

Christ Church St. Andrews

Glorifying God: Building Community



Welcome to our Morning Service at 11am on December 14th 2025





Denise, one of our associate ministers, will be leading and Anthony, our vicar, preaching.

Opening prayer

Lord, speak to us that we may hear Your Word.

May Your Word fulfil in us all that You desire it to.

Move among us that we may behold Your glory.

Receive our prayers that we may learn to trust

You. Amen.

Lighting an Advent candle

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light

We light this candle to commit ourselves to live as children of light, shining forth the light and love of Christ.

Introductory call to worship (Based on Psalm 146)

The LORD is the Maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and everything in them— He remains
faithful forever.

He upholds the cause of the oppressed

and gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets prisoners free,

the LORD gives sight to the blind,

the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down,

the LORD loves the righteous.

Give thanks to the Lord our God and King,
His love endures forever.
For He is good, He is above all things,
His love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise.

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm,
His love endures forever.
For the life that's been reborn,
His love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise,
Sing praise, sing praise.

Forever God is faithful,
Forever God is strong,
Forever God is with us,
Forever.

Forever God is faithful,
Forever God is strong,
Forever God is with us,
Forever. Forever.

From the rising to the setting sun,
His love endures forever.

And by the grace of God we will carry on,
His love endures forever.

Sing praise, sing praise.

Sing praise, sing praise.

Forever God is faithful, Forever God is strong, Forever God is with us, Forever.

Forever God is faithful,
Forever God is strong,
Forever God is with us,
Forever. Forever. Forever.

Lord, the light of your love is shining In the midst of the darkness, shining. Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us. Set us free by the truth you now bring us. Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine Fill this land with the Father's glory. Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow, Flood the nations with grace and mercy. Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light.

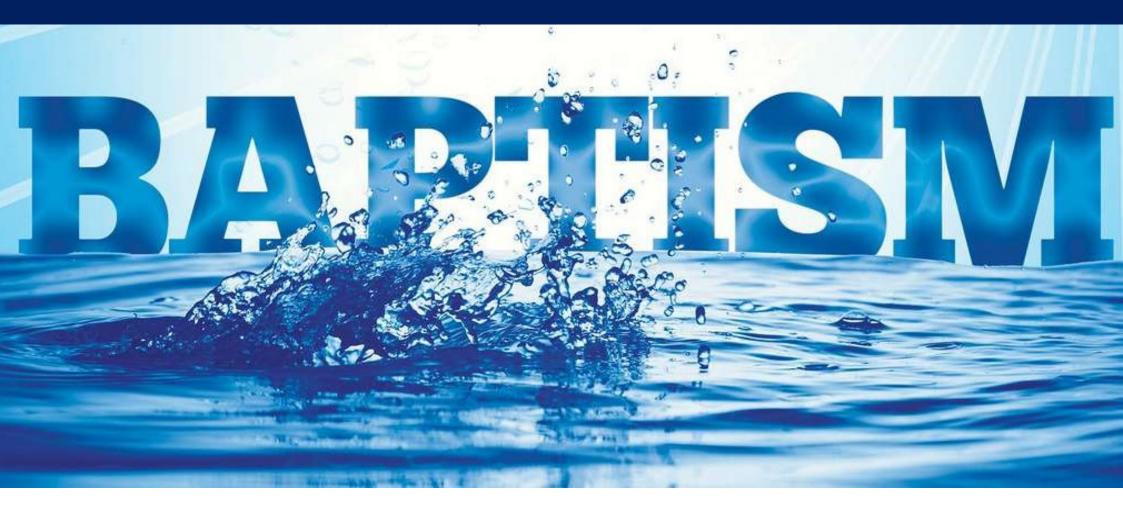
Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
From the shadows into your radiance.
By the blood I may enter your brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine Fill this land with the Father's glory. Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow, Flood the nations with grace and mercy. Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine Fill this land with the Father's glory. Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow, Flood the nations with grace and mercy. Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light. (Repeat chorus)

Baptism of Adaugo Amaris Muokwe and Anaiah Adaugo Ugwu



Thanksgiving Prayer

We rejoice today with the families of Adaugo and Anaiah as they thank God for the gift of life and bring her for baptism.

God our creator, we thank you for the wonder of new life and for the mystery of human love. As Jesus knew love and discipline within a human family, may Adaugo and Anaiah grow in strength and wisdom. Give Ifeanyi, Onyinye, Kingsley and Ade your sustaining grace and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Welcome from the church

Anthony addresses the whole congregation
Faith is the gift of God to his people. Will you welcome
Anaiah and Adaugo and encourage them as they follow
Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

Anthony then says to the parents and godparents

Parents and godparents, the Church receives Adaugo and Anaiah with joy.

Today we are trusting God for their growth in faith.

Will you pray for them, draw them by your example into the community of faith and walk with them in the way of Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

Will you care for them, and help them to take their place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

With the help of God, we will.

