

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

February 5, 2023 at 10 am

"The LORD God warned him, 'You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.'" (Genesis 2:16-17)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*

"COME LET US WORSHIP AND BOW DOWN"

Come let us worship and bow down
Let us kneel before the Lord
Our God our Maker
Come let us worship and bow down
Let us kneel before the Lord
Our God our Maker
For He is our God
And we are the people of His pasture
And the sheep of His hand
Just the sheep of His hand.

"Come Let Us Worship And Bow Down" by Dave Doherty.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Praise the LORD, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
Praise the LORD, my soul,
and forget not all his benefits:

**He forgives our sins
and heals our diseases;**

He redeems our life from the pit
and crowns us with love and compassion;

**He satisfies our desires with good things
so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts,
you his servants who do his will.

**Praise the LORD, all his works
everywhere in his dominion.**

Praise the LORD, O my soul.

Based on Psalm 103:1-5, 21-22

* Please stand if you are able

HYMN #138: "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinfulness Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: *"What Have You Done? The Story Takes a Tragic Turn"*

Genesis 2:7-9, 15-18; 2:21-3:23

Then the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person.

⁸Then the Lord God planted a garden in Eden in the east, and there he placed the man he had made. ⁹The Lord God made all sorts of trees grow up from the ground—trees that were beautiful and that produced delicious fruit. In the middle of the garden he placed the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. . . .

¹⁵The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. ¹⁶But the Lord God warned him, "You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden— ¹⁷except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die."

¹⁸Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him." . . .

²¹So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. While the man slept, the Lord God took out one of the man's ribs and closed up the opening. ²²Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib, and he brought her to the man.

²³"At last!" the man exclaimed.

"This one is bone from my bone,
and flesh from my flesh!
She will be called 'woman,'
because she was taken from 'man.'"

²⁴This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.

²⁵ Now the man and his wife were both naked, but they felt no shame.

³ The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, “Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?”

² “Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,” the woman replied. ³ “It’s only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, ‘You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.’”

⁴ “You won’t die!” the serpent replied to the woman. ⁵ “God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.”

⁶ The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. ⁷ At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.

⁸ When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the Lord God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the Lord God among the trees. ⁹ Then the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

¹⁰ He replied, “I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked.”

¹¹ “Who told you that you were naked?” the Lord God asked. “Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?”

¹² The man replied, “It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it.”

¹³ Then the Lord God asked the woman, “What have you done?”

“The serpent deceived me,” she replied. “That’s why I ate it.”

¹⁴ Then the Lord God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this, you are cursed
more than all animals, domestic and wild.

You will crawl on your belly,
groveling in the dust as long as you live.

¹⁵ And I will cause hostility between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring.

He will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel.”

¹⁶ Then he said to the woman,

“I will sharpen the pain of your pregnancy,
and in pain you will give birth.
And you will desire to control your husband,
but he will rule over you.”

¹⁷ And to the man he said,

“Since you listened to your wife and ate from the tree
whose fruit I commanded you not to eat,
the ground is cursed because of you.

All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it.
¹⁸ It will grow thorns and thistles for you,
though you will eat of its grains.
¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow
will you have food to eat
until you return to the ground
from which you were made.
For you were made from dust,
and to dust you will return.”

²⁰ Then the man—Adam—named his wife Eve, because she would be the mother of all who live. ²¹ And the Lord God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife.

²² Then the Lord God said, “Look, the human beings have become like us, knowing both good and evil. What if they reach out, take fruit from the tree of life, and eat it? Then they will live forever!” ²³ So the Lord God banished them from the Garden of Eden, and he sent Adam out to cultivate the ground from which he had been made.

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.*

CHOIR: “DONA NOBIS PACEM”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)

**Holy God, we groan at our weaknesses, and we ask forgiveness.
Your Word is so clear, and your grace is so good.
But we close our ears to your call,
and with our perverse pride we foul the gifts you have given us.**

**Like Adam and Eve, we know what you require of us;
yet, like them, we so often choose to go our own way,
thinking we know better, seeking our glory instead of yours.**

**We mistreat those we love,
and we dishonor you, the One who made us.**

**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.**

We seek your forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**We draw upon your promises,
and we ask once again simply for mercy, and your peace.**

With your Holy Spirit, sanctify us.

Hear our prayer, O Lord, for we ask it in Christ’s name. Amen.

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

PASSING THE PEACE

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 partake of it in unison.*

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Communion

*

"WONDERFUL, MERCIFUL SAVIOR"

Wonderful merciful Savior,
Precious Redeemer and Friend,
Who would have thought that a Lamb
Could rescue the souls of men;
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

*You are the One that we praise;
You are the One we adore;
You give the healing and grace
Our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.*

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper,
Spirit we long to embrace,
You offer hope when our hearts
Have hopelessly lost the way;
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way. [REFRAIN]

Almighty, infinite, Father,
Faithfully loving Your own;
Here in our weakness You find us,
Falling before Your throne;
Oh, we're falling before Your throne. [REFRAIN]

*"Wonderful Merciful Savior" by Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse,
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

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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

ABERDEEN FOOD BANK REQUESTS

Canned Vegetables

Boxes of Macaroni and Cheese

Beans, e.g., Black, Pinto (either dry or canned)

Peanut butter

Disposable diapers (any sizes but especially 5 and 6)

CALENDAR

Tuesday, February 7 Worship at Channel Point (10:30)

Thurs, February 9 Session (7:00 pm)

Sunday, February 12 Potluck (after the 10:00 service)
Youth Group (4:30 pm)

Thurs, February 16 Deacons' Meeting (6:00 pm)