

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

November 19, 2023 at 10 am

*"A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other." (1 Corinthians 12:7)*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

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### ***"GIVE THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART"***

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Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because He's given  
Jesus Christ, His Son. (x2)

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich,"  
Because of what the Lord has done for us. (x2)

Give thanks!

*"Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart," by Henry Smith.  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

### **CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)**

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Praise the LORD!

**Praise the LORD from the heavens! Praise him from the skies!**

Praise him, all his angels! Praise him, all the armies of heaven!

**Praise him, sun and moon! Praise him, all you twinkling stars!**

Praise him, skies above! Praise him, vapors high above the clouds!

**Let every created thing give praise to the LORD,  
for he issued his command, and they came into being.**

**He set them in place forever and ever.**

**His decree will never be revoked.**

Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you creatures of the ocean depths,  
fire and hail, snow and clouds,  
wind and weather that obey him,  
mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars,  
wild animals and all livestock,  
small scurrying animals and birds,  
kings of the earth and all people,  
rulers and judges of the earth,

\* *Please stand if you are able*

young men and young women,  
old men and children.

**Let us all praise the name of the LORD.  
For his name is very great;  
his glory towers over the earth and heaven!**

He has made his people strong,  
honoring his faithful ones—  
love his people who are close to him.

**Let us praise the Lord together!**

*Based on Psalm 148.*

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**HYMN #473: “FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH” (verses 1-2, 4-5)**

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For the beauty of the earth,  
For the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies.

*Lord of all, to Thee we raise,  
This our hymn of grateful praise.*

For the wonder of each hour  
Of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
Sun and moon, and stars of light. *[Refrain]*

For the joy of human love,  
Brother, sister, parent, child,  
Friends on earth and friends above,  
For all gentle thoughts and mild. *[Refrain]*

For Thy Church, that evermore  
Lifteth holy hands above,  
Offering up on every shore  
Her pure sacrifice of love. *[Refrain]*

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**“THE LOVE OF GOD”**

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The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell;  
It goes beyond the highest star, and reaches to the lowest hell;  
The guilty pair bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win;  
His erring child He reconciled, and pardoned from his sin.

*O love of God, how rich and pure!  
How measureless and strong!  
It shall forevermore endure—  
the saints and angels song.*

When years of time shall pass away and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,  
When men, who here refuse to pray, on rocks and hills and mountains call,  
God’s love so sure shall still endure, all measureless and strong;  
Redeeming grace to Adam’s race—the saints and angels song. *[Refrain]*

\* Please stand if you are able

Could we with ink the ocean fill and were the skies of parchment made,  
Were every stalk on earth a quill and every man a scribe by trade,  
To write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry;  
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky.

*O love of God, how rich and pure!  
How measureless and strong!  
It shall forevermore endure—  
the saints and angels song.*

*"The Love of God" by Frederick Martin Lehman and Meir Ben Isaac Nehorai.  
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## PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (UNISON)

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**O God, we know that we forget about you.**

**We forget who you are:  
the great and eternal, all powerful creator of all,  
the God of love and grace and mercy and peace.**

**We forget to thank you for all your provisions, your care for us,  
the gift of Jesus as Savior and Lord.**

**We forget to love you,  
we forget to love our neighbors as ourselves.**

**Forgive us, Lord.**

*(a moment of silence for private confession)*

**Grant us clear minds to know you,  
new hearts to love you,  
strong hands to serve you.**

**Help us to live this day, this week, and always,  
so that our whole life is a thanksgiving to you. Amen.**

**CHOIR: "IT IS A GOOD THING"**

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## THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

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Sermon: *"Bodies, Gifts, and Serving"*

### **1 Corinthians 12:1, 4-11, 27-31**

Now, dear brothers and sisters, regarding your question about the special abilities the Spirit gives us. I don't want you to misunderstand this. . . .

<sup>4</sup> There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. <sup>5</sup> There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

<sup>7</sup> A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. <sup>8</sup> To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge. <sup>9</sup> The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the one Spirit gives the gift of healing. <sup>10</sup> He gives one person the power to perform miracles,

and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said. <sup>11</sup> It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have. . . .

<sup>27</sup> All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it. <sup>28</sup> Here are some of the parts God has appointed for the church:

first are apostles,  
second are prophets,  
third are teachers,  
then those who do miracles,  
those who have the gift of healing,  
those who can help others,  
those who have the gift of leadership,  
those who speak in unknown languages.

<sup>29</sup> Are we all apostles? Are we all prophets? Are we all teachers? Do we all have the power to do miracles? <sup>30</sup> Do we all have the gift of healing? Do we all have the ability to speak in unknown languages? Do we all have the ability to interpret unknown languages? Of course not! <sup>31</sup> So you should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts.

### **1 Peter 4:10-11**

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. <sup>11</sup> Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.

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### **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 #555: "NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD"**

Now thank we all our God  
With heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done,  
In whom this world rejoices;  
Who, from our mothers' arms  
Hath blessed us on our way

\* *Please stand if you are able*

With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in His grace,  
And guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God,  
Who reigns in highest heaven,  
To Father and to Son  
And Spirit now be given.  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heaven adore,  
The God who was, and is,  
And shall be evermore.

#### **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, Nov 19** Choir (9:00 in Parlor)  
Worship (10:00)  
Thanksgiving Potluck (11:15 in Fellowship Hall)
- Tuesday, Nov 21** Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)  
Worship at Channel Point (10:30)  
Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group (1:00 pm)
- Sunday, Nov 26** Worship (10:00)  
Congregational Meeting (immediately after the service)
- Dates to Note:** December 2: Greening of the Church  
December 3: Birthday Celebration for Bert Rutan  
December 8: Christmas Open House