

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

July 16, 2023 at 10 am

*“Rehoboam “was an evil king, for he did not seek the LORD with all his heart, . . .”
“Zedekiah did what was evil in the sight of the LORD his God . . .” (2 Chronicles 12:14; 36:12)*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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HYMN #469: *“MORNING HAS BROKEN”*

Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from Heaven,
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where God’s feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
Born of the one light, Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God’s recreation of the new day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

“AS THE DEER” (verse 1)

As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longeth after Thee
You alone are my heart’s desire
And I long to worship Thee.

*You alone are my strength my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart’s desire
And I long to worship Thee.*

*“As the Deer” by Martin Nystrom,
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CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

O Lord my God, how great you are!
You are robed with honor and majesty.
You are dressed in a robe of light.

* Please stand if you are able

**You stretch out the starry curtain of the heavens;
you lay out the rafters of your home in the rain clouds.
You make the clouds your chariot;
you ride upon the wings of the wind.**

Mountains rose and valleys sank
to the levels you decreed.
You make springs pour water into the ravines,
so streams gush down from the mountains.

**They provide water for all the animals,
and the wild donkeys quench their thirst.
The birds nest beside the streams
and sing among the branches of the trees.**

You send rain on the mountains from your heavenly home,
and you fill the earth with the fruit of your labor.
You cause grass to grow for the livestock
and plants for people to use.

**You allow them to produce food from the earth—
wine to make them glad,
olive oil to soothe their skin,
and bread to give them strength.**

O Lord, what a variety of things you have made!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your creatures.

**May the glory of the Lord continue forever!
The Lord takes pleasure in all he has made!**

Let all that we are praise the Lord.
Praise the Lord!

Psalm 104:1-3, 8, 10-15, 24, 31, 35.

* **HYMN #455: "ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING" (verses 1-2, 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! 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! 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! Alleluia!

* **HYMN #267: "ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL" (verses 1-2, 4)**

*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]*

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]*

* **"THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD" (verses 1-2)**

This is my Father's world,
And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas--
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world:
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: *"Kings, More Kings—And Exile"*

1 Kings 19:1–18

When Ahab got home, he told Jezebel everything Elijah had done, including the way he had killed all the prophets of Baal. ² So Jezebel sent this message to Elijah: "May the gods strike me and even kill me if by this time tomorrow I have not killed you just as you killed them."

³ Elijah was afraid and fled for his life. He went to Beersheba, a town in Judah, and he left his servant there. ⁴ Then he went on alone into the wilderness, traveling all day. He sat down under a solitary broom tree and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life, for I am no better than my ancestors who have already died."

⁵ Then he lay down and slept under the broom tree. But as he was sleeping, an angel touched him and told him, "Get up and eat!" ⁶ He looked around and there beside his head was some bread baked on hot stones and a jar of water! So he ate and drank and lay down again.

⁷ Then the angel of the LORD came again and touched him and said, "Get up and eat some more, or the journey ahead will be too much for you."

⁸ So he got up and ate and drank, and the food gave him enough strength to travel forty days and forty nights to Mount Sinai, the mountain of God. ⁹ There he came to a cave, where he spent the night.

But the LORD said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

¹⁰ Elijah replied, "I have zealously served the LORD God Almighty. But the people of Israel have broken their covenant with you, torn down your altars, and killed every one of your prophets. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me, too."

¹¹ "Go out and stand before me on the mountain," the LORD told him. And as Elijah stood there, the LORD passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain. It was such a terrible blast that the rocks were torn loose, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. ¹² And after the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire there was the sound of a gentle whisper. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

And a voice said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

¹⁴ He replied again, "I have zealously served the LORD God Almighty. But the people of Israel have broken their covenant with you, torn down your altars, and killed every one of your prophets. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me, too."

¹⁵ Then the LORD told him, "Go back the same way you came, and travel to the wilderness of Damascus. When you arrive there, anoint Hazael to be king of Aram. ¹⁶ Then anoint Jehu grandson of Nimshi to be king of Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from the town of Abel-meholah to replace you as my prophet. . . . ¹⁸ Yet I will preserve 7,000 others in Israel who have never bowed down to Baal or kissed him!"

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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HYMN #447: "LEAD ON, O KING ETERNAL" (verses 1-2)

Lead on, O King eternal,
The day of march has come;
Henceforth in fields of conquest
Thy tents shall be our home:
Through days of preparation
Thy grace has made us strong,
And now, O King eternal,
We lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal,
Till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And holiness shall whisper
The sweet amen of peace;
For not with swords' loud clashing,
Nor roll of stirring drums;
With deeds of love and mercy
The heavenly kingdom comes.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

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

WEBSITE: ABERDEENPRES.ORG

CALENDAR

- TODAY** Root Beer Floats (and other options) for Coffee Time
- Tuesday, July 18** Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
Worship at Channel Point (10:30)
Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group (1:00 pm)
All-Church Potluck Dinner with Basler Family
- Thurs, July 20** Deacons' Meeting (6:00 pm)
- Tuesday, August 1** National Night Out
- Thursday, August 3** Bike-and-Build Dinner