

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Perth
Sunday, August 1st, 2021
Worship Leader: Rev. John McIntyre

“In person” worship has resumed!
 Please join us for worship Sunday morning at 10:30 AM!!”

Welcome & Announcements

1. **ANNFEST: Celebrating the life of Ann Savage.**

SAVE THE DATE! Join us on Saturday, August 21st at The Cove in Westport to celebrate the life of Ann Savage in a way that truly honours her wishes: with live music, fond remembrances, food & drink, and lots of laughter. The stage will be set up on the lawn of the Cove, and the band, led by Tom Savage (and including musicians Bonz Bowering, Mike Corrigan, Richard Piche, Benji Savage, Tony Silvestri, Kevin Bowers, and Kevin Davidson. Geoff Chown providing the sound.) will get the tunes rolling at 2 PM. We look forward to having some Westport musicians drop by to play songs throughout the afternoon, as well as a few folks getting up to share stories about Ann. [Please send us a message if you want to play a song or say a few words, and we will work to include you in the day's events]. Please feel free to bring lawn chairs, blankets to sit on (there will be some picnic tables as well). We want a festival-type party atmosphere. We will be offering complimentary pulled pork (and veggie alternative) plus salads, so bring your appetite *Please share and spread the word to those who loved Ann. It will be great to see you all there!*

For more details go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/984582478983511>

2. **Preaching Schedule for August**

August 8 th	Rev. Stephen Dunkin
August 15 th	Rev. Beryl Orok
August 22 nd	Rev. Stephen Dunkin
August 29 th	Rev. Stephen Dunkin

Call to Worship (I Chron 16:8-11; 31-34)

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice, and let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!"

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it!

Then shall the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

Prayer of Invocation

Our gracious God and heavenly Father, gathered together in your presence not only are we in awe of how great you are, larger than our imagination; But we also can scarcely comprehend that you are with us this moment. Your transcendence puts you at a distance from us to be sure, but you are immanent as well, closer to us than our very breath. And so your Spirit's presence quickens and fills us with wonder with the awareness that you are near. We pray that you would make your presence known to us through the means you have provided us with Father, for this is your time of worship. We acknowledge that the words we utter and the songs we sing don't belong to us. Although in our experience they come from us, most importantly, we pray that they come from you by your Spirit. When we lose sight of this today, O Lord, forgive us, and live in and through us. Do great things with us right now, and in the week which lies ahead. We pray this, our heavenly Father, in the name of Your Son — Jesus Christ, in the power of Your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Hymn: “All Hail The Power of Jesus Name” (Tune: Diadem)
(Click on the link below to listen to the hymn.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5WVSyGBBfi8>

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name
Let angels prostrate fall
Let angels prostrate fall
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown----- Him
Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him
And crown Him Lord of all
2. Ye chosen seed of Israel's race
Ye ransomed of the fall
Ye ransomed of the fall
Hail Him who saves you by His grace
And crown----- Him
Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him
And crown Him Lord of all
3. Let every kindred, every tribe
On this terrestrial ball
On this terrestrial ball
To him all majesty ascribe
And crown----- Him
Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him
And crown Him Lord of all

4. O that with yonder sacred throng
 We at his feet may fall
 We at his feet may fall
 We'll join the everlasting song
 And crown----- Him
 Crown Him, crown Him, crown Him
 And crown Him Lord of all

Call to Confession

Scripture abounds with references to the readiness of God to forgive our sins.

(Dan 9: [9](#)) *"To the Lord our God belong compassion and forgiveness..."*

Our Lord's *"blood of the covenant (Mt 26: [28](#))...is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins."* In Him we have redemption through His blood, the

forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace (Eph 1: [7](#)). Let us therefore come to him in contrition and with repentant hearts.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God our Father, we confess that we have longed too much for the comforts of this world. We have loved the gifts you have given to us more than you the giver. In your great mercy, help us to see that all the things we pine for are mere shadows, but you are substance; that they are as quicksand, but you are the rock; that they are shifting, but you are unchanging. We pray your forgiveness on the merits of Jesus Christ. Accept his worthiness for our unworthiness, his sinlessness for our transgressions, his fullness for our emptiness, his glory for our shame, his righteousness for our dead works, his death for our life. We pray in Jesus's name. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

(Rom 5: [20](#)) tells us that *where sin increased, grace abounded all the more*, In (Rom 5: [10](#)) we read, *"For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life."* Indeed (Rom 8: [32](#)) goes on to say that, *He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?* This includes forgiveness!!! So let us receive his forgiveness with joy and carry on trusting him to work in us bit by bit, those things that are leasing to him.

The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the Evil One.

For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory,

Forever and ever. Amen.

