

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

February 26, 2023 at 10 am

*"Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD counted him as righteous because of his faith."
(Genesis 15:6)*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*

"AS THE DEER"

As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longeth after Thee
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee.

*You alone are my strength my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee.*

You're my friend and You are my brother
Even though You are a King
I love You more than any other
So much more than anything.

I want You more than gold or silver
Only You can satisfy
You alone are the real joygiver
And the apple of my eye.

*"As the Deer" by Martin Nyström,
© 1984 Universal Music—Brentwood Benson Publishing; CCLI License # 1680430*

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER (unison)

**O God, in creation you fashioned us in your image,
in Christ you reveal to us your love,
through the Holy Spirit you welcome us into the fellowship of believers;
we bow in gratitude before you.**

**We constantly distort your image, but still you restore it.
We daily betray your love, but still you extend it.
We often disrupt fellowship, but still you bless it.
Our faith in you wavers, but still you uphold us with your everlasting arms.**

**Come to us at this time and in this place, O Lord,
that your image in us might be revealed, your love for us returned,
our fellowship in Christ renewed,
and our faith nurtured and rebuilt.**

We pray these things in the name of our Lord Jesus who taught us to pray:

Our Father who art in heaven . . .

Amen.

CHOIR: "LORD JESUS, THINK ON ME"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

*

"IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL"

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say:
It is well, It is well with my soul.

*It is well with my soul;
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

Tho' Satan should buffet, Tho' trials should come;
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. [REFRAIN]

My sin—O the bliss of this glorious tho't—
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, O my soul. [REFRAIN]

And Lord haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
Even so it is well with my soul. [REFRAIN]

THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: *"Abraham: Covenant and Faith Waves"*

Genesis 15:1–11, 17–18

Some time later, the LORD spoke to Abram in a vision and said to him, "Do not be afraid, Abram, for I will protect you, and your reward will be great."

² But Abram replied, "O Sovereign LORD, what good are all your blessings when I don't even have a son? Since you've given me no children, Eliezer of Damascus, a servant in my household, will inherit all my wealth. ³ You have given me no descendants of my own, so one of my servants will be my heir."

⁴ Then the LORD said to him, “No, your servant will not be your heir, for you will have a son of your own who will be your heir.” ⁵ Then the LORD took Abram outside and said to him, “Look up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That’s how many descendants you will have!”

⁶ And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD counted him as righteous because of his faith.

⁷ Then the LORD told him, “I am the LORD who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as your possession.”

⁸ But Abram replied, “O Sovereign LORD, how can I be sure that I will actually possess it?”

⁹ The LORD told him, “Bring me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” ¹⁰ So Abram presented all these to him and killed them. Then he cut each animal down the middle and laid the halves side by side; he did not, however, cut the birds in half. ¹¹ Some vultures swooped down to eat the carcasses, but Abram chased them away. . . .

¹⁷ After the sun went down and darkness fell, Abram saw a smoking firepot and a flaming torch pass between the halves of the carcasses. ¹⁸ So the LORD made a covenant with Abram that day and said, “I have given this land to your descendants, all the way from the border of Egypt to the great Euphrates River. . . .

Genesis 17:1–8, 15–16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, “I am El-Shaddai—‘God Almighty.’ Serve me faithfully and live a blameless life. ² I will make a covenant with you, by which I will guarantee to give you countless descendants.”

³ At this, Abram fell face down on the ground. Then God said to him, ⁴ “This is my covenant with you: I will make you the father of a multitude of nations! ⁵ What’s more, I am changing your name. It will no longer be Abram. Instead, you will be called Abraham, for you will be the father of many nations. ⁶ I will make you extremely fruitful. Your descendants will become many nations, and kings will be among them!

⁷ “I will confirm my covenant with you and your descendants after you, from generation to generation. This is the everlasting covenant: I will always be your God and the God of your descendants after you. ⁸ And I will give the entire land of Canaan, where you now live as a foreigner, to you and your descendants. It will be their possession forever, and I will be their God.” . . .

¹⁵ Then God said to Abraham, “Regarding Sarai, your wife—her name will no longer be Sarai. From now on her name will be Sarah. ¹⁶ And I will bless her and give you a son from her! Yes, I will bless her richly, and she will become the mother of many nations. Kings of nations will be among her descendants.”

Genesis 21:1–7

The LORD kept his word and did for Sarah exactly what he had promised. ² She became pregnant, and she gave birth to a son for Abraham in his old age. This happened at just the time God had said it would. ³ And Abraham named their son Isaac. ⁴ Eight days after Isaac was born, Abraham circumcised him as God had commanded. ⁵ Abraham was 100 years old when Isaac was born.

⁶ And Sarah declared, "God has brought me laughter. All who hear about this will laugh with me. ⁷ Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse a baby? Yet I have given Abraham a son in his old age!"

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.*

*

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

*

"WHATE'ER MY GOD ORDAINS IS RIGHT"

Whate'er my God ordains is right
His holy will abideth
I will be still whate'er He does
And follow where He guideth
He is my God though dark my road
He holds me that I shall not fall
And so to Him I leave it all
And so to Him I leave it all.

Whate'er my God ordains is right
He never will deceive me
He leads me by the proper path
I know He will not leave me
I take content What He has sent
His hand can turn my griefs away
And patiently I wait His day
And patiently I wait His day.

Whate'er my God ordains is right
Though now this cup in drinking
May bitter seem to my faint heart
I take it all unshrinking
My God is true each morn anew
Sweet comfort yet shall fill my heart
And pain and sorrow shall depart
And pain and sorrow shall depart.

* *Please stand if you are able*

Whate'er my God ordains is right
Here shall my stand be taken
Though sorrow need or death be mine
Yet I am not forsaken
My Father's care is round me there
He holds me that I shall not fall
And so to Him I leave it all
And so to Him I leave it all.

"Whate'er My God Ordains Is Right"

by Catherine Winkworth, Keith Getty, Matthew Merker, and Samuel Rodigast.

Words: Public Domain; Music: © 2018 Getty Music Publishing/Matthew Merker Music; CCLI License # 1680430.

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 am – 1 pm (Mon, Tues, Wed; plus additional intermittent hours)

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

WEBSITE: ABERDEENPRES.ORG

CALENDAR

TODAY, February 26 Youth Group (4:30 pm)
Sunday, March 5 Communion (10:00 worship service)
Sunday, March 12 Potluck after Worship Service
Saturday, March 25 Feast for All