

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

June 16, 2024 at 10 am

*"I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us." (Philippians 3:14)*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

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### ***"SEEK YE FIRST; MORE PRECIOUS THAN SILVER"***

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Seek ye first the kingdom of God,  
And His righteousness;  
And all these things  
Shall be added unto you:  
*Allelu, alleluia.*

Man shall not live by bread alone,  
But by ev'ry word  
That proceeds  
From the mouth of God:  
*Allelu, alleluia.*

Ask and it shall be given unto you;  
Seek and ye shall find;  
Knock and the door  
Shall be opened unto you:  
*Allelu, alleluia.*

*Lord, you are more precious than silver.  
Lord, you are more costly than gold.  
Lord, you are more beautiful than diamonds,  
And nothing I desire compares with you.*

*"Seek Ye First," by Karen Lafferty.*

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*"More Precious Than Silver" by Lynn DeShazo. © 1982 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; CCLI License # 1680430.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP (unison)**

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**Come, sing praises to God!  
Rejoice in his presence!  
For he is our God:  
a Father to the fatherless,  
and the defender of all who need protection;  
the One in whom the lonely find a home,  
and the prisoner finds release.**

\* *Please stand if you are able*

**Bless the Lord,  
the God of our salvation,  
who sustains and strengthens us,  
day after day!  
Let's worship God together!**

*Based on Psalm 68:4-5, 19.*

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**HYMN #263: "IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE"**

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Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above  
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;  
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
And wither and perish; but naught changeth Thee.

Thou reignest in glory, Thou rulest in light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

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**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsive)**

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Peter challenges Christians to live differently than the world around them  
with these instructions:

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority,  
**for this is the will of God.**

Live as people who are free, as servants of God.

**Show respect to everyone. Love the family of believers.  
Fear God. Honor the government.**

Confident in God's grace,  
let us confess the ways we have fallen short of His will for us.

*Silence for personal confession*

Heavenly Father, we have not been the people You call us to be.  
Hear our confession:

**Almighty God, all authority in heaven and on earth comes from You.  
We confess that we have failed to serve, honor and obey  
all those whom You have placed in authority over us,  
just as we have failed to serve, honor and obey You.  
We too often have abused our freedom,**

\* *Please stand if you are able*

**using it as a license to pursue our own way at the expense of others.  
Forgive our self-serving attitudes of selfishness, pride, and rebellion.  
Renew us, and lead us,  
so that we would walk in Your ways and bring glory to You. Amen.**

The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion. Jesus himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds we have been healed. Be at peace, your sins are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God!**

For Christ has set us free from sin and death  
**that we might live to God's glory and praise.**

**CHOIR**

**THANK YOU TO OUR CHOIR**

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**THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE**

Sermon: *"Joyful Living: With Eyes on the Prize"*

**Philippians 3:12-4:1**

I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. <sup>13</sup> No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

<sup>15</sup> Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you. <sup>16</sup> But we must hold on to the progress we have already made.

<sup>17</sup> Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example. <sup>18</sup> For I have told you often before, and I say it again with tears in my eyes, that there are many whose conduct shows they are really enemies of the cross of Christ. <sup>19</sup> They are headed for destruction. Their god is their appetite, they brag about shameful things, and they think only about this life here on earth. <sup>20</sup> But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. <sup>21</sup> He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.

<sup>4:1</sup> Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stay true to the Lord. I love you and long to see you, dear friends, for you are my joy and the crown I receive for my work.

**SOLO: "OH, I WANT TO KNOW YOU MORE"**

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**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**

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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**

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**HYMN #467: "HOW GREAT THOU ART"**

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O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed;

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!*

But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin; *[Refrain]*

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim, "My God, how great Thou art!" *[Refrain]*

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

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

WEBSITE: ABERDEENPRES.ORG

### CALENDAR

- TODAY**      Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor)  
                  Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)  
                  Father's Day Ice Cream Social (after the service)
- Tuesday, June 18**      Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)  
                                Worship at Channel Point (10:30)  
                                Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group (1:00 pm)  
                                Handbell Rehearsal (5:00 pm in the Sanctuary)
- Wednesday, June 19**      Quilting Group (10:30 – 2:30)
- Thursday, June 20**      Deacons' Meeting (6:00 pm)
- Sunday, June 23**      Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
- LOOKING AHEAD**      Sharing Table (Sunday, June 30, before and after the service)

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