2.7.23 evening Service and Angus M Macleod Testimony

Disclaimer: this is an automatically generated machine transcription - there may be small errors or mistranscriptions. Please refer to the original audio if you are in any doubt.

Date: 02 July 2023

Preachers: Mr Angus M Macleod, Reverend David MacLeod

Good evening and a warm welcome to the service tonight. Good to see you all and good to see some visitors with us tonight, some familiar faces for me from days gone by and it's good for us to be able to come together and to the new fellowship to worship God. We're going to begin by singing to God's praise from Psalm 24, Psalm 24 verses 6 and 7 and the two Psalms tonight along with some of the readings that I'll mention have been chosen by Angus M. We're looking forward to hearing his testimony this evening and this is a Psalm that he's asked to have highlighted in the evening. So we sing verses 6 and 7 of Psalm 24 to God's praise and in English it reads like this, this is the generation that after him inquire, O Jacob who do seek thy face with their whole heart's desire? Ye gates lift up your heads on high, ye doors that last foray be lifted up that so the King of glory enter me. So we'll sing these two verses in Gaelic, we'll remain seated to sing and then after that Finlay McSween is going to lead us in prayer in Gaelic please.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Amen.

[2:46] Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Amen. Oh, my God.

Oh, my God.

Oh, my God.

[5:16] Oh, my God.

[7:45] Oh, my God.

[10:15] Oh, my God.

Oh, my God.

Amen. Amen. One intimation that I meant to highlight, but I forgot to, at the beginning of the service, is to remind the elders that it's the first Monday of the month tomorrow.

And there's a time of prayer, and there's a time of prayer, and there's a time of prayer.

And there's a time of prayer, and then there's a time of prayer, and there's a time of prayer.

[11:58] Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen.

Amen. Let's just turn for a moment to God's word.

And if we could turn to 1 Peter chapter 3, please. 1 Peter chapter 3.

[15:41] And we'll read from verse 8 of the chapter. And before we do that, let's pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your word. We thank you for this opportunity that you've given us to gather around your word. To meditate for some moments on it.

And we thank you, Lord, for the opportunity also to be able to share with each other the reason for the hope that is in us. And we thank you for Angus tonight.

And for his willingness to share of your work and his life over the years. We ask, Lord, that you would help him as he does so. And that we would be encouraged as we think about your goodness and your grace.

And your saving and your keeping power. We pray, Lord, that you would be with us in every part of the service tonight. That as we continue to sing, that we would sing praise from our hearts to you.

[16:48] As we pray, both openly and in the privacy of our own hearts. We ask that you would guide us and lead us in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And even in our conversations, Lord. As we stay around afterwards and as we head from this place. We ask that you would be near to us.

That you would be in our conversations. That we would know the blessing of your presence. And that our eyes would be upon Jesus.

We pray, Lord, for Stuart tonight and for Farrakhar. As they open your word in different places. We ask that you would be with Stuart as he preaches in the high free in Stornoway.

And that you would give him liberty. And that you would speak through him. And bless him as he seeks to serve you. And for Farrakhar also in Leverborough. That you would speak through him this evening.

[17:47] And that he would know your help. That he would know your presence with him. And that your word would go forth through him. So we ask, Lord, that wherever your word is opened.

Wherever the gospel is preached. The neighbouring congregations around us. Across the nation. And across all nations. We ask, Lord, that as the seed of the gospel is scattered.

That it would take root in many hearts. And that much fruit would be born. That would redound to your glory. So hear our prayers and help us as we take these moments to read and meditate upon your word.

And we ask all this in Jesus' name and for his sake. Amen. 1 Peter 3. And at verse 8. 1 Peter 3. Finally, all of you live in harmony with one another.

Be sympathetic. Love as brothers. Be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. But with blessing. Because to this you were called.

[18:50] So that you may inherit a blessing. For whoever would love life and see good days. Must keep his tongue from evil. And his lips from deceitful speech. He must turn from evil and do good.

He must seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous. And his ears are attentive to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.

Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? But even if you should suffer for what is right. You are blessed. Do not fear what they fear.

Do not be frightened. But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer. To everyone who asks you.

To give the reason for the hope that you have. Amen. And may God bless that reading of his word to us.