Responsive Reading

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun,

which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;

the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Ministry of Music: "My Life is in Your Hands" The Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AS6tQYJVO80>

1. You don't have to worry and don't you be afraid
 Joy comes in the morning, troubles they don't last always
 For there's a friend in Jesus, who will wipe your tears away
 And if your heart is broken, just lift your hands and say:
 "I know that I can make it
 I know that I can stand
 No matter what may come my way
 My life is in your hands"

2. You don't have to worry and don't you be afraid
 Joy comes in the morning, troubles they don't last always
 For there's a friend in Jesus, who will wipe your tears away
 And if your heart is broken, just lift your hands and say:
 "I know that I can make it
 I know that I can stand
 No matter what may come my way

My life is in your hands
 With Jesus I can take it
 With him I know I can stand
 No matter what may come my way
 My life is in you hands.

3. So when your tests and trials
 They seem to get you down
 And all your friends and loved ones
 Are nowhere to be found
 Remember there's a friend named Jesus
 Who will wipe your tears away
 And if your heart is broken
 Just lift your hands and say

"I know that I can make it
 I know that I can stand
 No matter what may come my way
 My life is in your hands
 With Jesus I can take it
 With him I know I can stand
 No matter what may come my way
 My life is in you hands.

Ending

My life is in Your hands (3X)

Scripture Reading:

II Tim 3 - 4:5

1 *But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. 2 For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, 4 treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. 6 For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, 7 always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. 8 Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith. 9 But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.*

10 *You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, 11 my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra — which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. 12 Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, 13 while evil*

people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. [14](#) But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it [15](#) and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. [16](#) All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, [17](#) that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

[1](#) I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: [2](#) preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. [3](#) For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, [4](#) and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. [5](#) As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Prayer for Illumination

Father, what we know not, teach us. What we have not, give us. What we are not, kindly make us. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

“The Bible – Its Nature and Authority”

II Tim 3:16

One of the realities of life in our day is the futility many people feel in their lives. Billions are spent advertising & buying products and pursuing lifestyles that promise fulfillment, contentment & enjoyment. However, such pursuits inevitably fail to deliver. Why do they fail to deliver? They fail – Because they are of a short-lived earthly nature, and, only that which eternally transcends us can satisfy us. The great Christian theologian Augustine of Hippo writes: *“Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee.”*

God has created humankind (His image-bearers) to find their purpose, satisfaction & contentment/rest in Him. To be sure, we are creatures that require temporal material things, but we are not bound to find ultimate fulfillment in these things. The Christian is called to a loftier purpose and perspective for living,

Question (1) from the Westminster Shorter Catechism asks this question: What is the chief end of man? The answer: *Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.* This is where our restless hearts find true rest: Glorifying God – (1Cor 10: [31](#)) *do all to the glory of God, and enjoying him forever* – Now and for

eternity. (Psa 16: [11](#)) & (I Jn 1: [3](#)) affirm this when it says: *In your presence is fullness of joy and Our fellowship is with the Father & with his Son.*

If man's chief purpose is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever, the logical question that follows is this: *What directs us, as to how we may glorify and enjoy him?*

Increasingly many churchgoers seek NOT to glorify and enjoy God, but first – to glorify and exalt self by means of their experiences and preferences. That is why so many in our day, are capitulating to the immorality of the sexual revolution, are seeking to merge the world and the church, and are seeking answers in the latest worldly and religious fads. Many in our churches seek direction everywhere but where they should!

The late Presbyterian and Theologian Dr. R.C. Sproul counsels us thus:

“I think the greatest weakness in the church today is that almost no one believes that God invests His power in the Bible. Everyone is looking for power in a program, in a technique, in anything and everything except where God has placed it: His Word”.

This echoes the words of the great Scottish Church Reformer John Knox:

“The Scriptures of God are my only foundation and substance in all matters of weight and importance.”

Convinced of the necessity of the Scriptures for faith and practice, the Presbyterian & Puritan authors of the Westminster Confession begin that classic document with “Of the Holy Scripture” as Ch. 1.

1. *Although the light of nature, and the works of creation and providence do so far manifest the goodness, wisdom, and power of God, as to leave men unexcusable; yet are they not sufficient to give that knowledge of God, and of his will, which is necessary unto salvation. Therefore it pleased the Lord, at sundry times, and in divers manners, to reveal himself, and to declare that his will unto his church; and afterwards, for the better preserving and propagating of the truth, and for the more sure establishment and comfort of the church against the corruption of the flesh, and the malice of Satan and of the world, to commit the same wholly unto writing: which maketh the Holy Scripture to be most necessary; those former ways of God's revealing his will unto his people being now ceased.* (These days, all of us should have a copy for reference).

