FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

January 29, 2023 at 10 am

"God created human beings in his own image.

In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ...

Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good!" (Genesis 1:27, 31)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION AND THE WORLD

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord from the heavens!
Praise him from the skies!

Praise him, all his angels!
Praise him, all the armies of heaven!
Praise him, sun and moon!
Praise him, all you twinkling stars!

Praise him, skies above!
Praise him, vapors high above the clouds!

Let every created thing give praise to the Lord, for he issued his command, and they came into being.

He set them in place forever and ever.

His decree will never be revoked.

Let them all praise the name of the Lord.
For his name is very great;
his glory towers over the earth and heaven!

Praise the Lord!

Psalm 148:1-6, 13-14

* HYMN #455: "ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING" (verses 1-4, 6)

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest man both warmth and light,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou fertile earth, that day by day
Unfoldest blessings on our way,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them God's glory also show!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

All creatures, your Creator bless,
And worship God in humbleness.
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

After corporate prayer we will have a few moments of silence for personal confession.

* "WE BOW DOWN"

You are Lord of creation
And Lord of my life
Lord of the land and the sea
You were Lord of the heavens
Before there was time
And Lord of all lords You will be.

We bow down
And we worship You Lord
We bow down
And we worship You Lord
We bow down
And we worship You Lord
Lord of all lords You will be.

You are King of creation
And King of my life
King of the land and the sea
You were King of the heavens
Before there was time
And King of all kings You will be.

We bow down
And we crown You the King
We bow down
And we crown You the King
We bow down
And we crown You the King
King of all kings You will be.

"We Bow Down" by Twila Paris.
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THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: "The Story Starts: A Very Good Creation"

Genesis 1:1-2:3

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

³ Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. Then he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light "day" and the darkness "night."

And evening passed and morning came, marking the first day.

⁶ Then God said, "Let there be a space between the waters, to separate the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth." ⁷ And that is what happened. God made this space to separate the waters of the earth from the waters of the heavens. ⁸ God called the space "sky."

And evening passed and morning came, marking the second day.

⁹ Then God said, "Let the waters beneath the sky flow together into one place, so dry ground may appear." And that is what happened. ¹⁰ God called the dry ground "land" and the waters "seas." And God saw that it was good. ¹¹ Then God said, "Let the land sprout with vegetation—every sort of seed-bearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. These seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came." And that is what happened. ¹² The land produced vegetation—all sorts of seed-bearing plants, and trees with seed-bearing fruit. Their seeds produced plants and trees of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

¹³ And evening passed and morning came, marking the third day.

¹⁴ Then God said, "Let lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them be signs to mark the seasons, days, and years. ¹⁵ Let these lights in the sky shine down on the earth." And that is what happened. ¹⁶ God made two great lights—the larger one to govern the day, and the smaller one to govern the night. He also made the stars. ¹⁷ God set

these lights in the sky to light the earth, ¹⁸ to govern the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

¹⁹ And evening passed and morning came, marking the fourth day.

²⁰ Then God said, "Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind." ²¹ So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that scurries and swarms in the water, and every sort of bird—each producing offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² Then God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply. Let the fish fill the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth."

²³ And evening passed and morning came, marking the fifth day.

²⁴ Then God said, "Let the earth produce every sort of animal, each producing offspring of the same kind—livestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and wild animals." And that is what happened. ²⁵ God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to produce offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground."

²⁷ So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸ Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

²⁹ Then God said, "Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. ³⁰ And I have given every green plant as food for all the wild animals, the birds in the sky, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—everything that has life." And that is what happened.

³¹ Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good!

And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day.

So the creation of the heavens and the earth and everything in them was completed. ² On the seventh day God had finished his work of creation, so he rested from all his work. ³ And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was the day when he rested from all his work of creation.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE WITH OUR OFFERINGS

The ceramic jars in the offering plates are designated for the Deacons' Fund **and** the World Vision Fund. Our deacons provide care, support, and financial assistance to those in the congregation in need. The World Vision Fund supports a Sponsored Child through World Vision.

* DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* HYMN #267: "ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL"

All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful: The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings:
God made their glowing colors,
God made their tiny wings. (Refrain)

The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset, and the morning
That brightens up the sky, (Refrain)

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
God made them every one. (Refrain)

God gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well. (Refrain)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

420 N Broadway, Aberdeen, WA 98520

Pastor Chuck Guth (cell) 847.800.7119 email: chuck@aberdeenpres.org (office) 360.532.1331

Church Office: 360.532.1330 email: office@aberdeenpres.org

Office Hours: 10 am – 2 pm (Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri)

Caretaker Hours: 9:00 – 1:00 (Mon, Tues, Wed; plus additional intermittent hours)

Tuesday Crew Facility Maintenance: 9 am – 1 pm (Tues)

WEBSITE: ABERDEENPRES.ORG

CALENDAR

TODAY, January 29 Congregational Meeting (after the 10:00 service)

Sharing Table (before and after the service)

Sunday, February 5 Communion (10:00 worship service)

Sunday, February 12 Potluck (after the 10:00 service)

Youth Group (4:30 pm)