[19:54] Just once more I want to highlight that verse. That's kind of taken us into a few weeks of people giving testimony. 1 Peter 3.15 Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.

And it's been good over the past few weeks to hear and to see in the lives of people the hope that they have.

It's been good to hear from Kenny from Cunha and to see and hear from Natalie as they professed faith. And as they shared the reason for the hope that they have.

And the hope that Cunha has and the hope that Natalie has and the hope that every person who is a Christian has. It's the same hope that Peter had.

The reason that we have hope today if we are Christians is the same reason that Peter had hope on the day that he wrote this letter. And the reason is Jesus.

[21:08] Now tonight we'll be hearing from Angus in just a few minutes. And one of the passages that Angus will refer to is found in Luke 22.

And in that chapter in Luke 22, it's not that long since we were in it. We see Jesus. And he's in a wee room.

The upper room as we've come to know it. And his disciples are gathered around him. And he's teaching them as they prepare to go to the cross.

And amongst the disciples, stress levels are high. Because they can see trouble on the horizon. And they realize that they may come under attack for being disciples of Jesus.

So they're anxious about that. But Jesus knows that they will come under attack. Not that they may. Jesus knows in advance that they will come under attack.

[22:15] And Jesus knows that Peter in particular is going to be targeted by Satan. And so Jesus alerts Peter to that danger. And in Luke 22 and verse 31, Jesus says to Peter, using his old name, Simon, Simon.

Simon means shaky. Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. And so for Simon, for Peter, things were not going to be easy for him.

As a disciple of Jesus, it wasn't going to be easy for him. And the reality is, the Christian life isn't easy.

When we trust in Jesus, when we are disciples of Jesus, just as the disciples 2,000 years ago came under attack, we can expect to some extent to come under attack.

So if there's anyone here, and I believe there will be, if there's anyone here tonight who is hearing the call of Jesus to trust him and to follow him, if there's anyone here tonight who is thinking just now about trusting and following Jesus, you need to be aware in advance that it's not easy to follow Jesus.

[23:57] Jesus doesn't put this in the small print. He tells us up front, there'll be a cost, there'll be a cross to carry, there will be difficult things up ahead.

And for those of us who are already trusting Jesus, I think we need regular reminders of that. So that when things at times aren't easy, we're not surprised by that.

Or we're not overly discouraged when things get difficult. So Jesus, he shares this news with Peter. He tells Peter in this upper room, he says there's trouble up ahead.

But then there's this strong word of reassurance for Simon Peter. Jesus says, Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat, but I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail.

And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers. And we know what happened

[25:16] Simon, Peter, he made a mess of things. As Jesus went to the cross, Simon comes under questioning.

A wee girl puts him in a corner, starts to ask him questions about his accent. You're not one of the disciples. And Peter, he crumbles. He denies Jesus.

And for a few weeks, it seems that Peter, he deserted Jesus. Just as Jesus predicted. But that wasn't the end.

Peter's faith did not fail because Jesus prayed for him. And Jesus was with him.

And Jesus did not let go of him. And in John 21, we're not going there tonight. We have this beautiful picture of Jesus restoring Peter.

[26:25] And for 30 more years, Peter trusted Jesus. Peter served Jesus. And right to the end of his life, where he died for his faith, Peter served Jesus.

And Peter did strengthen his brothers and his sisters. And Peter, to this day, through his letters and God's word, he continues to strengthen his brothers and sisters all over the world.

So when we read from Peter about the reason for the hope that he has, we need to take all that in to our thinking.

And we need to process the fact that the reason for hope that Peter had, the hope that Peter speaks about, it isn't some flimsy, shaky hope that comes and goes.

It's not a hope from this world. It's a hope that's centered, guaranteed, grounded in Jesus.

[27:45] You know, when we talk about hope in this world, it's very uncertain. Alistair was talking about going to watch Harris this week.

He hopes they're going to win. We all hope they're going to win. It doesn't always happen. Some days we head off to the beach with our shorts and our t-shirt and a packed lunch and we say, I hope it's going to be sunny, I hope it's going to be warm.

But it's Harris. So it can change every ten minutes. So our hope in this world is a very shaky, unpredictable hope.

But the hope that Peter speaks of is different because the reason for the hope that Peter has is Jesus. It's the prayers of Jesus.

