

Sunday Evening - 21st April 2024

Welcome to St Andrews Free Church! This evening John MacPherson will preach on Matthew 1:18-25.

And can it be that I should gain

An interest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me?

'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies: who can explore his strange design? In vain the highest angel tries to sound the depths of love divine. 'Tis mystery all! Let earth adore, let angel minds inquire no more.

He left His Father's throne above, So free, so infinite His grace; Emptied Himself in all His love, And bled for Adam's helpless race; 'Tis mercy all, immense and free; For, O my God, it found out me.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
And claim the crown,
through Christ my own.

Based on Acts 12; Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Notices

- **1) 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.
- **2) 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.
- **3)** 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.
- **4) During the week** LifeGroups, Friday Fellowship and Voyagers continue as normal this week.
- **5)** 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 <u>serving form</u>.
- **6) 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 <u>here</u> if you're new and you would like to find out more about our church.

Isaiah 9

- 1 No longer will there be despair for those who were distressed In Zebulon and Naphtali, by wicked foes oppressed.
- 2 For God had humbled them in wrath, but he will set them free And honour Gentile Galilee, by Jordan and the sea.
- 3 The people who in darkness walked have seen a glorious light, For light has dawned on those who lived in shadow of the night.
- 4 You spread the nation's borders wide and made their joy abound; Such joy is brought when harvest comes or spoils of war are found.

- 7 Because to us a child is born, to us a son is given And on his shoulders he will bear the rule of earth and heaven.
- 8 Called Wonderful and Counsellor, Almighty God is he; Eternal Father, Prince of Peace his name will ever be.
- 9 Long will he rule on David's throne, his kingdom will increase Without an end, and he will bring an everlasting peace.

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O come, O come, Emmanuel

And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, Thou, Dayspring from on high And cause Thy light on us to rise Disperse the gloomy clouds of night And death's dark shadow put to flight Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, O come, true prophet of the Lord And turn the key to heaven's door Be Thou our comforter and guide And lead us to the Father's side Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall by His word our darkness dispel

O come, our great High Priest, and intercede Thy sacrifice, our only plea The judgement we no longer fear Thy precious blood has brought us near Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Has banished every fear of hell

O Come, Thou King of nations bring
An end to all our suffering
Bid every pain and sorrow cease
And reign now as our Prince of Peace
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come again with us to dwell

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Reading and Sermon: Matthew 1:18-25 (page 807)

• A birth like no other

• A baby like no other

Psalm 51

- 1 O my God, have mercy on me in your steadfast love, I pray; In your infinite compassion my transgressions wipe away.
- 2 Cleanse me from iniquity; wash my sin away from me.
- 3 For I know my own transgressions; I can see my sinful plight.
- 4 You, you only, I've offended, and done evil in your sight; So your words are verified, and your verdict justified.
- 7 Cleanse with hyssop, purify me; I'll be whiter than the snow.
- 8 Let the bones you crushed be joyful; may I joy and gladness know.
- 9 From my failure hide your face; blot out all my wickedness.
- 10 Lord, create a pure heart in me, and a steadfast mind renew.
- 11 Do not take your Spirit from me; cast me not away from you.
- 12 Give me back the joy I had; keep my willing spirit glad.

Lord's Supper

We use non-alcoholic wine.

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us spiritually with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

1 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!
- 3 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, Jordan Kauflin, Matt Merker, Matt Papa ©2020 Getty Music Publishing (BMI) / Messenger Hymns (BMI) / Jordan Kauflin Music (BMI) / Matthew Merker Music (BMI) / Getty Music Hymns and Songs (ASCAP) / Love Your Enemies Publishing (ASCAP) / adm at MusicServices.org

Next week's services:

10.30am: Hebrews 11:8-22 6pm: Matthew 2:1-12

Website: www.standrewsfreechurch.co.uk

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