

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

October 8, 2023 at 10 am

*“The time for judging this world has come, when Satan, the ruler of this world, will be cast out.  
And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself.” (John 12:31-32)*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

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### ***“I WILL SING OF THE MERCIES OF THE LORD”***

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*I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,  
I will sing. I will sing.*

*I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,  
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.*

With my mouth will I make known  
Thy faithfulness, Thy faithfulness.  
With my mouth will I make known,  
Thy faithfulness to all generations.

*I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,  
I will sing. I will sing.*

*I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,  
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.*

*“I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord” by James Henry Fillmore Sr.,  
Words and Music: Public Domain.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

### STORIES OF BLESSING (DEACONS)

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

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Dear Friends: This is how God loved the world:  
He gave his one and only Son, as an atoning sacrifice for our sins—  
and not only our sins but the sins of all the world.

And because of Jesus' sacrifice for us,  
everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world,  
but to save the world through him.

God's light came into the world,  
and those who do what is right come to the light  
so others can see that they are doing what God wants.

This is our God!  
Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

*Based on John 3:16-21, 1 John 2:2, and John 4:24.*

\* Please stand if you are able

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)**

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**Merciful God, we have not loved you  
with all our heart and mind and strength and soul.**

**We have not loved our neighbors as you have taught us.**

**Too often we are indifferent to the saving grace of your Word and life.**

**Yet you invite us to be reconciled with you, and to renewed lives.**

**So we turn once again to the cross,  
to our interceding Lord Jesus Christ seated at your right hand,  
to the gracious gift of your Spirit.**

**Forgive and heal us by your deep love  
made known in the passion, death, and resurrection  
of Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

**Amen.**

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

***“THERE IS A REDEEMER”***

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There is a Redeemer, Jesus God's own Son;  
Precious Lamb of God Messiah Holy One.

*Thank You O my Father, for giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit, till the work on earth is done.*

Jesus my Redeemer, name above all names;  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,  
O for sinners slain. *[Refrain]*

When I stand in glory, I will see His face,  
There I'll serve my King, forever,  
In that holy place. *[Refrain]*

*“There Is a Redeemer,” by Melody Green.*

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**HYMN #101: “WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS”**

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When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

\* *Please stand if you are able*

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

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## THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

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Sermon: *"If I Be Lifted Up"*

### John 12:20-36

Some Greeks who had come to Jerusalem for the Passover celebration <sup>21</sup> paid a visit to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee. They said, "Sir, we want to meet Jesus." <sup>22</sup> Philip told Andrew about it, and they went together to ask Jesus.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, "Now the time has come for the Son of Man to enter into his glory. <sup>24</sup> I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives. <sup>25</sup> Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity. <sup>26</sup> Anyone who wants to serve me must follow me, because my servants must be where I am. And the Father will honor anyone who serves me.

<sup>27</sup> "Now my soul is deeply troubled. Should I pray, 'Father, save me from this hour'? But this is the very reason I came! <sup>28</sup> Father, bring glory to your name."

Then a voice spoke from heaven, saying, "I have already brought glory to my name, and I will do so again." <sup>29</sup> When the crowd heard the voice, some thought it was thunder, while others declared an angel had spoken to him.

<sup>30</sup> Then Jesus told them, "The voice was for your benefit, not mine. <sup>31</sup> The time for judging this world has come, when Satan, the ruler of this world, will be cast out. <sup>32</sup> And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." <sup>33</sup> He said this to indicate how he was going to die.

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## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE WITH OUR OFFERINGS

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*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

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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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### *"AMAZING GRACE (MY CHAINS ARE GONE)"*

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Amazing grace how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost but now I'm found,  
Was blind but now I see.

\* *Please stand if you are able*

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believed.

*My chains are gone I've been set free;  
My God my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood His mercy rains,  
Unending love amazing grace.*

The Lord has promised good to me;  
His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
The sun forbear to shine.  
But God who called me here below  
Will be forever mine,  
Will be forever mine,  
You are forever mine.

*"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)" by Chris Tomlin, John Newton, and Louie Giglio;  
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## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

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

WEBSITE: ABERDEENPRES.ORG

### CALENDAR

- TODAY** Potluck after the church service today
- Tuesday, Oct 10** Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
- Wednesday, Oct 11** *Jesus (and the Gospels) in 3D*  
Coffee and Study (1:00 pm)  
Soup and Study (6:00 pm for a meal together; study at 6:30)
- Thursday, Oct 12** Session (7:00 pm)
- Sunday, Oct 15** Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor)
- Thursday, Oct 12** Deacons' Meeting (6:00 pm)
- Tuesday, Oct 17** Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group (1:00 pm)
- Saturday, Oct 21** Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for Homeless Supplies  
(5:00–7:00 pm)