

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

September 1, 2024 at 10 am

“Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.” (Acts 14:23)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*

BEHOLD WHAT MANNER OF LOVE

Behold what manner of love
The Father has given unto us;
Behold what manner of love
The Father has given unto us:

That we should be called
The children of God;
That we should be called
The children of God.

(Sing through twice)

“Behold What Manner of Love” by Patricia Van Tine.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION AND THE WORLD

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

We will give thanks to you, O LORD, with our whole heart;
we will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

**We will be glad and exult in you;
we will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**

You, Lord, are a refuge for the oppressed,
a stronghold in times of trouble.

**Those who know you put their trust in you,
for you, Lord, never forsake those who seek you.**

Based on Psalm 9:1-2, 9-10.

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HYMN #482: PRAISE YE THE LORD

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration!

* *Please stand if you are able*

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires ever have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: *"The Presbyterian Story"*

Acts 14:21-24

They preached the gospel in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, ²² strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," they said. ²³ Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.

1 Peter 5:1-4

To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: ² Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; ³ not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)

O God, with the psalmist we pray:

**Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.
Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.**

**Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.**

**Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.
Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

**Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.**

Psalm 51:1-3, 7, 9-12.

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

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HYMN #507: I COME WITH JOY TO MEET MY LORD (verses 1-3)

I come with joy to meet my Lord,
Forgiven, loved, and free,
In awe and wonder to recall
His life laid down for me,
His life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near
To find, as all are fed,
The new community of love
In Christ's communion bread,
In Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,
Each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
And strangers now are friends,
And strangers now are friends.

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 will 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.

HYMN #98: O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED

O sacred head, now wounded,
 With grief and shame weighed down;
 Now scornfully surrounded
 With thorns, Thine only crown;
 O sacred Head, what glory,
 What bliss till now was Thine!
 Yet, though despised and gory,
 I joy to call Thee mine.

What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered
 Was all for sinners' gain:
 Mine, mine was the transgression,
 But Thine the deadly pain.
 Lo, here I fall, my Savior!
 'Tis I deserve Thy place;
 Look on me with Thy favor,
 Vouchsafe to me Thy grace.

What language shall I borrow
 To thank Thee, dearest friend,
 For this Thy dying sorrow,
 Thy pity without end?
 O make me Thine forever;
 And should I fainting be,
 Lord, let me never, never
 Outlive my love to Thee.

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** Sunday Worship with Communion (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
- Tuesday, Sept. 3** Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
Worship at Channel Point (10:30)
Alzheimer’s Caregivers Support Group (1:00 pm)
- Wednesday, Sept. 4** Quilting Group (10:30 – 2:30)
- Sunday, Sept. 8** Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor)
Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
Potluck (after the service)
- COMING UP** Saturday, September 14, 11:00–1:00
Launch of “Creation Station” (new crafting group)

Creation Station is our church’s new crafting group (led by Cindy Castle). They’re going to meet monthly, on the second Saturday of the month, in the big room below the sanctuary. If you like to craft, we’d love for you to join Cindy on Saturday, Sept 14. AND, very importantly, ***if you know someone who enjoys crafting***, tell them about Creation Station! For more info, talk to Cindy.

Next Sunday we’ll be having our fall kickoff as we celebrate what God’s been doing at First Presbyterian Church. We’ll have a joyful service followed by our monthly potluck; make sure you’re here!

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