



Alpharetta

BIBLE CHURCH

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP
THE LORD'S DAY

September 20th, 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.

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

#2 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.

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

#4 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 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We love having children in the service! If your little one gets a little fussy, please feel free to use the “Cry Room” or one of the common areas outside the worship center for the benefit of those around you. Once they’ve settled down, you’re welcome to rejoin us.

- **Your Children’s Ministry Needs You**

Interested in serving or learning more?

Contact joanie@alpharettabiblechurch.org

- **Stand Fast — For Seasoned Saints**

Stay for lunch today!

- **Single Professionals**

Topgolf - Thursday the 24th at 7:30. RSVP now or see Josh Tully

- **Young Faithful Households**

Married with small children? Connect with others in your season of life who want to honor the Lord in raising their families. Plan to gather at the Pridemores this evening from 5-7 p.m.

See Ben Pridemore or Nick Neidert for more information.

- **Men’s and Women’s Gatherings**

All men of ABC, plan to join us for a cookout at the Clemmers on Sunday, 9/27. Sign up in the midweek update. All ladies of ABC, register now in the lobby for your event on Friday, 10/2.

IN PREPARATION

Psalm 86:5

For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive,
And abundant in lovingkindness to all who call upon You.

Prelude

Call to Worship—Psalm 36:5-7

Leader: Your lovingkindness, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
Your faithfulness *reaches* to the skies.

**All: Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;
Your judgments are *like* a great deep.**

Leader: O Lord, You preserve man and beast.
How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God!

All: And the children of men take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.

Congregational Hymn—O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Verse 1

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!
Rolling as a mighty ocean
In its fullness over me,
Underneath me, all around me,
Is the current of Thy love;
Leading onward,
leading homeward,
To my glorious rest above.

Verse 2

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
Spread His praise
from shore to shore!
How He loveth, ever loveth,
Changeth never, nevermore;

How He watches
o'er His loved ones,
Died to call them all His own;
How for them He intercedeth,
Watcheth o'er them
from the throne.

Verse 3

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
Love of ev'ry love the best;
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing,
'Tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
And it lifts me up to glory,
For it lifts me up to Thee.

Samuel Trevor Francis

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

Father, You are worthy of all our love, because You have loved us with a love we could never deserve, giving Your Son for sinners and showing us mercy when we deserved Your judgment. Yet we confess that we have not loved You as we ought.

We have loved other things more than we have loved You. We have given our hearts to comfort, pleasure, success, possessions, reputation, entertainment, and the approval of others. We have allowed created things to occupy the affection and devotion that belong to You alone. Forgive us, Father.

CONT'D

Forgive us for allowing the cares of this world to crowd out our affection for Christ. Forgive us for being more excited about earthly things than heavenly things, more eager for the praise of people than Your approval, and more concerned with our own comfort than Your glory.

You have commanded us to love You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We confess that we have fallen far short, and we heartily repent.

Cleanse us from our sin and renew our hearts. Give us a greater love for You. Cause us to delight in Your character, treasure Your Word, cherish Your people, hate what You hate, love what You love, and desire Your glory above our own. Teach us to love You not merely with our lips, but with our whole lives.

For the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Lord, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness—Philippians 2:12–13

¹² So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure.

Congregational Hymn—Jesus, Thank You

Verse 1

The mystery of the cross
I cannot comprehend
The agonies of Calvary
You the perfect Holy One,
crushed Your Son
Who drank the bitter cup
reserved for me

[Chorus]

Your blood
has washed away my sin
Jesus, thank You
The Father's wrath
completely satisfied
Jesus, thank You
Once Your enemy,

now seated at Your table
Jesus, thank You

Verse 2

By Your perfect sacrifice
I've been brought near
Your enemy
You've made Your friend
Pouring out the riches
of Your glorious grace
Your mercy and Your kindness
know no end

[Chorus] x 2

Confession of Faith

First Head of Doctrine, Article 2: Of Divine Predestination

But in this the love of God was manifested, that He sent His only begotten Son into the world, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. “In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him” (1 John 4:9). “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

Canons of Dort

Pastoral Prayer

Old Testament Scripture Reading—Nehemiah 9:9-17

⁹ “You saw the affliction of our fathers in Egypt, And heard their cry by the Red Sea. ¹⁰ “Then You performed signs and wonders against Pharaoh, Against all his servants and all the people of his land; For You knew that they acted arrogantly toward them, And made a name for Yourself as *it is* this day. ¹¹ “You divided the sea before them, So they passed through the midst of the sea on dry ground; And their pursuers You hurled into the depths, Like a stone into raging waters. ¹² “And with a pillar of cloud You led them by day, And with a pillar of fire by night To light for them the way In which they were to go.

