

When Christ is ours forevermore.

O sing hallelujah!

"Christ our Hope in Life and Death" Keith Getty, Matt Boswell,
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Gracious God,

our sins are too heavy to carry,

too real to hide, and too deep for us to undo.

Please forgive us.

Set us free from a past that we cannot change;

open to us a future in which we can be changed;

and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reading: Isaiah 42:1–7 (page 602)

Man of sorrows what a name

for the Son of God, who came
ruined sinners to reclaim:
Hallelujah, what a Saviour!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
in my place condemned he stood,
sealed my pardon with his blood:
Hallelujah, what a Saviour!

Guilty, helpless, lost were we;
blameless Lamb of God was he,
sacrificed to set us free:
Hallelujah, what a Saviour!

He was lifted up to die;
"It is finished" was his cry;
now in heaven exalted high:
Hallelujah, what a Saviour!

When he comes, our glorious King,
all his ransomed home to bring,
then anew this song we'll sing:
Hallelujah, what a Saviour!

Philip Paul Bliss

Notices

1) December and January Services – Evening services will not take place on 28th December and 4th January. We will return to two morning services at the beginning of February.

2) New Testament Reading Plan 2026 – There are many excellent ways to read the Bible daily, but if you would like something to do with others this year, join us in a simple New Testament Reading Plan. We'll read one chapter each weekday and take one verse, one reflection and one short prayer into the day. Click [here](#) to download the plan.

3) 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 would wish to make a contribution towards the Assistant Minister fund, you are making a sizeable donation or you are eligible for Gift Aid, please email treasurer@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk

Children leave for Crèche, Scramblers and 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 116

- 1 I love the LORD because he heard my voice;
He listened when I cried to him for aid.
- 2 I'll call on him as long as I shall live,
Because he turned to hear me when I prayed.
- 5 The LORD our God is kind and full of grace;
Both righteous and compassionate is he.
- 6 The LORD protects all those of childlike faith;
When I was in great need, he rescued me.
- 7 Rest, O my soul; God has been good to you—
- 8 For you, O LORD, have saved my soul from death,
My feet from stumbling and my eyes from tears,
- 9 That I may live for you while I have breath.

Reading and Sermon: Luke 2:21–40 (page 857)

Luke 2:21–40

Intro: Thanksgiving

1) Jesus is the salvation of God

i) Carefully planned

ii) Bringing light

iii) Guaranteeing glory

2) Jesus is the revealer of hearts

i) The rising and falling of many

ii) A sword to the heart

Conclusion: Thanksgiving

I will sing the wondrous story

of the Christ who died for me;
how he left his home in glory
for the cross on Calvary.

I was lost, but Jesus found me,
found the sheep that went astray,
threw his loving arms around me,
drew me back into his way.

I was bruised, but Jesus healed me,
faint was I from many a fall;
sight was gone and fears possessed me,
but he freed me from them all.
Days of darkness still come o'er me,
sorrow's path I often tread,
but the Saviour still is with me,
by his hand I'm safely led.

He will keep me till the river
rolls its waters at my feet,
then he'll bear me safely over
where the loved ones I shall meet.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me;
sing it with his saints in glory,
gathered by the crystal sea.

Francis Harold Rawley (1854–1952)

There will be no evening service today or next week.

Next week's services:

10:30am: Psalm 113

Website: www.standrewsfreechurch.co.uk

Senior Minister: Rev. Paul Clarke paul@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk

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