



**Free Church
of St Andrews**

Morning Service – 11th October 2026

Welcome to St Andrews Free Church! This morning Paul Clarke will speak on Luke 15:11–32.

Psalm 117

- 1 Praise the LORD, O all you nations;
all you peoples, sing his praise.
- 2 For his love is great towards us;
his commitment lasts always.
He is faithful now and ever.
Hallelujah! Praise the LORD!

To God be the glory! Great things he has done!

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the earth hear his voice.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the people rejoice.

*Oh, come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!

To every believer the promise of God:

the vilest offender who truly believes,

that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Praise the Lord!...

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,

and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son!

But purer and higher and greater will be

our joy and our wonder when Jesus we see!

Praise the Lord!...

Testimony

- 1 **Your grace that leads this sinner home**
from death to life forever,
and sings the song of righteousness
by blood and not by merit.
- 2 Your grace that reaches far and wide
to every tribe and nation
has called my heart to enter in
the joy of your salvation.

*By grace I am redeemed,
by grace I am restored,
and now I freely walk into
the arms of Christ my Lord.*

- 3 Your grace that I cannot explain,
not by my earthly wisdom;
the Prince of Life, without a stain,
was traded for this sinner.
By grace I am redeemed...
- 4 Let praise rise up and overflow –
my song resound forever,
for grace will see me welcomed home
to walk beside my Saviour.
By grace I am redeemed...

Niki Shepherd, Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson
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Notices and Children Leave for Sunday School (9:30 service)

Prayer of General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants
give you our humble and heartfelt
thanks for all your goodness and
loving-kindness to us and all mankind.
We praise you for our creation,
preservation and all the blessings
of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable
love in the redemption of the world
by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace
and for the hope of glory.

We pray that you will give us
such an awareness of your
goodness that our hearts may be
truly thankful and that we may
declare your praise not only with
our lips but in our lives, by giving
ourselves in your service and by
walking before you in holiness and
righteousness all our days.
All honour be to you, Father, Son
and Holy Spirit, now and through
all eternity.
Amen.

Prayer

**1 What gift of grace
 is Jesus my redeemer!**

There is no more
for heaven now to give.
He is my joy,
my righteousness, and freedom,
my steadfast love,
my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold,
my hope is only Jesus
for my life is wholly bound to his.
Oh how strange and divine!
I can sing: all is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

**2 The night is dark
 but I am not forsaken,
 for by my side,
 the Saviour he will stay.**
I labour on
in weakness and rejoicing
for in my need,
his power is displayed.
To this I hold,
my Shepherd will defend me;
through the deepest valley he will lead.
Oh the night has been won,
and I shall overcome!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

**3 No fate I dread,
 I know I am forgiven;
 the future sure,
 the price it has been paid.**
For Jesus bled
and suffered for my pardon,
and he was raised
to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold,
my sin has been defeated.
Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh the chains are released;
I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

**4 With every breath
 I long to follow Jesus
 for he has said
 that he will bring me home,
 and day by day**
I know he will renew me
until I stand
with joy before the throne.
To this I hold,
my hope is only Jesus;
all the glory evermore to him!
When the race is complete,
still my lips shall repeat:
'Yet not I, but through Christ in me'.

Reading and Sermon: Luke 15:11–32 (page 874)

Luke 15:11-32

Intro: The Heart of God

1) The younger son: a portrait of repentance (verses 11-20a)

i. Running away

ii. Coming home

– awakening

– admission

– action

2) The father: a portrait of grace (verses 20b-24)

3) The older son: a portrait of grumbling (verses 25-32)

Conclusion: The Heart of God

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound

that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear,
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far
and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years
bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first begun.

Based on Ephesians 2:4-8
John Henry Newton (1725-1807)

This evening's sermon passage is 1 Samuel 9:1-11:15.

Next week's services:

9:30 & 11:30am: 1 Peter 2:4-10

6pm: 1 Samuel 12:1-14:52

Website: www.standrewsfreechurch.co.uk

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

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Welcome to St Andrews Free Church! If you are new and would like to find out more about us, click [here](#) to fill in our welcome form and visit our website. You'll be given the option to meet with a member of the church team for a coffee. You can also find digital copies of the service sheets and the option to give online.

If you have any questions or would like to join us for any of the events below, you can chat to the service leader or send us an email at church@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk

20s & 30s Social | Mon 12th October | 7:30pm

Join us at St Andrews Brewing Co on South Street.

Evergreens | Tue 13th October | 2pm

For the 'more experienced' saints, meeting at 10 Doocot Road.

Prayer Meeting | Wed 14th October | 7:30pm

Join us to pray as a church family at 7:30pm at Cosmos Community Centre.

There will be no LifeGroups on this evening.

Thursday LifeGroups | Thur 15th October | 7:30pm

Our student bible study, taking place in the Halls. You're welcome to join, even if you are still deciding whether to join our church.

Friday Fellowship | Fri 16th October | 10am

All women who are at home during the day are warmly invited to join us at 1 Dempster Terrace as we reflect on the Sunday morning sermon and pray for one another.

Glow Party – A family event of crafts, games and activities aimed at primary-age children, celebrating light and hope from 2:30–4pm on Saturday 25th October.

Desserts & Discipleship – For all women, join us for sweet treats, discussion and prayer on the evening of Friday 30th October. More details to come.

Blythswood Shoebox Appeal – Would you be able to give a poverty-stricken child a shoebox full of presents this Christmas? Blythswood Care is a Christian charity aiming to take the good news of Jesus to people by including a suitable Bible or book about Jesus with each shoebox, all being sent to Eastern Europe. Please contact Jacqui Barr for more information (jacqui.barr@yahoo.com). Wrapped boxes will be available from next Sunday (18th October) and must be filled and returned by 8th November.

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