It's the intercession of Jesus, the continuing ministry of Jesus. Jesus. I was reading this from J.C. Ryle, so let me just share this quote from you.

[28:56] J.C. Ryle says, It was owing to Christ's intercession that Peter did not entirely fall away. Then he says, the continued the continued existence of grace in a believer's heart is a great standing miracle.

His enemies are so mighty and his strength is so small and the world is so full of snares and his heart is so weak that it seems at first sight impossible for him to reach heaven.

But the passage before us, Luke 22, explains his safety. He has a mighty friend at the right hand of God who ever lives to make intercession for him.

There is a watchful advocate who is daily pleading for him, seeing all his daily necessities and obtaining daily supplies of mercy and grace for his soul.

His grace never altogether dies because Christ always lives to intercede. If we are true Christians, says Ryle, we shall find it essential to our comfort in religion to have clear views of Christ's priestly office and intercession, his prayers.

[30:16] Christ lives and therefore our faith shall not fail. Let us beware of regarding Jesus only as one who died for us.

Let us never forget that he is alive forevermore. Paul bids especially remember that he is risen again at the right hand of God and also makes intercession for us.

Romans 8. The work that he does for his people is not yet over. He is still appearing in the presence of God for them, for us and doing for their souls, for our souls what he did for Peter.

So Peter's hope the reason for his hope and the reason for our hope is not ourselves it's Jesus.

It's the continuing ministry the prayers the intercession of Jesus. Now I don't know too much about Angus' testimony but he said to me it's 50 years long so that means we'll be here for a while.

[31:35] It's the story of how Jesus has walked with him for over five decades 53 years years. And what Angus is able and willing to tell us tonight is that Jesus is good that Jesus is faithful that Jesus is the one who saves and Jesus is the one who keeps us.

so as we listen as we think about all that Jesus has done and continues to do for us let us be encouraged tonight to put our hope to make the reason for our hope him.

And we're going to sing now before Angus comes up. 473 in Mission Praise My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. My hope is built on nothing less but Jesus' blood and righteousness.

No merit of my own I crave but only trust in Jesus' name on Christ the solid rock I stand all other ground this sinking sound When we be in this earthly race I rest on it unchanging grace in every wild and stormy gale I anchor most and will not fail on Christ the solid rock I stand on all other ground this sinking sound

His power is common unto blood our mighty friends against the flood when earthly hopes are swept away he will uphold me on the day on Christ the soil in rock I stand all other ground this sinking sand land when the last trumpet's voice shall sound oh may I then in him be found clothed in his righteousness the road all best to stand before his throne on

Christ the solid rock I stand all other ground this sinking stand let us have a word of prayer eternal lord as we turn unto thy word and the way in which thou dost deal with thine own people and the guardianship which is theirs we pray lord that thy son our saviour should be at the forefront of our minds and our wishes as was of the apostle of old that we should be poured out as a drink offering over the sacrifice for us to disappear in the vapour and for us to see the sacrifice of our lord and all that it has achieved for us bless us and help us go before us forgive us our sins all we ask is for

Jesus sake amen I have never given a testimony I have never told anyone of the way in which God has dealt with me not even the dearest to me in this world some of the things that I have written have been a surprise even for Donalda herself I never told my parents of the way in which God has dealt with me but in an unguarded moment a few months ago I had a visit from the minister and I told them one or two things and I suppose that that encouraged them to seek that I give a testimony for you this as she has said is trying to place 53 years which have been very eventful in a few moments

I was brought up in our Christian home I was the eldest of five children we had a constant stream of God's people in the house and particularly at communion time our house was full 20 30 dining at one time was nothing and invariably my brother and I would be farmed out to relatives my granny usually so that they could accommodate guests at the communion I love to listen to God's people because when they gather together 10 15 of them in the one room they used to discuss the way in which God had dealt with them I love to listen to that but particularly I used to love to listen to their prayer meetings because always the day was opened with prayers and it was closed with prayers three or four of them would pray and in between the prayers would be the

