FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

February 25, 2024 at 10 am

"May God... help you live in complete harmony with one another, as is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus." (Romans 15:5)

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. [*Refrain*]

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Shout joyful praises to God, all the earth! Sing about the glory of his name! Tell the world how glorious he is.

Come and see what our God has done; By his great power he rules forever.

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Everything on earth will worship you; they will sing your praises, shouting your name in glorious songs."

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Let us bless our God and loudly sing his praises. Our lives are in his hands, and he cares for us with his unfailing love.

Let us worship him in spirit and truth.

Based on Psalm 66:1-9.

HYMN #420: "GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY" (verses 1-3, 5)

God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow'r; crown your ancient Church's story, bring its bud to glorious flow'r. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo, the hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways. From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure your children's warring madness; bend our pride to your control; shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage lest we miss your kingdom's goal, lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage serving you whom we adore, serving you whom we adore.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)

Heavenly Father, Although we surrender our lives to you individually, we are called to live and serve in community as one body. Nevertheless, we do not see each other equally or accurately. We tend to think that some are more gifted, more attractive, even more godly than others.

Rather than claim Christ's righteousness for all who believe, we judge one another, even ourselves, by the values of the world around us.

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Forgive us, Lord. Redeem us from our wrong thinking. Open our eyes to the truth of your perfect plan for Your church body to work graciously as one.

We pray this humbly in Christ's name. Amen.

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

"IN CHRIST ALONE"

In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song. This Cornerstone, this solid Ground: Firm through the fiercest drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease: My Comforter, my All in All, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe. This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save. Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied, For every sin on Him was laid, Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain. Then bursting forth in glorious Day, Up from the grave He rose again. And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me, For I am His and He is mine, Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

"REDEEMED, HOW I LOVE TO PROCLAIM IT"

Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it! Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; Redeemed thru His infinite mercy, His child and forever I am.

Redeemed, redeemed, Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; Redeemed, redeemed, His child and forever I am.

Redeemed and so happy in Jesus, No language my rapture can tell; I know that the light of His presence With me doth continually dwell. *[Refrain]*

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I think of my blessed Redeemer, I think of Him all the day long; I sing for I cannot be silent; His love is the theme of my song.

Redeemed, redeemed, Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; Redeemed, redeemed, His child and forever I am.

"Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It" by Fanny J. Crosby; Words and music in the Public Domain.

THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: "Loving One Another: Live in Harmony with One Another"

Romans 12:1-21

Dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. ² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

³ Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us. ⁴ Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, ⁵ so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to one another.

⁶ In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. ⁷ If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. ⁸ If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

⁹ Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring one another. ¹¹ Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. ¹² Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. ¹³ When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them. ¹⁵ Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!

¹⁷ Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. ¹⁸ Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.

 19 Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. \ldots

²¹ Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.

Romans 15:5-7

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May God . . . help you live in complete harmony with one another, as is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus. ⁶ Then all of you can join together with one voice, giving praise and glory to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Therefore, accept one another just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.

The New Living Translation uses "each other" instead of "one another"; they have been changed to "one another" in the above reading.

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.

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

HYMN #398: "THERE'S A SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT"

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; There are sweet expressions on each face, And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove, Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love. And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived, When we shall leave this place.

There are blessings you cannot receive Till you know Him in His fullness and believe; You're the one to profit when you say, "I am going to walk with Jesus all the way." [*Refrain*]

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

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Church Office: 360.532.1330 email: office@aberdeenpres.org

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

WEBSITE: ABERDEENPRES.ORG

CALENDAR

TODAY	Sunday Worship (10:00 in the sanctuary)
Tues, Feb 27	Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30) Handbell Practice (5:00 in the sanctuary)
Wed, Feb 28	Quilting Group (10:30 – 2:30 pm) Lenten Study: <i>Eavesdropping on Peter</i> Coffee and Study (1:00 pm) Soup and Study (6:00 pm)
Sunday, Mar 3	Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor) Communion (10:00 worship service)

Looking Ahead: March 10: Potluck after the service

The deacons have started a new ministry: **"Helping Hands."** If you're stuck with a problem around your home feel free to give Brian Krohn a call to see if someone from the church can give you a hand. Be sure to pick up a card with his number on it from the side table in the Fellowship Hall, and put it on your refrigerator (or wherever you'll remember it when it's needed). His number is 360-580-1683.

As our facility becomes more busy, it's important that we have all meetings (and other uses of the building) on the church calendar. Please remember to arrange any events with Aries in the church office. Thanks.