

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

February 4, 2024 at 10 am

*"I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other.
Just as I have loved you, you should love each other." (John 13:34)*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*

"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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ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

* Please stand if you are able

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)

**We confess, loving God,
that too often we don't live up to our family name.**

**We are more ready to resent than to forgive,
more ready to manipulate than to serve,
more ready to fear than to love,
more ready to keep our distance than to welcome,
more ready to compete than to help.**

**And at the root of this behavior is a failure
to grapple with who you really are—and what you are like.**

**We do not love one another as we should
because we forget (and maybe don't even believe)
that your love is as deep and wide as it is.**

**Forgive us, Lord, and make more vivid to us
the meaning and depth of your love at the cross.**

**Show us what it cost you to give up your Son
that we might become your sons and daughters,
members of your family.**

**We ask this in the name of Jesus our righteousness.
Amen.**

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

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"HERE IS LOVE, VAST AS THE OCEAN"

Here is love vast as the ocean
Loving kindness as the flood
When the Prince of life our ransom
Shed for us His precious blood
Who His love will not remember
Who can cease to sing His praise
He will never be forgotten
Throughout heaven's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion
Fountains opened deep and wide
Through the floodgates of God's mercy
Flowed a vast and gracious tide
Grace and love like mighty rivers
Poured incessant from above
Heaven's peace and perfect justice
Kissed a guilty world in love.

*"Here is Love" by Robert Lowry, William Edwards, and William Rees,
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CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Our practice is to eat the bread individually as it is distributed,
and to hold onto the cup until all have received it, and then partake of it in unison.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Passing the Peace: "May the peace of Christ be with you"

Communion

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

"OH, HOW HE LOVES YOU AND ME"

Oh, how He loves you and me;
Oh, how He loves you and me.
 He gave His life,
 What more could He give?
 Oh, how He loves you;
 Oh, how He loves me;
Oh, how He loves you and me.

 Jesus to Calv'ry did go;
 His love for sinners to show.
 What He did there,
 Brought hope from despair.
 Oh, how He loves you;
 Oh, how He loves me;
Oh, how He loves you and me.

*"Oh, How He Loves You and Me" by Kurt Kaiser.
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THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: *"The One Anothers: 'Love One Another'"*

John 13:34-35, 15:9-14, 17

Jesus said: "I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.³⁵ Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." . . .

"I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love.¹⁰ When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love.¹¹ I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy.

Yes, your joy will overflow! ¹² This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. ¹³ There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. . . . ¹⁷ This is my command: Love each other.

1 John 2:7-10, 3:16-18

⁷ Dear friends, I am not writing a new commandment for you; rather it is an old one you have had from the very beginning. This old commandment—to love one another—is the same message you heard before. ⁸ Yet it is also new. Jesus lived the truth of this commandment, and you also are living it. For the darkness is disappearing, and the true light is already shining.

⁹ If anyone claims, "I am living in the light," but hates a fellow believer, that person is still living in darkness. ¹⁰ Anyone who loves a fellow believer is living in the light and does not cause others to stumble. . . .

¹⁶ We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God's love be in that person?

¹⁸ Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.

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.

CHOIR: "YOU ARE MY LIGHT"

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"THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE"

We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity,
May one day be restored.

*And they'll know we are Christians
By our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
By our love.*

We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand.
And together we'll spread the news,
That God is in our land. *[Refrain]*

We will work with each other,
We will work side by side;
We will work with each other,
We will work side by side.
And we'll guard each man's dignity,
And save each man's pride.

*And they'll know we are Christians
By our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
By our love.*

All praise to the Father,
From whom all things come;
And all praise to Christ Jesus,
His only Son;
And all praise to the Spirit,
Who makes us one. *[Refrain]*

*"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love," by Peter Scholtes;
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

420 N Broadway, Aberdeen, WA 98520

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

Church Office: 360.532.1330 email: office@aberdeenpres.org

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

WEBSITE: ABERDEENPRES.ORG

CALENDAR

- TODAY, Feb 4** Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor)
 Sunday Worship and Communion (10:00 in the sanctuary)
- Monday, Feb 5** Finance and Stewardship Team (1:00 pm)
- Tuesday, Feb 6** Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
 Worship at Channel Point (10:30)
- Thursday, Feb 8** Session (7:00 pm)
- Sunday, Feb 11** Sunday Worship and Communion (10:00 in the sanctuary)
 Potluck (after the service)
- Wednesday, Feb 14** Ash Wednesday Service (6:00 pm supper, 6:30 pm service)
- Thursday, Feb 15** Deacons Meeting (6:00 pm)
- LOOKING AHEAD** February 21: Beginning of Lenten Study
 Coffee and Study (1:00 pm)
 Soup and Study (6:00 pm)