Gaelic singing and I love to listen to that when I was 12 I had to move from home and go to Stornoway to Nicholson and of course then we stayed in lodgings or in the hostel my great passion was football and I seem to have excelled in that I have various recognitions that I obtained there however my brother was having difficulty with his education and my father managed to get him into a boarding school in the Barton Kiel school and after he had been accepted they asked me if I would like to go with him and I said sure I would so at the end of my third year in Nicholson I was then transferred down to

Kiel along with my brother and as you might guess my great passion there was rugby I had never played rugby before but I took to it like a duck to water and had I known that there were so many of the children to be present I would have brought along my colours cap in my final year at Kiel I was awarded my rugby colours I still have the cap which I was given at that time and I treasure it I treasure it less though than what I speak to you of this night the school that we went to in Kiel it was a Christian school it was established by Sir William McKinnon of Sky we had church assembly morning and evening on

Sunday but we also had morning and evening worship prayers in the morning before breakfast and prayers in the evening before we had supper and then went to bed although I had a great time with my sport running and rugby I was aware in my last year in school and probably two years afterwards when I was playing that there was something wrong with one of my knees eventually at the age of 20 I was taken to Ragmore for what they called an investigation I thought it was going to be something pretty simple but after a four hour operation I woke in pain and with a plaster cast on my whole leg I was in hospital for eight weeks and when

I left I required a caliper and I wore a caliper for the next 18 months and attended hospital twice a week for physiotherapy the reason I tell you this is not because of my operation but because what happened when I came home from hospital days after I came I met a lady a Christian lady who lived two doors away from us and as she greeted me a text of scripture spoke to her and we have already sung it it said this is the generation that after inquire oh Jacob who to seek thy face with their whole heart's desire she didn't tell me of this incident she told my mother but the coincidence for her and it must have been a great blessing to her because

I'm sure that for the next 10 years that she prayed for me continually but on the night that I went out first night I went out to the prayer meeting that meeting was closed with the singing of Psalm 24 verses 6 and 7 the minister had known nothing of the incident but my life I think is one of coincidences and this was one of it must have been a great uplift for her and for myself it still is something I go back to and thank the Lord for the way in which he confirms his work another great date in my life is 7th of February 1958 at an event in Edinburgh that evening I met one who was to become my wife we found in the next few months that we had similar interests and over the next few years we went everywhere together we were more less inseparable we got married in 1964 for someone who was good at maths next

Friday would be 59 years of marriage for which we thanked the Lord we sat up home in Shabbos and I had a good job and I had a teaching post in Stornoway and everything seemed absolutely wonderful but it was to get even better for the conversion seems to have happened the same night and at the same time on a Friday evening of the Shabbos communion in February 1970 we attended the wedding of one of my work colleagues in the Crown Hotel and as was usual in the Crown some of you may have attended a wedding there when the meal was over you had to vacate the room and then they cleared the room for the wedding dance but in order to wait around you had to go to the lounge bar and as an aside and although

I'm not I never have been a tea total I was never a drinker and I thoroughly detest spirits in fact if you put spirits in front of me I hate the smell of it but that night as we sat the two of us we had friends around and we waited we turned to one another and more or less said this is no place for us let us go home so we left the wedding and came home it was a Friday evening on the Sunday evening two days later we attended the communion service the evening service I suppose as far as I'm concerned it was probably out of duty more than anything else but I can still see the seat in Shaw

Bust where we sat and I remember nothing of what the minister said I don't remember his text but I do remember the way in which he ended the service he said if you die tonight and you are not in Christ you will go straight to hell it shook me to the very bones and Donaldo was affected in the same way by the same words at the same time and I think that at that moment we both made our commitment to Christ Christ I suppose another coincidence up to this point I would say that socially and personally it had been good for me it was as good as it gets started following it was a wonderful time in

Shavost in a matter of a few weeks we at 18 started following myself and another man and 16 women it was a time when the elders seemed to get a new list of life they came with us everywhere after the prayer meeting on a Wednesday their first question was where are you going tonight and they would come with us and there we would enjoy listening to their fellowship listening to their testimonies and eventually in the evening having a prayer meeting however the one thing that I had a complaint to God with is that when I was in the company of those young converts virtually all of them had a text they said