These godly men – And others...Remind us of the preeminence of Scripture.

On what basis do they declare the Bible's preeminence? The answer can be found in (II Tim 3: [16](#)) *“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, & for training in righteousness”* and (II Pet 1: [21](#)) *“For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”* Therefore it follows that (II Tim 3: [15](#)) the Scriptures are *“Sacred writings* able to give wisdom leading to salvation.”

As we think of these verses and their teaching about Scripture, we should be astounded by what the Bible really is, nothing less than the very *Word of God*.

Augustine saw the centrality & unique nature of Scripture, as being “*the only Word we have that is God's breath itself.*” Indeed, that is what II Tim 3: [16](#) & 2 Pet 1: [21](#) declare! (II Tim 3: [16](#)) *All Scripture is breathed out by God* (or God-breathed NIV). And (2 Pet 1: [21](#)) *Men spoke* (wrote) *from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.* The fundamental basis for describing the Bible as “The Word of God is its own inherent witness, its own claim and declaration as divinely inspired (or stimulated).

How might we picture this idea of divine inspiration? We read (Gen 2: [7](#)) that: *The Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and, Breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living being.*

God was the active initiator. He breathed life into the man. Man was the passive responder. He received God's breath of life then exhaled in life as a result of God breathing into him

In like manner - The Scriptures were historically & actively initiated. They were breathed into the consciousness of the recipient writers by God the Holy Spirit so that what was written emerged as what God intended. Thus it is to be received as God's own revealed word in its words and content.

Those, to whom God gave the task of writing his Holy Scriptures, did not speak/write merely at their own instigation/suggestion. They wrote what they had been divinely ordained or led to write as proxies of the Holy Spirit. Thus - *All Scripture is God-breathed...Men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*

This definition/reception of the Scriptures as the Word of God distinguishes our Christian religion from all others in that Christians receive the Scriptures of the Old & New Testaments as - God's Word! That is, God in his word is speaking to us and to the world! When the prophets of Scripture speak, they are not speaking at random to get a load off their chest. It is God speaking (Just as I am speaking to you). It is his voice & mouth uttering the words. When the writers of Scripture write they are not writing just to express their own views/opinions. It is God writing. His hand is holding the pen. His hand is forming words, sentences, figures of speech etc. They are the words and writings, not of robots, but of the human authors. God the Holy Spirit imperceptibly breathed his word into these authors so that what they wrote is his own holy inspired and authoritative word.

Gregory calls the Bible - *The heart and soul of God.* Irenaeus calls the Bible - *The library of the Holy Ghost.* Calvin says: “...We owe to the Scripture the same reverence which we owe to God; because it has proceeded from him alone, & has nothing belonging to man mixed with it. (Psa 138: [2](#)) “You have exalted above all things your name and your word”.

What does that mean for us? (Jer 17: [9](#)) tells us that “*The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick.*” So we dare not follow our sick & deceitful hearts. But since the Bible is God's exalted inspired word – That (Isa 40: [8](#)) stands forever, we will do well to make it the pole star of our lives.

So, if we are to profit from the Bible, it requires that we accept it, not as the mere brain contrived word of man, to be viewed as the words of even godly men. Nor are we to accept it as the word of men, only used by the Holy Spirit to inspire the reader when he/she reads its words. Rather we are to accept it as God's own expressed word – Verbalized by the Holy Spirit.

All Scripture is breathed out by God its writers having been carried along by the Holy Spirit. All Scripture is inspired by God. Jesus says as much when teaching in the temple saying (Mk 12: [36](#)) *David himself, in the Holy Spirit, declared, "The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet."* Jesus is referring to (Psa 110:[1](#)) when he makes this statement. He says – *"David himself, in the Holy Spirit, declared..."*

Thus – He affirms the Spirit's inspiration of human authored Scripture. And following in his train, the same can be said of Paul, Peter and Christ's true church down to today. Christ's true church will hold to this doctrine until he returns.

Jesus not only affirmed the Bible's divine inspiration, he affirmed its authority. In (Mt 5: [18](#)) he says, *"For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished."* Thus, he too confirms the prophetic word of Isaiah (Isa 40: [8](#)) *"The word of our God will stand forever"*.

There are further reasons to verify the Bible's claim as the inspired Word of God – But our time is gone. However, in closing, let's think about this: If the word of our God stands forever and if Jesus confirmed that the Scriptures are inspired, and if we owe Scripture the same reverence which we owe to God, and if the Bible itself claims that all Scripture is breathed out by God and is profitable for *teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness*: Why do some not believe it is what it claims to be – I.e. the Word of God, *"...Living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword..."* (Heb 4: [12](#)).

