

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

September 17, 2023 at 10 am

"Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near." (Matthew 4:17)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*

"BEHOLD OUR GOD"

Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice;
All creation rises to rejoice:

*Behold our God seated on His throne:
Come let us adore Him;
Behold our King nothing can compare:
Come let us adore Him.*

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds? *[Refrain]*

Who has felt the nails upon His hands,
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal humbled to the grave;
Jesus Savior risen now to reign. *[Refrain]*

*"Behold Our God" by Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, Ryan Baird and Stephen Altrogge.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it;
for he founded it on the seas
and established it on the waters.

**Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD?
Who may stand in his holy place?
The one who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god.**

They will receive blessing from the LORD
and vindication from God their Savior.
Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek your face, God of Jacob.

* *Please stand if you are able*

**Lift up your heads, you gates;
be lifted up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.**

Who is he, this King of glory?
The LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory.

Psalms 24:1-7, 10

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“O THE DEEP, DEEP LOVE OF JESUS”

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.

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,
Watches over them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
Love of every love the best;
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing,
'Tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
'Tis a heaven of heavens to me;
And it lifts me up to glory,
For it lifts me up to Thee.

*“O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus” by Samuel Trevor Francis and Thomas John Williams.
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PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)

Holy and Loving God,
we are gathered before you, the Maker of Heaven and Earth,
whose chosen dwelling place is with the broken and contrite,
to confess that we have sinned in thought and word and deed;
we have not loved you with all our heart and soul,
we have not loved you with all our mind and strength;
we have not even loved our neighbor as ourselves.

* *Please stand if you are able*

In your mercy, deepen our sorrow for the wrong we have done
and for the good we have left undone.
Help us to see our sin as you do—
but do not leave us in sorrow.
With you, O Lord, there is forgiveness.
In your mercy, restore the joy of our salvation
so that we may love you, and live for you, with a holy love.
Amen.

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

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"DAY BY DAY"

Day by day, and with each passing moment,
Strength I find to meet my trials here;
Trusting in my Father's wise bestowment,
I've no cause for worry or for fear.
He, whose heart is kind beyond all measure,
Gives unto each day what He deems best,
Lovingly its part of pain and pleasure,
Mingling toil with peace and rest.

Every day the Lord Himself is near me,
With a special mercy for each hour;
All my cares He fain would bear and cheer me,
He whose name is Counsellor and Pow'r.
The protection of His child and treasure
Is a charge that on Himself He laid;
"As your days your strength shall be in measure,"
This the pledge to me He made.

Help me then, in every tribulation,
So to trust your promises, O Lord,
That I lose not faith's sweet consolation,
Offered me within your holy Word.
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting,
E'er to take, as from a father's hand,
One by one, the days, the moments fleeting,
Till with Christ the Lord I stand.

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THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: *"A New Age"*

Matthew 3:13–4:17

Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John.¹⁴ But John tried to talk him out of it. "I am the one who needs to be baptized by you," he said, "so why are you coming to me?"

¹⁵ But Jesus said, "It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires." So John agreed to baptize him.

* *Please stand if you are able*

¹⁶ After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy."

¹ Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. ² For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry.

³ During that time the devil came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become loaves of bread."

⁴ But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say,
'People do not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city, Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, ⁶ and said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say,
'He will order his angels to protect you.
And they will hold you up with their hands
so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.'"

⁷ Jesus responded, "The Scriptures also say, 'You must not test the LORD your God.'"

⁸ Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ "I will give it all to you," he said, "if you will kneel down and worship me."

¹⁰ "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say,
'You must worship the LORD your God
and serve only him.'"

¹¹ Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.

¹² When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he left Judea and returned to Galilee. ¹³ He went first to Nazareth, then left there and moved to Capernaum, beside the Sea of Galilee, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. ¹⁴ This fulfilled what God said through the prophet Isaiah:

¹⁵ "In the land of Zebulun and of Naphtali,
beside the sea, beyond the Jordan River,
in Galilee where so many Gentiles live,
¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light.
And for those who lived in the land where death casts its shadow,
a light has shined."

¹⁷ From then on Jesus began to preach, "Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near."

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE WITH OUR OFFERINGS

*The metal basket in the offering plate is for gifts to support
our deacons' provision of care, support, and financial assistance to those in need.*

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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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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"MAY THE MIND OF CHRIST MY SAVIOR"

May the mind of Christ, my Savior,
Live in me from day to day,
By His love and pow'r controlling
All I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly
In my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph
Only through His pow'r.

May the peace of God, my Father,
Rule my life in everything,
That I may be calm to comfort
Sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me
As the waters fill the sea.
Him exalting, self abasing:
This is victory.

May we run the race before us,
Strong and brave to face the foe,
Looking only unto Jesus
As we onward go.

*"May The Mind of Christ My Savior," by Kate Barclay Wilkinson
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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Office Hours: 10 am – 2 pm (Monday, Wednesday – Friday)

WEBSITE: ABERDEENPRES.ORG

CALENDAR

- Tuesday, Sept 19** Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
Worship at Channel Point (10:30)
Alzheimer’s Caregivers Support Group (1:00 pm)
- Thurs, Sept 21** Deacons’ Meeting (6:00 pm)
- Sunday, Sept 24** Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor)
Worship (10:00)