



**Free Church  
of St Andrews**

## **Sunday Evening – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

Welcome to St Andrews Free Church! This evening Scott Hamilton will speak on Matthew 9:18–34.

### **Psalm 9(a)**

- 7 The LORD for ever reigns on high;  
his throne for judgement stands.
- 8 He'll judge the world in righteousness,  
with justice rule the lands.
  
- 9 The LORD will be a hiding place  
for those who are oppressed,  
And he will be a strong defence  
for those who are distressed.
  
- 10 All those who know your name, O LORD,  
in you their trust will place,  
For you do not abandon those  
who seek your gracious face.
  
- 11 Sing praises to the LORD who sits  
in Zion on his throne;  
Among the nations of the world  
proclaim what he has done.

**My Saviour left his throne above,**  
exchanged his wealth for poverty;  
he took my hate and gave his love,  
all this and more he did for me!

Because he chose the lowly way  
and bowed before his Father's will,  
I can with all assurance say:  
my God is near and loves me still!  
My God is near and loves me still!

He felt the storms of human pain,  
he felt temptation's whelming seas,  
he felt the tears of sorrow's rain;  
all this and more he felt for me!

Because he knows my every strife  
and is acquainted with my grief,  
I can't be shaken in this life.  
The Friend of sinners walks with me!  
The Friend of sinners walks with me!

He kept his Father's every word,  
the Law he followed perfectly,  
so all God's pleasure he secured;  
all this and more he earned for me!

Because his righteous life is mine  
and all his merits now I own,  
I am a child of God on high.  
I am adopted, loved, and known!  
I am adopted, loved, and known!

When Jesus left his heavenly home,  
his face was set on Calvary;  
the steepest hill he climbed alone,  
all this and more he did for me!

Because he died once for all time  
and bore the curse of death and hell,  
final forgiveness here is mine,  
so it is finished, all is well!  
Yes, it is finished, all is well!

O Father,  
we are gathered before you,  
the Maker of Heaven and Earth,  
whose chosen dwelling place is with  
the broken and contrite,  
to confess that we have sinned in  
thought and word and deed;  
we have not loved you with all our  
heart and soul,  
we have not loved you with all our  
mind and strength;  
we have not even loved our  
neighbour as ourselves.

Purge us from selfishness,  
the fear of man, and the love of praise.  
In your mercy, deepen our sorrow for  
the wrong we have done and for the  
good we have left undone,  
so that we may truly hate our sin.  
But, please Father, do not leave us in  
sorrow.  
With you, O Lord, there is forgiveness.  
In your mercy, restore the joy of our  
salvation;  
so that we may love you with a holy  
love. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Q. How are you righteous before God?

Only by true faith in Jesus Christ.  
Although my conscience accuses me  
that I have grievously sinned  
against all God's commandments,  
have never kept any of them,  
and am still inclined to all evil,  
yet God, without any merit of my own,  
out of mere grace, imputes to me  
the perfect satisfaction,  
righteousness, and holiness of Christ.

He grants these to me  
as if I had never sinned nor been a  
sinner,  
and as if I myself had accomplished  
all the obedience  
which Christ has rendered for me,  
if only I accept this gift  
with a believing heart.

*Heidelberg Catechism Q60*

**From the squalor of a borrowed stable,**  
by the Spirit and a virgin's faith;  
to the anguish and the shame of scandal  
came the Saviour of the human race!  
But the skies were filled with the praise of Heav'n,  
shepherds listen as the angels tell  
of the gift of God come down to man  
at the dawning of Immanuel.

King of heaven now the friend of sinners,  
humble servant in the Father's hands,  
filled with power and the Holy Spirit,  
filled with mercy for the broken man.  
Yes, he walked my road and he felt my pain,  
joys and sorrows that I know so well;  
yet his righteous steps give me hope again—  
I will follow my Immanuel!

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal,  
he was lifted on a cruel cross;  
he was punished for a world's transgressions,  
he was suffering to save the lost.  
He fights for breath, he fights for me,  
loosing sinners from the claims of hell;  
and with a shout our souls are free —  
death defeated by Immanuel!

Now he's standing in the place of honour,  
crowned with glory on the highest throne,  
interceding for his own beloved  
till his Father calls to bring them home!  
Then the skies shall part as the trumpet sounds —  
hope of heaven or the fear of hell;  
but the bride will run to her Lover's arms,  
giving glory to Immanuel!

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# Notices

- 1) 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 [here](#) to find out more, including the address, and to express an interest.
- 2) 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](mailto:church@standrewsfreechurch) for more info about our regular bible studies.
- 3) Prayer Meeting** – 7th May at 1 Dempster Terrace, 7:15pm for a 7:30 start.
- 4) Women's Teaching Day** – Taking place on Saturday 10th May, considering how we live and speak for Jesus. Click [here](#) for more information and to sign up. Booking closes this Thursday (1st May).
- 5) 20s & 30s Social** – On the evening of 12th May. More details to follow.
- 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](mailto: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 [here](#) to sign up and chat to Abby if you have any questions ([abby@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk](mailto:abby@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk))
- 8) Mental Health and the Church** – A [conference](#) 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 [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](mailto:treasurer@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk)

**Reading:** Isaiah 42:1–9 (page 602)

**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.

1 **Oh, to see the dawn**  
of the darkest day:  
Christ on the road to Calvary.  
Tried by sinful men,  
torn and beaten, then  
nailed to a cross of wood.

*This, the power of the cross:  
Christ became sin for us.  
Took the blame, bore the wrath –  
we stand forgiven at the cross.*

2 Oh, to see the pain  
written on your face,  
bearing the awesome weight of sin.  
Every bitter thought,  
every evil deed  
crowning your bloodstained brow.  
*This, the power of the cross...*

3 Now the daylight flees,  
now the ground beneath  
quakes as its Maker bows his head.  
Curtain torn in two,  
dead are raised to life;  
'Finished!' the victory cry.  
*This, the power of the cross...*

4 Oh, to see my name  
written in the wounds,  
for through your suffering I am free.  
Death is crushed to death,  
life is mine to live,  
won through your selfless love.  
This, the power of the cross:  
Son of God – slain for us.  
What a love! What a cost!  
We stand forgiven at the cross.

"The Power of the Cross" Keith Getty and  
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**Reading and Sermon:** Matthew 9:18–34 (page 814)

# **Matthew 9:18 – 34**

**Intro:** Does It Work *Here*?

**Jesus, the awaited Saviour...**

... who saves all who trust in Him (verses 20 – 22)

... who gives life to the dead (verses 18 – 26)

... who gives sight to the blind (verses 27 – 31)

... who gives speech to the mute (verses 32 – 34)

**Conclusion:** Recognise and Respond!

**What love could remember no wrongs we have done?**

Omniscient, all-knowing, he counts not their sum.  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore;  
our sins they are many, his mercy is more.

*Praise the Lord! His mercy is more!  
Stronger than darkness, new every morn;  
our sins they are many, his mercy is more.*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?  
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;  
our sins they are many, his mercy is more.  
*Praise the Lord...*

What riches of kindness he lavished on us!  
His blood was the payment; his life was the cost.  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;  
our sins they are many, his mercy is more.  
*Praise the Lord...*

Matt Boswell, Matt Papa

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**Next week's services:**

10.30am: Zechariah 1:7–2:13

6pm: Matthew 9:35–10:4

**Website:** [www.standrewsfreechurch.co.uk](http://www.standrewsfreechurch.co.uk)

**Senior Minister:** Rev. Paul Clarke [paul@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk](mailto:paul@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk)

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