We find the answer in (Eph 4: [18](#)) & (I Cor 2: [14](#)): *They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart... The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.* Apart from the inward testimony by God the Holy Spirit (Author of Scripture) the Bible is foolishness – just another religious book.

And so if you are skeptical regarding the inspiration and authority of the Bible as the governing principle of your life, ask God for mercy – Ask him to open your mind to see the wonders of his love, grace & salvation. He will surely answer your prayer for he is the true and living God who so loves the world that he gave his one and only son that whoever believes in him might not perish but have everlasting life.

Believer, let's not think more highly of ourselves than we ought. Why are we often indifferent to the Bible? Why do we treat it so lightly? Why do we view its teaching/commands as – optional suggestions? Why do we crave something more

than what he already has said? These are questions we need to take seriously, particularly in these days when the culture threatens to swallow the church with its degenerate vanities and pride.

All Scripture is inspired and profitable because it is God Speaking! Let us be careful to listen and obey.

Hymn: "Thy Word is a Lamp Unto my Feet", Amy Grant

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a6LC8cu03lg>

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

When I feel afraid
Think I've lost my way
Still you're there right beside me
And nothing will I fear
As long as you are near
Please be near me to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

I will not forget
Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering
Jesus be my guide
And hold me to your side
I will love you to the end

Nothing will I fear
As long as you are near
Please be near me to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

Offering

Presenting our tithes and offerings is an act of worship. I want to encourage you to write a cheque and drop it in the mail to the church using your envelope, if you have one. (St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, PO Box 161, 1 Drummond St W, Perth, ON K7H 3E3)

We also have another option for you for giving and that is you can make an e-Transfer. This note from our treasurer.

E-transfers are now accepted. Please note the new email address for this purpose only. standrewspert offering@gmail.com Please include your Offering Envelope # in the message section of the INTERAC transfer page you fill in. If you wish any part of your donation to go to a specific fund (eg Presbyterian Sharing) please mention this in your message.

Invitation to Offering

The Lord loves a cheerful giver. Let us present our offerings to the Lord.

Offertory Prayer

Lord God, our Creator, our Saviour and our Keeper, we joyfully present our offerings to you. We know that the earth is yours in all its fullness and that you are in need of nothing. Nevertheless, we pray that you would receive this offering with great delight and as a sign of your Spirit's work in our hearts and lives. It is our desire to honor you out of our increase and to show that you reign in our hearts through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer

Our gracious heavenly Father we again come to you counting it an unspeakable privilege to be invited into the inner sanctum of your holy presence. We come boldly, robed in the righteousness of our Lord Jesus Christ, praising you for your love, mercy and grace toward us.

We thank you for the blessings you generously pour out upon us and give you thanks for your benevolence demonstrated in so many ways. For the measure of health and strength you have bestowed upon us, we give you thanks. For family, friends, & neighbours we give you thanks. For a peaceful community and an orderly country rich in abundance we give you thanks. For placing us within the scope of your saving gospel we give you thanks. For all the unperceived blessings you send out way we give you thanks, and pray that you will keep us ever mindful that every good and perfect gift comes to us from above at your bidding.

As we offer our thanks, we pray for the leaders within our nation at each level of jurisdiction asking that you would give them wisdom, discernment and fortitude in carrying out their duties. We pray for all who serve in the medical profession as they minister their talents during what now appears to be this waning pandemic. Protect them we pray and grant them strength and endurance amid their heavy responsibilities.

We pray for marriages and families as they seek to balance all the dynamics that are inherent within relationships. We remember those from this congregation who are residents in nursing homes, hospitals and those who are finding it difficult to carry on as in former times. May the find their hope and peace in knowing you are present in their circumstances. As well we think of those in our midst who are mourning the loss of loved ones, asking that you comfort and strengthen each downcast heart and that you bring to their minds thoughts of the promises we have in Christ and that they would be encouraged by them.

We pray for the Church in carrying out its witness to the saving goodness of Jesus Christ. May there be an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon your Church here and around the world. And as the congregation anticipates the ministry of their new minister, may you be pleased to prepare both pastor and congregation for the work you have in store for them as together they minister the truths of the gospel and of your love in Christ to this locale.

May you continue working in all our hearts and minds, those things that are pleasing in your sight that you might be glorified and that our joy might be full...through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”, Grace Community Church
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=evO6rejRSul>

1. A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
 Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing:
 For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
 His craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate,
 On earth is not his equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
 Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing:
 Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;
 Lord Sabaoth, His Name, from age to age the same,
 And He must win the battle.

3. And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
 We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us:
 The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
 His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure,
 One little word shall fell him.

4. That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
 The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him Who with us sideth:
 Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
 The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still,
 His kingdom is forever.

Benediction

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. **Amen.**