Morning Service – 22nd November 2026

Welcome to St Andrews Free Church! This morning Paul Clarke will speak on 1 Peter 3:8–14a.

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!

1 **How I love the voice of Jesus**
On the cross of Calvary
He declares His work is finished
He has spoken this hope to me
Though the sun had ceased its shining
Though the war appeared as lost
Christ had triumphed over evil
It was finished upon that cross

2 Now the curse it has been broken
Jesus paid the price for me
Full, the pardon He has offered
Great, the welcome that I receive
Boldly I approach my Father
Clothed in Jesus' righteousness
There is no more guilt to carry
It was finished upon that cross

3 Death was once my great opponent
Fear once had a hold on me
But the Son who died to save us
Rose that we would be free indeed!
Death was once my great opponent
Fear once had a hold on me
But the Son who died to save us
Rose that we would be free indeed!
Yes, He rose that we would be
free indeed!

Free from every plan of darkness
Free to live and free to love
Death is dead and Christ is risen!
It was finished upon that cross

Onward to eternal glory
To my Saviour and my God
I rejoice in Jesus' victory
It was finished upon that cross
It was finished upon that cross

Jonny Robinson, Nigel Hendroff, Rich Thompson
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Almighty God,
we are unworthy to come into your presence,
and we do not deserve any grace or mercy from you,
because we have sinned against you and offended you.
And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins and offences,
so also do we acknowledge you to be a merciful God,
a loving and favourable Father to all who turn to you.
And so we humbly ask you, for the sake of Christ your son,
to show mercy to us, and forgive us all our sins.
By your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts, so that,
not only the actions of our life, but also the words of our mouth,
and the smallest thought of our minds,
may be guided and governed by you.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom,
with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

Who, O Lord, could save themselves,
Their own soul could heal?
Our shame was deeper than the sea
Your grace is deeper still
(Repeat)

You alone can rescue, You alone can save
You alone can lift us from the grave
You came down to find us, led us out of death
To You alone belongs the highest praise

You, O Lord, have made a way
The great divide You heal
For when our hearts were far away
Your love went further still
You alone can rescue...

"You Alone Can Rescue" Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin
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Sunday School report

Notices and Children Leave for Sunday School (9:30 service)

Prayer

Psalm 119

33 Teach me to follow your decrees;
Then I will keep them to the end.
34 Give insight, and I'll keep your law,
With all my heart to it attend.

35 Lead me in your commandments' path,
For there, O LORD, delight I find.
36 Incline my heart towards your laws;
From selfish gain preserve my mind.

37 O turn my eyes from worthless things;
Give life according to your word.
38 To me, your servant, keep your pledge,
So that you may be feared, O LORD.

39 Remove from me the shame I dread;
Your laws excel in uprightness.
40 O how I long for your decrees!
Preserve me in your righteousness.

Reading and Sermon: 1 Peter 3:8–14a (page 1015)

1 Peter 3:8–14a

Intro: The smile of God

1) Be a blessing to others…

i. Your church family (verse 8)

ii. Your opponents (verse 9)

2) …to obtain the blessing of God

i. Not earning

ii. But enjoying

Conclusion: 'The most soul–ravishing reality in the universe.'

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down:
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts (1674–1748)

This evening's sermon passage is 1 Samuel 21–23.

Next week's services:
9:30 & 11:30am: 1 Peter 3:14b–22
6pm: 1 Samuel 24–26

Website: www.standrewsfreechurch.co.uk
Senior Minister: Rev. Paul Clarke paul@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk
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Christmas Events

Christmas Wreath Making
3:30pm and 7:30pm in the Halls on 28th November. These fun and festive events will feature a short talk on Christmas hope. Click here to sign up and here for a flyer to share with others.

Christmas Carol Services – Sunday 6th December, 5 & 7:30pm. Featuring an orchestra and choir, refreshments and a talk on the Christmas message, these events are a great opportunity to invite others. Click here for flyers to share.

Youth Group | Sun 22nd November | 3:30-5:30pm
For teenagers aged 12-18, meeting this afternoon at John & Hilary's house.

Evergreens | Tue 24th November | 2pm
For the 'more experienced' saints, meeting at 10 Doocot Road.

Wednesday LifeGroups | Wed 25th November | 7:30pm
Our weekly bible studies for those in St Andrews year-round.

Thursday LifeGroups | Thur 26th November | 7:30pm
Our weekly bible study for students, meeting in the Halls.

Friday Fellowship | Fri 27th November | 10am
For women who are at home during the day, meeting at 1 Dempster Terrace.

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

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**

Lord's Supper

During the morning services next week.

Membership Evening

Monday 30th November, 5:30pm at 1 Dempster Terrace. Please email paul@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk if you want to explore becoming a member of the church or if another time is better.

Christmas Services

We will return to one morning service at 10:30am from 6th December. There will be a Christmas Day service at 10:30am in the Halls, together with other churches in town. There will be no evening services on 27th December & 3rd January.

Baptisms

We will have a baptism service on the morning of 13th December. If you haven't been baptised and would like to talk more about it, get in touch with Paul at paul@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk

MYC

Our student conference in January. Click here for more info and to sign up.

Ministry Opportunities – Applications are now open for places on our Ministry Trainee Scheme for next year. To find out more or for an application form, please speak to Paul (paul@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk).