

Sunday Morning - 27th April 2025

Welcome to St Andrews Free Church! This morning Paul Clarke will speak on Zechariah 1:1-6.

Who has held the oceans in his hands?

Who has numbered every grain of sand? Kings and nations tremble at his voice, all creation rises to rejoice.

Behold our God seated on his throne; come, let us adore him. Behold our King – nothing can compare; come, let us adore him.

Who has given counsel to the Lord? Who can question any of his words? Who can teach the One who knows all things? Who can fathom all his wondrous deeds? *Behold our God...*

Who has felt the nails upon his hands bearing all the guilt of sinful man? God eternal, humbled to the grave; Jesus, Saviour, risen now to reign. *Behold our God...*

"Behold Our God" Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, Ryan Baird, and Stephen Altrogge © 2011 Sovereign Grace Praise, Sovereign Grace Worship 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.

Psalm 113

- 1 Praise God, O servants of the Lord, praise, praise his name with one accord;
- 2 O bless the Lord, his name adore from this time forth forevermore.
- 3 From rising unto setting sun praised be the Lord, the Mighty One;
- 4 he rules all nations by his might, above the heavens in glory bright.
- 5 On whom but God can we rely, the Lord our God who reigns on high,
- 6 who condescends to see and know the things of heaven and earth below?
- 7 From dust he lifts the needy one, from ashes raises those bowed down.
- 8 He seats them by his mighty hand among the princes of the land.

Bradbury, William B. (1816–1868) Psalter, 1912 (246) (adapted)

Reading: Luke 4:14-21 (page 859)

Notices

1) Student Lunch – Following this service on the topic of *The New Creation – How Does the Story End?* Suggested donation of £2.

2) Youth Group: Mark and Munch! - Meeting to study Mark's Gospel and to enjoy delicious desserts from 3:30-5:30pm this afternoon in the back hall. Contact Hilary for more details: hilaryous95@gmail.com

3) Hope Explored – A three-week series which provides an introduction to the Christian faith and explores the topics of hope, peace and purpose in life, starting tomorrow evening (28th April) at 7pm. Click <u>here</u> to find out more, including the address, and to express an interest.

4) During the Week – LifeGroups and Friday Fellowship continue as normal. Evergreens next meets on 13th May. Talk to a member of staff or send an email to church@standrewsfreechurch for more info about our regular bible studies.

5) Women's Teaching Day – Taking place on Saturday 10th May, considering how we live and speak for Jesus. Click <u>here</u> for more information and to sign up.

6) Grad Sunday – On Sunday 25th May we will have lunch together after the morning service and spend time hearing from and praying for graduating students in the church family. Please bring your own lunch, but some soup will be provided to supplement it. Email mark@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk with any questions.

7) Foundations - A 3-day conference from 26th-28th May in the Halls about growing confidence in the Bible, deepening convictions and developing skills in reading and understanding it for ourselves with lots of time for fun and games together. Cost is £10, but let us know if that is an issue. Click <u>here</u> to sign up and chat to Abby if you have any questions (abby@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk)

8) Mental Health and the Church - A <u>conference</u> on how churches can bring the transformative love of Christ to those who face mental health challenges, taking place on Saturday 3rd May at St Columba's Free Church in Edinburgh.

9) Giving – You can support the work of the church financially by electronic bank transfer, by contactless payment after the service or by clicking <u>here</u>. 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 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.

God has spoken by his prophets,

spoken his unchanging word; each from age to age proclaiming God the one, the righteous Lord; in the world's despair and turmoil one firm anchor still holds fast: God is king, his throne eternal, God the first and God the last.

God has spoken by Christ Jesus, Christ, the everlasting Son; brightness of the Father's glory, with the Father ever one: spoken by the Word incarnate, God, before all time began, light of light, to earth descending, Man, revealing God to man. God is speaking by his Spirit speaking to our hearts again; in the age-long word expounding God's own message, now as then. Through the rise and fall of nations one sure faith is standing fast: God abides, his word unchanging, God the first and God the last.

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There is no other name

in heaven can be found through whom we are redeemed, through whom your grace abounds. No other name can save but Jesus Christ our Lord.

My joy in sorrow's tears; my strength to cast out fears. No other name but Jesus, Jesus. My hope in darkest night; my broken soul's delight. No other name but Jesus, Jesus.

There is no victory but Jesus crucified. No other cure for sin but that our Saviour died. No other hope we have but that he rose again. *My joy in sorrow's tears...*

No other throne endures, no other song remains, but 'Worthy is the Lamb who was for sinners slain'. When every knee shall bow and tongue confess you are Lord. You are Lord! *My joy in sorrow's tears...*

'No Other Name' Trevor Hodge © 2010 Hodge, Trevor | emumusic.com

Reading and Sermon: Zechariah 1:1-6 (page 793)

Zechariah 1:1-6

Intro: The hallmark of the kingdom of God

1) Beware the terrible danger of ignoring the LORD

2) Remember the might and mercy of the LORD

i) Might - the LORD of hosts (see Zechariah 14:9, p800)

ii) Mercy - the LORD of love (see Exodus 34:6)

3) Return to the LORD with all your heart

i) How we start the Christian life

ii) How we live the Christian life (see Haggai 1:12-14)

Conclusion: A heart-check

The splendour of the King,

clothed in majesty; let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice. He wraps himself in light and darkness tries to hide, and trembles at his voice, and trembles at his voice. *How great is our God, sing with me: how great is our God. And all will see how great, how great is our God.*

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands; beginning and the end, beginning and the end. The Godhead, Three in One, Father, Spirit, Son, the Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb. *How great is our God...*

Name above all names, worthy of all praise; my heart will sing: how great is our God. *How great is our God...*

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This evening's sermon passage is Matthew 9:8-34.

Next week's services: 10.30am: Zechariah 1:7-2:13 6pm: Matthew 9:35-10:4

Website: www.standrewsfreechurch.co.uk

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

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