



**Free Church
of St Andrews**

Morning Service – 1st March 2026

Welcome to St Andrews Free Church! This morning Paul Clarke will speak on Matthew 18:1-4.

Psalm 62

- 1 My soul finds rest in God alone;
From him comes my salvation sure.
- 2 My safety, fortress, sheltering rock –
In him alone I am secure.
- 3 How long will you assault a man?
Do you all seek to lay him low –
This leaning wall, this tottering fence –
And bring about his overthrow?
- 4 They plan his fall from his high place;
They take delight in spreading lies.
With false and flattering mouths they bless,
But in their hearts curse and despise.
- 5 Find rest, my soul, in God alone;
In him my hope is ever sure.
- 6 My safety, fortress, sheltering rock –
In him alone I am secure.
- 7 My honour and salvation rest
On God, my rock and mighty fort.
- 8 O people, trust in him always;
To him alone pour out your heart.

Come People of the Risen King,
who delight to bring him praise;
come all and tune your hearts to sing
to the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
we will lift our eyes to him,
where steady arms of mercy reach
to gather children in.
Rejoice, rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice, O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun,
and those weeping through the night;
come, those who tell of battles won,
and those struggling in the fight.
For his perfect love will never change,
and his mercies never cease,
but follow us through all our days
with the certain hope of peace.
Rejoice...

Come, young and old from every land –
men and women of the faith;
come, those with full or empty hands –
find the riches of his grace.
Over all the world, his people sing –
shore to shore we hear them call
the Truth that cries through every age:
“Our God is all in all”!
Rejoice...

“Come People of the Risen King” Keith Getty, Kristyn
Getty, Stuart Townend ©2007 Thankyou Music

Holy and merciful God,
in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings,
and our offences against you.
You alone know how often we have sinned
in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.
Have mercy on us, O Lord,
for we are ashamed and sorry
for all we have done to displease you.
Forgive our sins,
and help us to live in your light
and walk in your ways,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

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.'

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Reading: Mark 10:35–45 (page 846)

Notices

Children leave for Crèche, Scramblers and Sunday School (9:30 service)

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.

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!

Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long.*

Perfect communion, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight.
Angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
This is my story, this is my song...

Perfect submission, all is at rest.
I in my Saviour am happy and bless'd,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.
This is my story, this is my song...

Fanny Jane Crosby (1820–1915)

Reading and Sermon: Matthew 18:1–4 (page 823)

Matthew 18:1-4

Intro: Two issues for the price of one!

1) Entry into God's Kingdom requires a U-turn

2) Greatness in God's Kingdom is topsy-turvy

Conclusion: God is at work!

My heart is filled with thankfulness

to him who bore my pain;
who plumbed the depths of my disgrace
and gave me life again;
who crushed my curse of sinfulness,
and clothed me in his light,
and wrote his law of righteousness
with pow'r upon my heart.

My heart is filled with thankfulness
to him who walks beside;
who floods my weaknesses with strength
and causes fear to fly;
whose ev'ry promise is enough
for ev'ry step I take;
sustaining me with arms of love
and crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness
to him who reigns above;
whose wisdom is my perfect peace,
whose ev'ry thought is love.
For ev'ry day I have on earth
is given by the King.
So I will give my life, my all,
to love and follow him.

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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This evening's sermon passage is Isaiah 8:11-9:7.

Next week's services:

9:30 & 11:30am: Matthew 18:5-20

6pm: Isaiah 9:8-10:4

Website: www.standrewsfreechurch.co.uk

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

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Notices

1) Youth Group – Meeting this afternoon from 3:30–5:30pm at the new venue of John and Hilary's house. Contact hilaryous95@gmail.com for more details, including the address.

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

3) During the week – Wednesday LifeGroups and Friday Fellowship continue as normal this week. There will be no Thursday LifeGroups during the university break. Email church@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk for more info about our weekly bible studies.

4) Ministry Meeting – Every Christian is called to serve Christ. Some are also called to make gospel ministry the focus of their life's work. If you'd like to explore whether that might be something worth considering, even tentatively, we're gathering on Monday 9th March, 7:30pm at 1 Dempster Terrace. This is for anyone curious, prayerful or simply open to thinking about how the Lord might use them in the future.

5) Women's Teaching Day: Transformed by Grace – Join us on Saturday 14th March as Rachel Sloan teaches from Titus. There will also be seminars, prayer and plenty of fellowship. Book [here](#) and contact Kirsty with any questions.

6) Event: Did Darwin displace God? – Join us at 7:30pm on Wednesday 18th March at St Mark's Parish Church for an evening with Professor Richard Buggs, an evolutionary biologist, as he explains the scientific evidence for God and why evolution does not explain it away. His talk will be followed by a Q&A. Click [here](#) for a flyer to share.

7) 20s & 30s Social – If you are in your 20s or 30s, you are invited to hang out at St Andrews Brew Co from 7pm on Monday 23rd March.

8) Baptisms – We're planning a baptism service in the near future. If you haven't been baptised and would like to talk more about it, get in touch with Paul at paul@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk

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