

ST ANDREWS CHURCH - MOSCOW

BIBLE SUNDAY

26th OCTOBER, 2025.



A SERVICE OF THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.

(Romans 15:4)

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

(Matthew 4:4)

We begin our worship by singing:

Opening Hymn: 119 – Come, ye faithful, raise the anthem

Good morning and welcome in the name of Christ.

Let us pray:

Loving God, we have come to worship you.

**Help us to pray to you in faith,
to sing your praise with gratitude,
and to listen to your word with eagerness;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The word of God is living and active. It judges the thoughts and intentions of the heart. All is open and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we give account. We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

A moment of silence:

Your word convicts us:
all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Your word commands us:
repent, and believe the good news.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Your word assures us:
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

**May the Father of all mercies cleanse us from our sins,
and restore us in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *(All Stand)*

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT

Let us say the Collect together:

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn: 258 – Help us, O Lord, to learn

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Reading – Isaiah 45: 22-25

²² ‘Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other. ²³ By myself I have sworn, my mouth has uttered in all integrity a word that will not be revoked: before me every knee will bow; by me every tongue will swear. ²⁴ They will say of me, “In the Lord alone are deliverance and strength.”’

All who have raged against him will come to him and be put to shame. ²⁵ But all the descendants of Israel will find deliverance in the Lord and will make their boast in him.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119: 129-136

¹²⁹ Your statutes are wonderful; therefore I obey them.

¹³⁰ The unfolding of your words gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.

¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant, longing for your commands.

¹³² Turn to me and have mercy on me,
as you always do to those who love your name.

¹³³ Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me.

¹³⁴ Redeem me from human oppression, that I may obey your precepts.

¹³⁵ Make your face shine on your servant and teach me your decrees.

¹³⁶ Streams of tears flow from my eyes, for your law is not obeyed.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Second Reading – Romans 15: 1-6

We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. ² Each of us should please our neighbours for their good, to build them up. ³ For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: 'The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.' ⁴ For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

⁵ May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, ⁶ so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 418 – Lord, thy word abideth

Gospel reading - Luke 4: 16-24

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ 'The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, 'Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.'

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. 'Isn't this Joseph's son?' they asked.

²³ Jesus said to them, 'Surely you will quote this proverb to me: "Physician, heal yourself!" And you will tell me, "Do here in your home town what we have heard that you did in Capernaum."'

²⁴ 'Truly I tell you,' he continued, 'no prophet is accepted in his home town.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION/HOMILY

THE NICENE CREED (*All stand*)

**We believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,**

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried.
The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
He spoke through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

This response is used:

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Believing the promises of God, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

THE PEACE (*All stand.*)

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.
Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn: 673 – Thou, whose almighty word

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**Generous God, creator, redeemer, sustainer,
at your table we present this money,
symbol of the work you have given us to do;
use it, use us, in the service of your world
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

NOTICES

ACCLAMATION

Come to me and listen to my words;
hear me, and you shall have life.

**Come to me and listen to my words;
hear me, and you shall have life.**

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

Hear me, and you shall have life.

The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.

Hear me, and you shall have life.

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever;
the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

Hear me, and you shall have life.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey dripping from the honeycomb.

**Come to me and listen to my words;
hear me, and you shall have life.**

Closing Hymn: 174 – From glory to glory advancing

CLOSING PRAYER AND DISMISSAL

Almighty God, we thank you for the gift of your holy word.

May it be a lantern to our feet,
a light to our paths, and a strength to our lives.

Take us and use us to love and serve
in the power of the Holy Spirit
and in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE GRACE:

We say together:

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the Love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all evermore. Amen**

*Acknowledgment: Common Worship- Service and Prayers for the Church of England
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