I came to God through this text or this particular circumstance influenced me I had nothing all I had was that I wanted to be with God's people I enjoyed their company and I wanted them to be in their house but there was one difference my prayers had changed I remember when I was at school when I would go for an exam I would always pray for God's help when I was in difficulty I would pray for God's help but I would never leave it at that I would always say to him if you help me I will be the best disciple you ever had in your life but the following day I would have forgotten but the difference in my prayers now was please help me but there were no preconditions service service service in

Talbot on a Sunday morning and Mr. Macrae was preaching on the text arise shine your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you and he went into every single situation that I had and cleared them gave me clarity of how God was working with me every single situation every single difficulty that I had he cleared in that day it was as if someone had told him of my difficulties and given it was the first time that I was given peace I suppose one great I have I never told him of how that sermon and his words had given me clarity peace then but worse was to come

I said that when I was converted everything was fine I had a good job and everything socially and personally was absolutely swimming and then at a meeting in 1971 every single thing that I had was taken from me I was left with nothing but the Lord I felt alone I felt vulnerable and when I got back to the hotel I was living in I sat down on the bed in in my bedroom and my prayer was two words to the Lord I said what now and immediately the room I was in was filled with a presence and that presence said something to me and

I said I don't know what you're talking about and even if I recognized it I have no clue where it is and anyway I said I will have forgotten in the morning and the person that was there said to me open your Bible and you'll find it there I opened the Bible and a double page I read the double page and it wasn't there so I said it isn't there and then the person said turn over the page I turned over the page and there were the words fear God his sins none that in fear will be with want oppressed the lions young may hungry be and they may lack their food but they that truly seek the Lord shall not lack any good I felt as if a weight had been lifted off me

I went to thank but the presence had disappeared it was no longer there and my witness is that the Lord has lived up to that promise every day of my life he has provided for me more generously than I could ever express or even hope for and I am quite certain that he will provide for me for the rest of my life not just a little bit but liberally it's a text that has remained with me I thought well whatever it was I would have forgotten in the morning there isn't a morning that I waken but this text is in front of me but I now had to decide what I was going to do I needed work and in the meantime a friend of mine came to visit

I was surprised to see him came from Inverness and he said I've got a message for you and he said what is it he said indeed Satan has asked for you that he sift you as wheat but I have prayed for you that your faith should not fail and when you return to me strengthen the brethren it's a great help and I thought from the way in which he spoke and that text I thought that maybe I was drawn into the ministry but that door closed on me I was encouraged to go to university I had already studied accountancy so I went to university and studied economics and when I finished another coincidence there were two jobs offered to me one to lecture economics in

Lewis Castle and the other to teach business studies in the Nicholson I took the Nicholson because at that time the finance and the upkeep of the castle was not at all certain and I felt well teaching in the Nicholson that's a certainty it's a coincidence that the two should have been offered but in 1980 there was another coincidence two positions became vacant in Harris one head teacher at the Ninishadur and the other a business studies teacher in Tarbird so we applied for both these and we were appointed we lived in a house in the base and it was a wonderful place to be at that time it was a mecca Ulster Moor Ulster Bek various people like that and we were wonderfully shepherded by you may remember

Neil Martin and he is the one who began encouraging me to take preaching duties so that when he was away he would ask me to take a service as I continued preaching I had got to know wonderful people but the one incident that I come to mind is I was taking a service for Mr.

[58:32] Macrae down in the church and when I was coming towards the end of the sermon there was as if an awful burden came into the church as if the church had filled with something and it was so awesome that I couldn't speak I broke down I couldn't continue the presence of the spirit was so frightening for me that I just finished one other thing that happened was in 1986 my health deteriorated and since then I've been suffering from a virus in my system I've been to numerous consultants they are aware of what it is but they cannot identify it as an individual virus

I had a breakdown in 1993 and they decided that I should take a year of work and then I would be reassessed again and in 1994 after an assessment I was advised that I should take early retirement since then I have studied God's word I have done the Saturday course which I found wonderful I did six years of it to obtain my diploma and I have studied the word as much as I can but in addition to the way in which he's been guiding me in his word he's also been guiding me in my work

I applied for a position here in Tarbert and on the night before my interview I was out in the garage doing some work and I said to Dinalda I'm going to get the job and she said I've had this text if anyone serves me him my father will honor she knew fine that the text meant the very opposite that I wasn't going to get the job it was me misinterpreting the message from the Lord I've had that same message on a number of occasions and other position I applied for and on the Sunday afternoon the minister came up from

