

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

April 30, 2023 at 10 am

"I will claim you as my own people, and I will be your God." (Exodus 6:7)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*

"HE HAS MADE ME GLAD"

I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart;

I will enter His courts with praise.

I will say this is the day that the Lord has made;

I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

He has made me glad, He has made me glad.

I will rejoice for He has made me glad;

He has made me glad, He has made me glad.

I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart;

I will enter His courts with praise.

I will say this is the day that the Lord has made;

I will rejoice for He has made me glad. *[Refrain]*

"He Has Made Me Glad" by Leona Von Brethorst,

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ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Lift up your heads, you gates;
be lifted up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

The LORD strong and mighty,
the LORD mighty in battle.

The Lord, my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer;

The Lord, my light and my salvation,
the stronghold of my life;

The Lord, loving and faithful toward those who keep his covenant.

Lift up your heads, you gates;
lift them up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

* *Please stand if you are able*

**Who is he, this King of glory?
The LORD Almighty—
He is the King of glory.**

From Psalm 24:7-10, 18:2, 25:10, 27:1

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HYMN #483: "SING PRAISE TO GOD, WHO REIGNS ABOVE"

Sing praise to God, who reigns above,
The God of all creation,
The God of power, the God of love,
The God of our salvation;
With healing balm my soul is filled,
And every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty power hath made
God's gracious mercy keepeth;
By morning glow or evening shade
God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth;
Within the kingdom of God's might,
Lo! all is just and all is right:
To God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away,
But through all grief distressing,
An ever present help and stay,
Our peace and joy and blessing;
As with a mother's tender hand,
God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory!

Thus, all my gladsome way along,
I sing aloud Thy praises
That all may hear the grateful song
My voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart,
Both soul and body bear your part:
To God all praise and glory!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)

**O Lord our God, you have searched us and known us.
You know not only what we say, but also what we think.
You know not only what we say, but also what we almost said.**

**You know how quick we are to praise ourselves
boasting of your gifts as if they were our accomplishments.**

**You know how slowly our thoughts sink to accuse ourselves
even when we have turned our backs on you,
fascinating ourselves with our own news and desires,
with alien gods whose calling we heed while ignoring your own.
Quickly boasting, slowly accusing, truly we need to repent.**

**Gracious and merciful God,
forgive, correct, and heal us through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

Amen.

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

“HAVE THINE OWN WAY, LORD”

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Thou art the potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after thy will,
while I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Search me and try me, Savior today!
Wash me just now, Lord, wash me just now,
as in thy presence humbly I bow.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Wounded and weary, help me I pray!
Power, all power, surely is thine!
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Hold o'er my being absolute sway.
Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me!

Adelaide A. Pollard; Public Domain.

THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: Escape from Egypt!

Exodus 12:1–13, 24–27

While the Israelites were still in the land of Egypt, the LORD gave the following instructions to Moses and Aaron: ² “From now on, this month will be the first month of the year for you. ³ Announce to the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each family must choose a lamb or a young goat for a sacrifice, one animal for each household. ⁴ If a family is too small to eat a whole animal, let them share with another family in the neighborhood. Divide the animal according to the size of each family and how much they can eat. ⁵ The animal you select must be a one-year-old male, either a sheep or a goat, with no defects.

⁶ “Take special care of this chosen animal until the evening of the fourteenth day of this first month. Then the whole assembly of the community of Israel must slaughter their lamb or young goat at twilight. ⁷ They are to take some of the blood and smear it on the sides and top of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the animal. ⁸ That same night

they must roast the meat over a fire and eat it along with bitter salad greens and bread made without yeast.⁹ Do not eat any of the meat raw or boiled in water. The whole animal—including the head, legs, and internal organs—must be roasted over a fire.¹⁰ Do not leave any of it until the next morning. Burn whatever is not eaten before morning.

¹¹ “These are your instructions for eating this meal: Be fully dressed, wear your sandals, and carry your walking stick in your hand. Eat the meal with urgency, for this is the LORD’s Passover.¹² On that night I will pass through the land of Egypt and strike down every firstborn son and firstborn male animal in the land of Egypt. I will execute judgment against all the gods of Egypt, for I am the LORD!¹³ But the blood on your doorposts will serve as a sign, marking the houses where you are staying. When I see the blood, I will pass over you. This plague of death will not touch you when I strike the land of Egypt. . . .

²⁴ “Remember, these instructions are a permanent law that you and your descendants must observe forever.²⁵ When you enter the land the LORD has promised to give you, you will continue to observe this ceremony.²⁶ Then your children will ask, ‘What does this ceremony mean?’²⁷ And you will reply, ‘It is the Passover sacrifice to the LORD, for he passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt. And though he struck the Egyptians, he spared our families.’” When Moses had finished speaking, all the people bowed down to the ground and worshiped.

Exodus 14:13–18, 21–22, 26–27, 29–31

Moses told the people, “Don’t be afraid. Just stand still and watch the LORD rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again.¹⁴ The LORD himself will fight for you. Just stay calm.”

¹⁵ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving!¹⁶ Pick up your staff and raise your hand over the sea. Divide the water so the Israelites can walk through the middle of the sea on dry ground.¹⁷ And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they will charge in after the Israelites. My great glory will be displayed through Pharaoh and his troops, his chariots, and his charioteers.¹⁸ When my glory is displayed through them, all Egypt will see my glory and know that I am the LORD!”
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²¹ Then Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the LORD opened up a path through the water with a strong east wind. The wind blew all that night, turning the seabed into dry land.²² So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side! . . .

²⁶ When all the Israelites had reached the other side, the LORD said to Moses, “Raise your hand over the sea again. Then the waters will rush back and cover the Egyptians and their chariots and charioteers.”²⁷ So as the sun began to rise, Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the water rushed back into its usual place. . . .²⁹ But the people of Israel had walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, as the water stood up like a wall on both sides.³⁰ That is how the LORD rescued Israel from the hand of the Egyptians that day. . . .³¹ When the people of Israel saw the mighty power that the LORD had unleashed against the Egyptians, they were filled with awe before him. They put their faith in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

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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HYMN #488: "THE GOD OF ABRAHAM PRAISE" (verses 1, 3)

The God of Abraham praise,
Who reigns enthroned above;
The ancient of eternal days,
The God of Love!
The Lord, the great I Am,
By earth and heaven confessed,
We bow before Your holy name,
Forever blest.

You have eternal life
Implanted in the soul;
Your love shall be our strength and stay,
While ages roll.
We praise You, living God!
We praise Your holy name;
The first, the last, beyond all thought,
And still the same!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

420 N Broadway, Aberdeen, WA 98520

Pastor Chuck Guth (cell) 847.800.7119 email: chuck@aberdeenpres.org
(office) 360.532.1331

Church Office: 360.532.1330 email: office@aberdeenpres.org

Office Hours: 10 am – 2 pm (Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri)

Caretaker Hours: 9:00 – 1:00 (Mon, Tues, Wed; plus additional intermittent hours)

WEBSITE: ABERDEENPRES.ORG

CALENDAR

- TODAY, April 30** Sharing Table (before and after the service)
- Tuesday, May 2** Tuesday Crew—Facility Maintenance (9:00 – 12:00)
Worship at Channel Point (10:30)
- Sunday, May 7** Communion (10:00 worship service)
Youth Group (4:30 pm)