

Worship at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, May 10, 2026 at 10 am

"The word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires." (Hebrews 4:12)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*

IN THE GARDEN

I come to the garden alone,
While the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
The Son of God discloses.

*And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.*

He speaks, and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that He gave to me
Within my heart is ringing. *[Refrain]*

I'd stay in the garden with Him
Tho' the night around me be falling;
But He bids me go; thro' the voice of woe,
His voice to me is calling. *[Refrain]*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Come, let us worship the Lord our God,
who gathers us as children into his presence,
who knows our names, our needs, and our hearts.

We come to worship the God who gave us life and sustains us in love.

As a mother comforts her child, so the Lord comforts his people.
As a mother does not forget the child she has borne,
so the Lord does not forget his own.

God's mercy is tender, his patience is steadfast,
his compassion never fails.

On this day when many give thanks for mothers,
we remember with gratitude all who have
nurtured, guided, protected, and loved.

And we remember that every faithful love
finds its source in the goodness of God.

Let us draw near with thanksgiving and trust.
Let us worship God.

CHOIR: *YOU ARE MY LIGHT*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *AND* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(You are invited to join in unison with the pastor, or to follow along in silence)

Gracious God, you gave us your Word by your Spirit,
and through the Spirit you open our eyes to receive it.

We are grateful for that gift.

But we confess that we have often preferred shadows to your light.

We come to your Scripture and read without really listening.

We listen without truly hearing.

We have not asked the Spirit to teach us—

we have trusted our own understanding instead,
and so your word has often passed right over us without taking hold.

And where we have heard,
we have too often failed to obey.

We have known what you ask of us and put it off.

We have felt the Spirit's prompting and talked ourselves past it.

We have nodded at what is true and walked back into our lives unchanged.

Forgive us for mistaking familiarity with your word
for actually being shaped by it.

Beneath all of this, Lord, we confess the deeper trouble:

our pride, our self-concern,

the coldness that too often marks our love for you and for one another.

We have sinned against you
in ways we now name before you in silence.

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

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SPEAK, O LORD

Speak O Lord as we come to You
To receive the food of Your holy word;
Take Your truth plant it deep in us
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness.
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith;
Speak O Lord and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us Lord full obedience,
Holy reverence true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity.

Cause our faith to rise;
 Cause our eyes to see
 Your majestic love and authority;
 Words of power that can never fail,
 Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak O Lord and renew our minds;
 Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
 Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
 That will echo down through eternity.
 And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;
 And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
 Speak O Lord till Your church is built,
 And the earth is filled with Your glory.

*"Speak, O Lord," by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend.
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READING AND PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Sermon: *"The Spirit and the Revelation of God"*

2 Peter 1:19–21

We have [great] confidence in the message proclaimed by the prophets. You must pay close attention to what they wrote, for their words are like a lamp shining in a dark place—until the Day dawns, and Christ the Morning Star shines in your hearts. ²⁰ Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, ²¹ or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God.

2 Timothy 3:16–17

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

1 Corinthians 2:7–13, 16

The wisdom we speak of is the mystery of God—his plan that was previously hidden, even though he made it for our ultimate glory before the world began. ⁸ But the rulers of this world have not understood it; if they had, they would not have crucified our glorious Lord. ⁹ That is what the Scriptures mean when they say,

"No eye has seen, no ear has heard,
 and no mind has imagined what God has prepared
 for those who love him."

¹⁰ But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets. ¹¹ No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit, and no one can know God's thoughts except God's own Spirit. ¹² And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us.

¹³ When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. Instead, we speak words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit's words to explain spiritual truths. . . . ¹⁶ But we understand these things, for we have the mind of Christ.

RESPONDING 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 Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

* HYMN #324: *OPEN MY EYES THAT I MIGHT SEE*

Open my eyes, that I may see
 Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
 Place in my hands the wonderful key
 That shall unclasp and set me free.

*Silently now I wait for Thee,
 Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
 Open my [eyes, ears, heart], illumine me,
 Spirit divine!*

Open my ears, that I may hear
 Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
 Everything false will disappear. *[Refrain]*

Open my mouth, and let me bear,
 Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
 Open my heart and let me prepare
 Love with Thy children thus to share. *[Refrain]*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CALENDAR

TODAY	Mother's Day Breakfast! (8:30 – 9:30) Choir Practice (9:00 in the Parlor) Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
Tuesday, May 12	Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
Wednesday, May 13	Quilting Group (10:30–2:30)
Sunday, May 17	Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
LOOKING AHEAD	Deacons and Session: May 21 Pentecost Sunday: May 24 Summer Lawn Concerts: 2 nd and 4 th Wednesdays of July and August

Chuck will be on vacation from this Tuesday through May 19. Any special needs or pastoral concerns should be conveyed to Aries; she will coordinate with Chuck. Next week one of Chuck's best friends, Rev. Luke Crook will be preaching.

Church Financial Update (through April)

Actual Expenses to Date: \$ 71,911 ✕ Giving to Date: \$ 53,438

Thank you for your faithful and generous support of our church and its mission!

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First Presbyterian Church of Aberdeen

420 N Broadway, Aberdeen, WA 98520

Pastor Chuck Guth: 847.800.7119 (cell) / chuck@aberdeenpres.org

Church Office: 360.532.1330 / office@aberdeenpres.org

Office Hours: 12 pm – 4 pm (Wednesday – Friday)

aberdeenpres.org