

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

November 5, 2023 at 10 am

*"We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. . .
For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith. . ."* (Romans 3:22; Ephesians 2:8)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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HYMN #526: "FOR ALL THE SAINTS"

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION AND THE WORLD

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Come, all you who are thirsty,
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without cost.

We will delight in the richest of fare.

Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.
Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.
Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

* *Please stand if you are able*

**We will go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and hills
will burst into song before us,
and all the trees of the field
will clap their hands.**

This will be for the LORD's glory,
for an everlasting sign,
that will endure forever.

**Let's worship the Lord together;
Let's commune with the Lord at his table together.**

Based on Isaiah 55:1-7, 12-13.

CHOIR: "TEACH US TO PRAY"

THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: *"Getting Right (and Staying Right) with God"*

Romans 3:21-31

²¹ But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. ²² We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.

²³ For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. ²⁴ Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. ²⁵ For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, ²⁶ for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he makes sinners right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.

²⁷ Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith. ²⁸ So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law.

²⁹ After all, is God the God of the Jews only? Isn't he also the God of the Gentiles? Of course he is. ³⁰ There is only one God, and he makes people right with himself only by faith, whether they are Jews or Gentiles. ³¹ Well then, if we emphasize faith, does this mean that we can forget about the law? Of course not! In fact, only when we have faith do we truly fulfill the law.

Ephesians 2:4-10

⁴ But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, ⁵ that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) ⁶ For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. ⁷ So God

can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus.

⁸ God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. ⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. ¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

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"GRACE GREATER THAN ALL OUR SIN"

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
Yonder on Calvary's mount out-poured—
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

*Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that is greater than all our sin!*

Sin and despair, like the sea-waves cold,
Threaten the soul with infinite loss;
Grace that is greater—yes, grace untold—
Points to the Refuge, the mighty Cross. *[Refrain]*

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,
Freely bestowed on all who believe!
All who are longing to see His face,
Will you this moment His grace receive? *[Refrain]*

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.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Our practice is to eat the bread individually as it is distributed,
and to hold onto the cup until all have received it, and then partake of it in unison.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Passing the Peace: "May the peace of Christ be with you"

Communion

The Apostles' Creed

* *Please stand if you are able*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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“BEHOLD THE LAMB”

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
Slain for us, and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith:
Find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of peace,
Around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior, Jesus Christ
Torn for you: eat and remember.
The wounds that heal the death that brings us life,
Paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of love,
Around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin
Shed for you: drink and remember.
He drained death's cup that all may enter in
To receive the life of God.
So we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of grace,
Around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise,
To respond and to remember.
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ,
As His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering,
We proclaim Christ will come again,
And we'll join in the feast of heaven,
Around the table of the King.
Around the table of the King.

*“Behold the Lamb,” by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Stuart Townend.
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

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CALENDAR

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| TODAY | Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor)
Worship and Communion (10:00)
Youth Group (4:00 pm) |
| Monday, Nov 6 | Stewardship Meeting (1:00 pm) |
| Tuesday, Nov 7 | Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
Worship at Channel Point (10:30) |
| Wednesday, Nov 8 | <i>Jesus (and the Gospels) in 3D</i>
Coffee and Study (1:00 pm)
Soup and Study (6:00 for a meal together; study at 6:30) |
| Sunday, Nov 12 | Worship Service (10:00) |
| Sunday, Nov 19 | Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor)
Worship Service (10:00)
Thanksgiving Potluck after the service |
| Saturday, Dec 2 | Greening of the Church |
| Saturday, Dec 8 | Christmas Open House (6:30 pm) |