Liverpool and we had services over in the school and the first thing he said to me have you had your interview and I said no not yet and then he said if anyone serves me him my father will honor all he said I said to him I wish you hadn't said that he said why because it means I'm not going to get it it indicates to me things that I'm not going to get it has never harmed me but it advises me not to do a certain thing and it was even at an induction in Leverborough when Murdo MacLeod was being inducted and during the induction service the minister quoted that version and I knew then this ministry is not for me within a year

Murdo took ill and within three years he had died the ministry was not for me many other things that I could relate to you but there's one other thing that I wanted to tell you we attended a conference in Avimor I think it was 2007 a wonderful time and there were coincidences all through people being given tasks and without knowing what others were doing as they were preparing it in the months before the conference everything seemed just to dovetail together and one of the young men new converts there was asked to give his testimony and before he started one of the organisers came to me and he said when he finishes will you pray and I said yes of course and then shortly after that another of the organisers came and he said when the testimony is finished will you give a vote of thanks to those who organised and I said fine well when he was giving his testimony it was as if the whole room filled with the spirit it was incredible a tremendous power of the spirit and of course when he finished

I had to get up to pray and when I got up I couldn't speak I couldn't get the words heard I broke down and after a few minutes I sort of composed myself and I managed to pray and thank the Lord for what we had just heard and after I had prayed I then thanked the people who had organised the conference and I pointed out to the various coincidences that we had throughout our journey but when the conference was over and we were gathered in the foyer waiting to move away one of the ministers who had been leading us he came to me and he said Angus there is no such thing as coincidence it is the work of the

Lord and that's the way my life has been touched in the passing by various things various things have happened but it's all been the work of the Lord I can say that the Lord has been at work in my life and I can say that I have a wonderful saviour let's pray eternal and ever blessed Lord we give thee thanks for thy goodness we give thee thanks for the way in which thou dost deal with thine own not as we would wish but thou art the one who knows the end from the beginning you are the one who knows what is best for us and you are the one who guides us through the difficulties and the paths of life and we thank thee for the various promises which thou has given to us and the way in which they have been fulfilled and the way in which we can still say that the lord is my saviour bless us we beseech thee bless us as our congregation and we pray that we might see more and more converts coming to thee that we might see the work of the spirit in her midst uphold thyself unto his over us in his work in her midst help him as he seeks to study thy word open up his mind we beseech thee so that he can see the truths in thy word which he had never seen before and recognize thy goodness bless us now and undertake for us and all we ask is for

Jesus sake amen thank you angus and praise the lord for that we're going to sing to finish the service and it's the psalm that you wake with each morning psalm 34 and we'll sing verses 1 to verse 10 of the psalm god will i bless all times as praise my mouth shall still express my soul shall boast in god the meek shall hear with joyfulness and we sing down to the end of verse 10 the lions young may hungry be and they may lack their food but they that truly seek the lord shall not lack any good we'll stand to sing to god's praise god will i bless all times his praise my mouth shall still express my soul shall boast in god the meek shall hear with joy fullness extol the lord with me he let us exalt his name together i saw the lord he heard and did me from a fierce deliver they looked to him and the eyes and were not shame and were their faces this poor man tried god heard and saved him from all his distress lives the angel of the lord and and round him come the stead of those about that do him fear and them deliver him oh taste and see that god is good who trusts in him is blessed fear and their god is safe and fear shall be with want oppressed the lions young may hardly be and they may lack their fruit but they that should be safe the lord shall

not like any good heavenly father we thank you for your goodness we thank you for your grace we thank you for these testimonies and the testimony of your servant Angus tonight we thank you lord for your hand upon his life over the years and in Alda and we thank you for the testimony that we've heard that makes clear to us that you are the God who is good the God who saves the God who keeps the God who is with us in every time in our lives and the one who is sovereign over us.

So we thank you for all things. So we thank you for all things. So we thank you for all things. So we thank you for your goodness. So we thank you for your faithfulness and we ask Lord that you would help us as we go from here to be those who are trusting you and who know your blessing upon us. So now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ the love of God the Father and the fellowship of God the Holy Spirit be with us all now and forevermore. Amen.