Signing of the cross

Anaiah Adaugo, I sign you with the cross, the sign of Christ. Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

Adaugo Amaris, I sign you with the cross, the sign of Christ. Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

Fight valiantly as disciples of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your lives.

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

Amen.

Creed

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

I believe and trust in God, the Father almighty, who created heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

I believe and trust in Jesus Christ, his only
Son, our Lord, who makes it possible for us to be a child of God.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

I believe and trust in the Holy Spirit, who helps us daily to follow Jesus.



The Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

We welcome you into the church family of Christ Church St Andrews together we will serve the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.

Prayer

After which the children aged 0-4 go to the creche in the North Room and the 5-12's go to their group.

From the squalor of a borrowed stable, By the Spirit and a virgin's faith; To the anguish and the shame of scandal Came the Saviour of the human race. But the skies were filled with the praise of heaven, Shepherds listen as the angels tell Of the Gift of God come down to man At the dawning of Immanuel.

King of heaven now the Friend of sinners, Humble servant in the Father's hands, Filled with power and the Holy Spirit, Filled with mercy for the broken man. Yes, He walked my road and He felt my pain, Joys and sorrows that I know so well; Yet His righteous steps give me hope again -I will follow my Immanuel.

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal, He was lifted on a cruel cross; He was punished for a world's transgressions, He was suffering to save the lost. He fights for breath, He fights for me, Loosing sinners from the claims of hell; And with a shout our souls are free -Death defeated by Immanuel.

Now He's standing in the place of honour, Crowned with glory on the highest throne, Interceding for His own beloved Till His Father calls to bring them home! Then the skies will part as the trumpet sounds Hope of heaven or the fear of hell; But the Bride will run to her Lover's arms, Giving glory to Immanuel!

Reading and talk – 2 Thessalonians 3:1-18

¹ As for other matters, brothers and sisters, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honoured, just as it was with you. ² And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil people, for not everyone has faith. 3 But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one. 4 We have confidence in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we command. ⁵ May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.

⁶ In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, ⁸ nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, labouring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. 9 We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate. 10 For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: 'The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat.'

¹¹ We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies. ¹² Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat. ¹³ And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good.

¹⁴ Take special note of anyone who does not obey our instruction in this letter. Do not associate with them, in order that they may feel ashamed. ¹⁵ Yet do not regard them as an enemy, but warn them as you would a fellow believer.
 ¹⁶ Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.

17 I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand, which is the distinguishing mark in all my letters. This is how I write.
 18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Faithful one, so unchanging.

Ageless one, You're my rock of peace.

Lord of all, I depend on You.

I call out to You, again and again

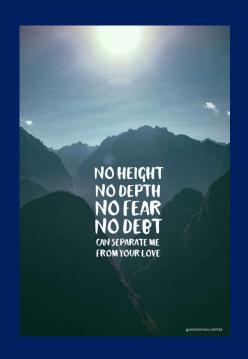
I call out to You, again and again.

You are my rock in times of trouble.
You lift me up when I fall down.
All through the storm,
Your love is the anchor,
My hope is in You alone.

Faithful one, so unchanging.
Ageless one, You're my rock of peace.
Lord of all, I depend on You.
I call out to You, again and again
I call out to You, again and again.

You are my rock in times of trouble. You lift me up when I fall down.

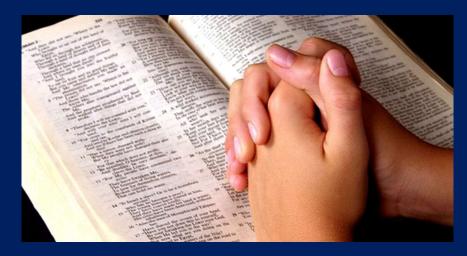
> All through the storm, Your love is the anchor, My hope is in You alone.



Prayers led by Denise Parrett (which may include)



Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer.



Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for
the sake of your Son, our
Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Prayer

Heavenly Father, who brings growth to Your church, send Your Holy Spirit to give: vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, joy to our worship and power to our witness. Help our church family to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to You and in service to our towns so that Jesus is glorified. In His precious name. Amen.

The Lord's 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.



Longing for light, we wait in darkness
Longing for truth, we turn to You.
Make us Your own, Your holy people
Light for the world to see.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us Your bread, broken for others
Shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us Your building, sheltering others
Walls made of living stone.

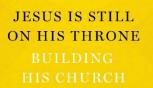
Many the gift, many the people
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another
Making Your kingdom come.

May 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.



Christ Church St. Andrews

Glorifying God: Building Community



Our aim at Christ Church
St Andrews is to glorify God
by building a Christ centred
community through the
power of the Holy Spirit.

Refreshments are served at the back of church.



If you would like to pray with someone about anything, please go to our trained team in the St John's Chapel.

Thank you for joining us. We hope to see you again.