



**Free Church  
of St Andrews**

## **Sunday Morning – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

Welcome to St Andrews Free Church! This morning Paul Clarke will speak on John 4:19–26.

**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...*

Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves and Ed Cash  
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by Kingsway Music

**Reading:** Isaiah 40:9–26 (page 599)

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
in thought and word and deed,  
in the evil we have done  
and in the good we have not done,  
through ignorance,  
through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry, and repent of all  
our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life  
to the glory of your name. Amen.

## Psalm 145

- 1 I will exalt you, O my God and King;  
For ever I will praise your holy name.
- 2 I will extol your name for evermore;  
Day after day your praise I will proclaim.
- 3 Great is the LORD, most worthy of all praise;  
His greatness none can search or comprehend.
- 4 Each generation will recount your deeds  
And to the next your mighty acts commend.
- 7 They will rejoice in your benevolence,  
And your abundant grace they'll celebrate;  
The righteousness that you have shown to them  
In praise and joyful song they will relate.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and compassionate;  
He's slow to anger, rich in steadfast love.
- 9 The LORD is good to all that he has made,  
And merciful to all on earth that move.

# Notices

**1) Baking for MYC** – It would be wonderful if any of you would be willing to provide some baked goods for the coffee breaks at our student Mid-Year Conference. If you would like to make anything (by Tuesday 21st January), please contact Grace ([grace@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk](mailto:grace@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk)).

**2) 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 in January. Click [here](#) to find out more and to express an interest.

**3) LifeGroups** – Wednesday LifeGroups will return this week (15th January) with everyone meeting at 1 Dempster Terrace for three weeks of prayer focus. Thursday LifeGroups resume on 30th January. Talk to a member of staff or send an email to [church@standrewsfreechurch](mailto:church@standrewsfreechurch) for more info about our regular bible studies.

**4) Friday Fellowship** – Our weekly women's group meets next on the morning of 17th January.

**5) Lord's Supper** – During the morning service next Sunday morning.

**6) Evergreens** – Next meeting for a social on 21st January. Venue tbc.

**7) 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 are eligible for Gift Aid, please email ([treasurer@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk](mailto: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.

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!**

O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!  
Come, all who hear; now to his temple draw near,  
join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, above all things so wondrously reigning;  
sheltering you under his wings, and so gently sustaining!  
Have you not seen all that is needful has been  
sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;  
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
if with his love he befriends you.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him.  
Let the Amen sound from his people again;  
gladly forever adore him.

Catherine Winkworth, Joachim Neander, Percy Dearmer

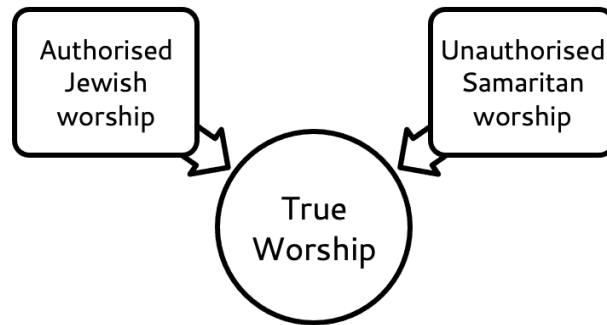
**Reading and Sermon:** John 4:19–26 (page 889)

# John 4:19-26

Intro: Worship

## 1. The heart of true worship is Jesus Christ

'Bowing down'



## 2. The beginning of true worship is the Holy Spirit

'I will sprinkle clean **water** on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my **Spirit** within you, & cause you to walk in my statutes, and be careful to obey my commands.'

- *Ezekiel 36:25-27*

## 3. The pattern of true worship is the truth

Truth in John: 1:14; 7:18; 14:6; 16:13; 17:17

'Ordinary worship'

Conclusion

**When I fear my faith will fail,**  
Christ will hold me fast.  
When the tempter would prevail,  
he will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold  
through life's fearful path.  
For my love is often cold,  
he must hold me fast.

*He will hold me fast!*  
*He will hold me fast!*  
*For my Saviour loves me so,*  
*he will hold me fast!*

Those he saves are his delight,  
Christ will hold me fast.  
Precious in his holy sight,  
he will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost,  
his promises shall last.  
Bought by him at such a cost,  
he will hold me fast.  
*He will hold me fast...*

For my life he bled and died,  
Christ will hold me fast.  
Justice has been satisfied,  
he will hold me fast.  
Raised with him to endless life,  
he will hold me fast,  
till our faith is turned to sight  
when he comes at last.  
*He will hold me fast...*

"He Will Hold Me Fast" Ada Ruth Habershon,  
Matthew Merker  
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**I stand amazed in the presence**

Of Jesus the Nazarene,  
And wonder how he could love me,  
A sinner, condemned, unclean.

*How marvellous! How wonderful!  
And my song shall ever be;  
How marvellous! How wonderful!  
Is my Saviour's love for me!*

For me it was in the garden  
He prayed, "Not my will, but thine;"  
He had no tears for his own griefs,  
But sweat drops of blood for mine.  
*How marvellous...*

He took my sins and my sorrows,  
He made them his very own;  
He bore the burden to Calv'ry,  
And suffered and died alone.  
*How marvellous...*

When with the ransomed in glory  
His face I at last shall see,  
'Twill be my joy through the ages  
To sing of his love for me.  
*How marvellous...*

Charles Homer Gabriel (1856-1932)  
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*This evening's sermon passage is 1 Thessalonians 1.*

**Next week's services:**

10.30am: John 4:27-42

6pm: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-16

**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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