

Sunday Evening – 19th January 2025

Welcome to St Andrews Free Church! This evening Simon Attwood will speak on 1 Thessalonians 2:1-16.

You're the Word of God the Father

from before the world began; every star and every planet has been fashioned by your hand. All creation holds together by the power of your voice. Let the skies declare your glory, let the land and seas rejoice!

You're the Author of creation, you're the Lord of every man, and your cry of love rings out across the lands!

Yet you left the gaze of angels, came to seek and save the lost, and exchanged the joy of heaven for the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer you fed the hungry, with a word you stilled the sea, yet how silently you suffered that the guilty may go free.

You're the Author of creation...

With a shout you rose victorious, wresting victory from the grave, and ascended into heaven leading captives in your way.

Now you stand before the Father interceding for your own; from each tribe and tongue and nation, you are leading sinners home.

You're the Author of creation...

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend © 2002 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Integrity Music) Gracious God,
our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide, and too deep for us to undo.
Please forgive us.

Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Psalm 108

- 1 O Lord God, my heart is steadfast, and with all my soul I'll sing.
- 2 Harp and lyre I will awaken, and my song the dawn will bring.
- 3 LORD my God, among the nations, I will ever give you praise; In the midst of all the peoples I will sing of you always.
- 4 For your steadfast love is boundless, greater than the heavens high;
 And your faithfulness towards us reaches even to the sky.
- 5 Far above the highest heavens be exalted, O my God; And through all the earth around us let your glory spread abroad.

Awake, awake, O Zion,

and clothe yourself with strength, shake off your dust and fix your eyes on him. For you have been redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus, and now you sit enthroned with him.

Our God reigns,
he is King of all the earth.
Our God reigns
and He's seated on the throne.
Lift your voice,
and sing a song of praise.
Our God reigns,
the awesome Lord most high.

How beautiful the feet are of those who bring good news, For they proclaim the peace that comes from God. Rise up, you holy nation, proclaim the great salvation, and say to Zion 'Your God reigns.' Our God reigns...

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, our God is with us now.

The watchmen lift their voices, and raise a shout of joy, for he will come again.
Then all eyes will see the salvation of our God, for he has redeemed Jerusalem.

Our God reigns...

Nathan Fellingham ©1999 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Integrity Music Ltd)

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.

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).
- **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 on 27th January. Click <u>here</u> to find out more and to express an interest.
- **3) During the Week** Wednesday LifeGroups continue this week with everyone meeting at 1 Dempster Terrace at 7:15pm for a 7:30 start. Friday Fellowship continues as normal, while Thursday LifeGroups resume on 30th January. Talk to a member of staff or send an email to church@standrewsfreechurch for more info about our regular bible studies.
- **4) Evergreens** Next meeting for a social this Tuesday (21st January) from 2-3pm at the home of Mark and Rhoda Dalton. If you need their address, email church@standrewsfreechurch.co.uk
- **5) 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)

The Church's one foundation

is Jesus Christ her Lord:
she is his new creation
by water and the word;
from Heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the Earth, her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth, one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food, and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder the world see her oppressed, by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed, yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?" and soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One, and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won: O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

Samuel John Stone

Reading and Sermon: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-16 (page 986)

1 Thessalonians 2:1-16

Intro: Authenticity – 'The small print'
Real gospel ministry (verses 1-12)
- Faithful conduct before God (verses 1-5)

- Faithful love for God's people (verses 6-12)

Real gospel opposition (verses 13-16)

Conclusion: Real danger – Real glory

Come thou fount of every blessing,

tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood. O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love!
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

O that day when freed from sinning I shall see thy lovely face; full arrayed in blood-washed linen, how I'll sing thy sovereign grace! Come, my Lord, no longer tarry, bring thy promises to pass, for I know thy pow'r will keep me till I'm home with thee at last

Robert Robinson (1735-90)

Next week's services:

10.30am: Colossians 1:1-8 6pm: Micah 1

Website: www.standrewsfreechurch.co.uk

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