

First Presbyterian/United Christian Church Worship

Sunday, May 4, 2025 at 10 am

*"Those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again.
It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life." (John 4:14)*

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.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

As the deer pants for streams of water,
so we long for you, O God.

We thirst for you, the living God.
When can we come and stand in your presence?

Through each day,
the Lord pours his unfailing love upon us.

Through each night
we sing his songs,
praying to the God who gives us life.

Send out your light and your truth, O God.
Let them guide us to Your holy mountain,
to the place where you live.

Then we will come to the altar of God,
to God—the source of our joy and delight.

Based on Psalms 42 and 43.

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HYMN #356: *COME THOU FOUNT*

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

CHOIR

READING AND PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Sermon: *"Jesus and the Woman at the Well"*

John 4:1–42

Jesus knew the Pharisees had heard that he was baptizing and making more disciples than John ² (though Jesus himself didn't baptize them—his disciples did).

³ So he left Judea and returned to Galilee.

⁴ He had to go through Samaria on the way. ⁵ Eventually he came to the Samaritan village of Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there; and Jesus, tired from the long walk, sat wearily beside the well about noontime. ⁷ Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Please give me a drink." ⁸ He was alone at the time because his disciples had gone into the village to buy some food.

⁹ The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans. She said to Jesus, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are you asking me for a drink?"

¹⁰ Jesus replied, "If you only knew the gift God has for you and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water."

¹¹ "But sir, you don't have a rope or a bucket," she said, "and this well is very deep. Where would you get this living water? ¹² And besides, do you think you're greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us this well? How can you offer better water than he and his sons and his animals enjoyed?"

¹³ Jesus replied, "Anyone who drinks this water will soon become thirsty again. ¹⁴ But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life."

¹⁵ "Please, sir," the woman said, "give me this water! Then I'll never be thirsty again, and I won't have to come here to get water."

¹⁶ "Go and get your husband," Jesus told her.

¹⁷ "I don't have a husband," the woman replied.

Jesus said, "You're right! You don't have a husband—¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and you aren't even married to the man you're living with now. You certainly spoke the truth!"

¹⁹ "Sir," the woman said, "you must be a prophet. ²⁰ So tell me, why is it that you Jews insist that Jerusalem is the only place of worship, while we Samaritans claim it is here at Mount Gerizim, where our ancestors worshiped?"

²¹ Jesus replied, "Believe me, dear woman, the time is coming when it will no longer matter whether you worship the Father on this mountain or in Jerusalem.

²² You Samaritans know very little about the one you worship, while we Jews know all about him, for salvation comes through the Jews. ²³ But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. ²⁴ For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth."

²⁵ The woman said, "I know the Messiah is coming—the one who is called Christ. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

²⁶ Then Jesus told her, "I AM the Messiah!"

²⁷ Just then his disciples came back. They were shocked to find him talking to a woman, but none of them had the nerve to ask, "What do you want with her?" or "Why are you talking to her?" ²⁸ The woman left her water jar beside the well and ran back to the village, telling everyone, ²⁹ "Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could he possibly be the Messiah?" ³⁰ So the people came streaming from the village to see him.

³¹ Meanwhile, the disciples were urging Jesus, "Rabbi, eat something."

³² But Jesus replied, "I have a kind of food you know nothing about."

³³ "Did someone bring him food while we were gone?" the disciples asked each other.

³⁴ Then Jesus explained: "My nourishment comes from doing the will of God, who sent me, and from finishing his work. ³⁵ You know the saying, 'Four months between planting and harvest.' But I say, wake up and look around. The fields are

already ripe for harvest. ³⁶ The harvesters are paid good wages, and the fruit they harvest is people brought to eternal life. What joy awaits both the planter and the harvester alike! ³⁷ You know the saying, 'One plants and another harvests.' And it's true. ³⁸ I sent you to harvest where you didn't plant; others had already done the work, and now you will get to gather the harvest."

³⁹ Many Samaritans from the village believed in Jesus because the woman had said, "He told me everything I ever did!" ⁴⁰ When they came out to see him, they begged him to stay in their village. So he stayed for two days, ⁴¹ long enough for many more to hear his message and believe. ⁴² Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not just because of what you told us, but because we have heard him ourselves. Now we know that he is indeed the Savior of the world."

RESPONDING 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 Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.*

Our communion bread is gluten-free,

Communion

The Apostles' Creed

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 will 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.*

*

FILL MY CUP LORD

Like the woman at the well, I was seeking
For things that could not satisfy.
And then I heard my Savior speaking—
"Draw from My well that never shall run dry."

*Fill my cup, Lord;
I lift it up Lord;
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul.
Bread of Heaven, feed me till I want no more.
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.*

There are millions in this world who are seeking
For pleasures earthly goods afford.
But none can match the wondrous treasure
That I find in Jesus Christ my Lord. *[Refrain]*

So my brother if the things that this world gives you
Leave hungers that won't pass away,
My blessed Lord will come and save you
If you kneel to Him and humbly pray. *[Refrain]*

"Fill My Cup, Lord" by Richard Blanchard.

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CALENDAR

TODAY	Choir Practice (9:00 in the Parlor) Sunday Worship with Communion (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
Tuesday, May 6	Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30) Worship at Channel Point (10:30–11:30)
Wednesday, May 7	Quilting Group (10:30–2:30)
Thursday, May 8	Session (7:00–8:30)
Saturday, May 10	Creation Station (11:00–1:00)
Sunday, May 11	Mother's Day Breakfast (8:30–9:30) Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)

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First Presbyterian Church of Aberdeen
420 N Broadway, Aberdeen, WA 98520

Pastor Chuck Guth: 847.800.7119 (cell) / chuck@aberdeenpres.org
Church Office: 360.532.1330 / office@aberdeenpres.org
Office Hours: 10 am – 2 pm (Monday, Wednesday – Friday)
aberdeenpres.org