

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

March 17, 2024 at 10 am

"Encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing." (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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HYMN #306: "FAIREST LORD JESUS"

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God to earth come down,
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

God, in this time of Lent
we come with hesitant steps
and uncertain motives
to sweep out the corners
where sin has accumulated,
and uncover the ways
we have strayed from Your truth.

**Expose the empty and barren places
where we don't allow you to enter.**

Reveal our half-hearted struggles
where we have been indifferent
to the suffering of others.

**Nurture the faint stirrings of new life,
where your spirit has begun to grow.**

Let your healing light transform us
into the image of Your Son.

**For You alone can bring new life
and make us whole.**

* *Please stand if you are able*

The Church's one foundation
 Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
 She is His new creation
 By water and the word.
 From heaven He came and sought her
 To be His holy bride;
 With His own blood He bought her
 And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation,
 Yet one o'er all the earth,
 Her charter of salvation
 One Lord, one faith, one birth;
 One holy name she blesses,
 Partakes one holy food,
 And to one hope she presses,
 With every grace endued.

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.

Yet she on earth has union
 With God the Three in One,
 And mystic sweet communion
 With those whose rest is won:
 O happy ones and holy!
 Lord, give us grace that we,
 Like them, the meek and lowly,
 May live eternally.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)

**Word of God Incarnate,
 you came to this world to accomplish salvation.
 By your grace you call us to repent, to be crucified with you,
 that we might be raised as new creations.
 But we confess that often we do not live as renewed people.
 We confess that often we "go with the flow"
 instead of stemming sin's tide.**

**Forgive us when we do not show evidence of renewal.
 Forgive us when we let the fruit of the Spirit
 be choked by the weeds of evil.**

You have made us your children, members of your kingdom.

**Help us to show evidence of that every day
as we work to bring your justice, peace, gentleness,
goodness, love, joy, and hope to all we meet.**

**Lord, renew our resolve to follow you
as we silently confess our sins to you now.**

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

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“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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MEN’S ENSEMBLE: “WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS”

THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: *“Loving One Another: Encouraging and Building Up One Another”*

Romans 12:9-10; 15:2, 7

Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love one another with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring one another. We should help others do what is right and build them up in the Lord. . . . Therefore, accept one another just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.

Hebrews 10:24-25; 1 Thessalonians 5:11, 14–18

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing. . . .

Brothers and sisters, we urge you to warn those who are lazy. Encourage those who are timid. Take tender care of those who are weak. Be patient with everyone.

* *Please stand if you are able*

See that no one pays back evil for evil, but always try to do good to each other and to all people.

Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

The New Living Translation sometimes uses "each other" instead of "one another"; they have been changed to "one another" in the above reading.

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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"LORD, BE GLORIFIED"

In my life, Lord,
Be glorified, be glorified;
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

In my song, Lord,
Be glorified, be glorified;
In my song, Lord, be glorified today.

In Your church, Lord,
Be glorified, be glorified;
In Your church, Lord, be glorified today.

In our home, Lord,
Be glorified, be glorified;
In our home, Lord, be glorified today.

"Lord, Be Glorified" by Bob Kilpatrick

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

* *Please stand if you are able*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

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

WEBSITE: ABERDEENPRES.ORG

CALENDAR

- TODAY** Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor)
 Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
 New Member Class (after service in the parlor)
- Tuesday, Mar 19** *136th Anniversary of First Presbyterian Church*
 Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
 Worship at Channel Point (10:30)
 Alzheimer’s Caregivers Support Group (1:00 pm)
 Handbell Rehearsal (5:00 pm in the Sanctuary)
- Wednesday, Mar 20** Quilting Group (10:30 – 2:30)
 Lenten Study: *Eavesdropping on Peter*
 Coffee and Study (1:00 pm)
 Soup and Study (6:00 pm)
- Thursday, Mar 21** Deacons’ Meeting (5:45 pm)
 Session (7:00 pm)
- Saturday, Mar 23** Choir Practice (9:30 in Parlor)
- Sunday, Mar 24** Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor)
 Palm Sunday Worship with Choir Cantata (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
- Thursday, Mar 28** Maundy Thursday Service
 Supper together (6:00 pm)
 Service (6:30 pm)
- Sunday, Mar 31** *Easter Sunday and Celebration of Jesus’ Resurrection!*

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