¹³ “Then You came down on Mount Sinai, And spoke with them from heaven; You gave them just ordinances and true laws, Good statutes and commandments. ¹⁴ “So You made known to them Your holy sabbath, And laid down for them commandments, statutes and law, Through Your servant Moses.

CONT'D

¹⁵ “You provided bread from heaven for them for their hunger,
You brought forth water from a rock for them for their thirst, And
You told them to enter in order to possess The land which You swore to
give them.

¹⁶ “But they, our fathers, acted arrogantly; They became stubborn and
would not listen to Your commandments. ¹⁷ “They refused to listen,
And did not remember Your wondrous deeds which You had performed
among them; So they became stubborn and appointed a leader to return
to their slavery in Egypt. But You are a God of forgiveness, Gracious
and compassionate, Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness;
And You did not forsake them.

Congregational Hymn—How Deep the Father’s Love for Us

Verse 1

How deep
the Father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that He should give His only Son
to make a wretch His treasure.

How great
the pain of searing loss—
the Father turns His face away
as wounds
which mar the Chosen One
bring many sons to glory.

Verse 2

Behold the Man upon a cross,
my sin upon His shoulders;
ashamed, I hear
my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there

until it was accomplished;
His dying breath
has brought me life—
I know that it is finished.

Verse 3

I will not boast in anything,
no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain
from His reward?

I cannot give an answer;
but this I know with all my heart
His wounds
have paid my ransom.

Stuart Townend`

New Testament Scripture Reading—John 17:22-26

²² The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one;

²³ I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.

²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵ “O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me;

²⁶ and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”

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,
till Your church is built,
And the earth is filled
with Your glory.

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

Preaching of the Word—

“God’s Generative Love”
2 Peter 1:4-7

Todd Friel

Song of Response—The Love of God

Verse 1

The love of God
is greater far
than tongue or pen
can ever tell;
it goes beyond the highest star
and reaches to the lowest hell.
The guilty pair,
bowed down with care,
God gave His Son to win.
His erring child He reconciled,
and pardoned from his sin.

[Chorus]

Oh, love of God,
how rich and pure,
how measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure,
the saints' and angels' song!

Verse 3

Could we with ink
the ocean fill,
and were the skies
of parchment made;
were ev'ry stalk on earth a quill,
and ev'ry man a scribe by trade,
to write the love of God above
would drain the ocean dry,
nor could the scroll
contain the whole,
though stretched from sky
to sky.

[Chorus]

Christopher Smart, Frederick M.
Lehman, John Lydgate

Commission

Benediction—Ephesians 3:17-19

¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

Assisting in Worship: Preaching — Pastor Todd Friel; Service Leader — Elder Todd Armistead;
Musicians: Piano — Patsy Butman; Song Leaders — Jennifer Snowden,
Lindsay White, Lauren Glosson, Eunice Montecillo, Alex McCurley

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Prayer of Confession - Anonymous

SERMON NOTES

1. What is the motivation for being a virtuous Christian?

2. Which virtue(s) do you think you lack the most?

Why?

3. What can you do to change that? (Hint, see question one).

4. Which expression of God's love is the hardest for you to grasp?

5. Do you struggle to know the love of God?

6. Will you commit this day to loving others with the love you have been shown?

7. Will you commit this day to growing in your love for the Lord?
How will you accomplish that? (Hint, see question one).

**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.**

ONLINE GIVING LINK:



LEADERSHIP

Todd Friel, Pastor/Elder

Bob Bishop, Deacon

Jason Allen, Pastor/Elder

John Butman, Deacon

Todd Armistead, Elder

Brooks Clark, Deacon

Steve Howerton, Deacon

Gil Snowden, 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