

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

January 22, 2023 at 10 am

"Salvation comes from the LORD." (Jonah 2:9)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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HYMN #464: "JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE"

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the gloom of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
Joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE,
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.

* *Please stand if you are able*

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CHOIR: "GLORIA"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)

**There are many times we think we love you well, O God.
But upon hearing your call to love you with all our heart,
and all our mind, and all our strength,
we confess that our love for you is a diluted love,
made insipid and flat by lesser loyalties and a divided heart.**

**Our love seems pure only for brief moments;
soon our affections are drawn away.
How easily our devotion dies.**

**Forgive us;
in deep mercy spare us, despite our lost first love for you;
in grace rekindle our love for you
in seeing anew Jesus' love for us. Amen.**

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

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"HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US"

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything
No gifts no pow'r no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection

Why should I gain from His reward
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom.

*"How Deep the Father's Love for Us" by Stuart Townend,
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THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: *"The Bible from 37,000 Feet"*

Luke 1:67-79

Then his father, Zechariah, was filled with the Holy Spirit and gave this prophecy:

68 "Praise the Lord, the God of Israel,
because he has visited and redeemed his people.

69 He has sent us a mighty Savior
from the royal line of his servant David,

70 just as he promised
through his holy prophets long ago.

71 Now we will be saved from our enemies
and from all who hate us.

72 He has been merciful to our ancestors
by remembering his sacred covenant—

73 the covenant he swore with an oath
to our ancestor Abraham.

74 We have been rescued from our enemies
so we can serve God without fear,

75 in holiness and righteousness
for as long as we live.

76 "And you, my little son,
will be called the prophet of the Most High,
because you will prepare the way for the Lord.

77 You will tell his people how to find salvation
through forgiveness of their sins.

78 Because of God's tender mercy,
the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us,

79 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
and to guide us to the path of peace."

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE WITH OUR OFFERINGS

*The ceramic jars in the offering plates are designated for the Deacons' Fund **and** the World Vision Fund. Our deacons provide care, support, and financial assistance to those in the congregation in need. The World Vision Fund supports a Sponsored Child through World Vision.*

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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.

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HYMN #361: "HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION"

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

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)

Tuesday Crew Facility Maintenance: 9 am – 1 pm (Tues)

WEBSITE: ABERDEENPRES.ORG

CALENDAR

TODAY, January 22 Youth Group (4:30 pm)

Sunday, January 29 Congregational Meeting (after the 10:00 service)
Sharing Table (before and after the service)