



A SERVICE OF WORSHIP
THE LORD'S DAY

January 25th, 2026

WELCOME TO ALPHARETTA BIBLE CHURCH

We are glad you are here to worship the living God! This worship folder is intended to guide you through the service, as well as provide you with devotional material to take home.

It is our hope you will observe four peculiarities about ABC.

First, we endeavor to make our services coherent. As we offer each regulated element of worship, you will notice each element is about ONE subject.

Second, you will notice the hymns we sing may be unfamiliar or “old school.” While we also sing contemporary songs that are sound, we choose music that best reinforces our theme.

Third, it is our desire that you will leave our worship service not just knowing more, but loving the true and living God more.

Lastly, while we are not high church, we do believe that our primary worship service should be done with reverence. We strive to be orderly and structured without being stuffy and non-human. Thank you for joining us.

SERVICE OF WORSHIP — 10:30 AM

Announcements

- **Don’t miss Sunday School, weekly @ 9 AM.**
- **This Thursday @ “3:15-Equipped”: *Should We Evangelize Catholics?*, Starts @ 7 PM. Come early to eat and fellowship!**
- **Interested in Church Membership? Click “Connect” on our church website to take the first step.**
- **Would you like to serve the Lord by serving ABC? To volunteer at ABC, visit our website, click “Connect” and complete form or request more information.**

IN PREPARATION

Does your perception of suffering match more closely to the world's understanding of it or does it instead align with God's purpose for it? As we consider the theme of our suffering this morning, let us consider that our suffering is not accidental nor is it wasted. Let's rejoice in the God who gives purpose to our pain.

Prelude

Call to Worship—Psalm 46:1-7

Leader: God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble.

**All: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change
And though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea;**

Leader: Though its waters roar and foam,
Though the mountains quake at its swelling pride.

**All: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
The holy dwelling places of the Most High.**

Leader: God is in the midst of her, she will not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

**All: The nations made an uproar, the kingdoms tottered;
He raised His voice, the earth melted.**

Leader: The Lord of hosts is with us;

All: The God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Congregational Hymn—A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Verse 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.

Verse 2

Did we in our 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.

Verse 3

And though this world,
with devils filled,
Should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear,
for God has 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.

Martin Luther

Prayer for Tithes and Offerings

*Whether you give online or place your gift in the offertory box, we pause to acknowledge the offering of our gifts to the Lord.

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Lord God, I confess I have not rejoiced in suffering, nor rested in Your peace during trials. I have complained, feared, and sought comfort in fleeting things instead of in You.

Forgive me for resisting Your refining work in affliction, for doubting Your wisdom, and for allowing trials to harden rather than purify my heart.

Teach me, by Your Spirit, to see trials as gifts of grace, to rejoice in persecution as a chance to glorify Christ, and to rest in Your unchanging love no matter my circumstances.

Give me joy that does not depend on ease, peace that surpasses understanding, and a heart that trusts You fully, even when suffering presses.

For Christ's sake, who endured the cross with joy, forgive my failures and grant me grace to rejoice, to trust, and to persevere. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness—Romans 8:38–39

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Congregational Hymn—Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Verse 1

Wonderful, merciful Savior,
precious Redeemer and Friend;
Who would have thought
that a Lamb could
rescue the souls of men.
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

[Chorus]

You are the One that we praise,
You are the One we adore.
You give the healing and grace
our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse

Confession of Faith

Chapter V

We teach that patient suffering and enduring persecution for the truth and righteousness is a true worship of God, and that such suffering is pleasing to Him. For the Lord Himself said: *“Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake.”* And the apostles rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for the name of Christ.

We confess that those who suffer death or affliction for the confession of the true faith offer to God a sacrifice of obedience and praise, and that God is glorified in them. Such suffering does not merit salvation, but is the fruit and evidence of a living faith.

Second Helvetic Confession, 1562

Pastoral Prayer

Old Testament Scripture Reading—Job 23:8-10

⁸ “Behold, I go forward but He is not there,
And backward, but I cannot perceive Him;
⁹ When He acts on the left, I cannot behold Him;
He turns on the right, I cannot see Him.
¹⁰ “But He knows the way I take;
When He has tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

Congregational Hymn—Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

Verse 1

Jesus, I my cross have taken,
all to leave and follow Thee;
Destitute, despised, forsaken,
Thou from hence my all shall be.
Perish every fond ambition, all
I've sought or hoped or known;
Yet how rich is my condition!
God and heav'n
are still mine own.

Verse 2

Let the world despise and leave
me, they have left my Savior, too;
Human hearts and
looks deceive me;
Thou art not, like them, untrue.
And while Thou shalt smile upon
me, God of wisdom,

love and might,
Foes may hate and friends
disown me, show Thy face
and all is bright.

Verse 3

Go, then, earthly fame
and treasure!
Come, disaster, scorn and pain!
In Thy service pain is pleasure;
with Thy favor, loss is gain.
I have called Thee,
“Abba, Father”;
I have set my heart on Thee:
Storms may howl, and clouds
may gather, all must work
for good to me.

Henry F. Lyte

New Testament Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:10-12

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.

¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Prayer: Prepare Our Hearts

Congregational Song of Preparation—Speak O Lord

Verse 3

Speak O Lord,
and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights
of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged
from the dawn of time,
that will echo down
through eternity.

And by grace we'll stand
on Your promises;
And by faith we'll walk
as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord,
'til Your church is built,
and the earth is filled
with Your glory.

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

Preaching of the Word—

“Your Suffering” 1 Peter 1:6-9

Todd Friel

Song of Response—The Church’s One Foundation

Verse 1

The Church’s one foundation
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation,
By Spirit and the Word;
From heav’n He came
and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood
He bought her,
And for her life He died.

Verse 3

‘Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great
Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.

Samuel J. Stone

Commission

Benediction—2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace, ¹⁷ comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word.

Assisting in Worship: Preaching - Pastor Todd Friel; Service Leader - Pastor Jason Allen;
Musicians: Piano - Francine Lowe; Song Leaders - Elisabeth Lowe, Jennifer Snowden,
Lindsay White, Lauren Glosson

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Prayer of Confession - Anonymous

SERMON NOTES

Suffering is:

Not incidental, it is _____.

Not accidental, it is _____.

Not coincidence, it is for _____.

Not a mistake, it is for _____.

Not about rejection, it is for _____.

Not about persecution, it's about _____.

Can you list the TEN blessings of suffering revealed in our text?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

**In humble reliance upon the Word of God and prayer,
Alpharetta Bible Church is committed to worshiping God, making
disciples, loving and serving the body of Christ
so that we will be moved from
brokenness to wholeness.**

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Thursday Night Bible Study
7:00 p.m.

LEADERSHIP

Todd Friel, Pastor	Todd Armistead, Deacon
Jason Allen, Pastor	Brooks Clark, Deacon
	Steve Howerton, Deacon
	Kenny Robillard, Deacon

Biblical Counseling
Ladies - Libby Glosson
Men - Dave Covalli

If you have a prayer need or need to speak with a pastor,
they will be available following the morning service.

NEW TO ALPHARETTA BIBLE CHURCH?

We hope you will take a moment to visit our website or scan the QR code
below to complete a guest card.



Interested in knowing more about Alpharetta Bible Church?
Please contact info@alpharettabiblechurch.org