

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

February 12, 2023 at 10 am

*"The LORD observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth,  
and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil. . . .  
It broke his heart." (Genesis 6:5-6)*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

\*

### **HYMN #288: "I SING THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD"**

---

I sing the mighty power of God  
That made the mountains rise;  
That spread the flowing seas abroad  
And built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
The sun to rule the day;  
The moon shines full at God's command,  
And all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord  
That filled the earth with food;  
God formed the creatures with a word  
And then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed,  
Where'er I turn my eyes;  
If I survey the ground I tread,  
Or gaze upon the skies!

There's not a plant or flower below  
But makes Thy glories known;  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
By order from Thy throne;  
While all that borrows life from Thee  
Is ever in Thy care,  
And everywhere that we can be,  
Thou, God, art present there.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION AND OUR WORLD**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)**

---

This is the day that the LORD has made;

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Open for us the gates of the righteous;  
We will enter and give thanks to the LORD.

\* Please stand if you are able

**We will give you thanks, for you answered us;  
you have become our salvation.**

The LORD is God,  
and he has made his light shine on us.

**Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
For his steadfast love endures forever!**

*Based on Psalm 118*

**CHOIR: "THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH"**

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

---

**Loving and gracious God,  
You have gone to great lengths to redeem us by Your Son Jesus Christ.  
Furthermore, You invite us into a life of hope, joy, and freedom.  
And yet, we forget.**

**We forget that You have sanctified us for greater things.  
We confess that we abandon You when our comfort is threatened.  
We admit that we get consumed with serving ourselves  
and our own interests. Have mercy on us.**

**Lord, cause us to turn our gaze squarely back on You.  
Speak to our fearful hearts.  
Forgive us and open our eyes and ears to a greater awareness of You,  
and to the adventure of living for Your glory each and every day.**

**May we represent You well this week,  
acting as instruments of Your hands and feet.  
We pray this humbly in Christ's Name. Amen.**

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

\*

**"SPEAK, O LORD"**

---

Speak O Lord as we come to You  
To receive the food of Your holy word;  
Take Your truth plant it deep in us  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness.  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith;  
Speak O Lord and fulfill in us  
All Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us Lord full obedience,  
Holy reverence true humility;  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise;  
Cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority;

\* *Please stand if you are able*

Words of power that can never fail,  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak O Lord and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,  
That will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak O Lord till Your church is built,  
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

*"Speak, O Lord," by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend.  
© 2005 Thankyou Music; CCLI License # 1680430.*

---

## THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

---

Sermon: *"How Bad Can It Get? Three Stories"*

### Genesis 4:1-16

Now Adam had sexual relations with his wife, Eve, and she became pregnant. When she gave birth to Cain, she said, "With the LORD's help, I have produced a man!"<sup>2</sup> Later she gave birth to his brother and named him Abel.

When they grew up, Abel became a shepherd, while Cain cultivated the ground.<sup>3</sup> When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the LORD.<sup>4</sup> Abel also brought a gift—the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The LORD accepted Abel and his gift,<sup>5</sup> but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected.

<sup>6</sup> "Why are you so angry?" the LORD asked Cain. "Why do you look so dejected?<sup>7</sup> You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master."

<sup>8</sup> One day Cain suggested to his brother, "Let's go out into the fields." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother, Abel, and killed him.

<sup>9</sup> Afterward the LORD asked Cain, "Where is your brother? Where is Abel?"

"I don't know," Cain responded. "Am I my brother's guardian?"

<sup>10</sup> But the LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground!<sup>11</sup> Now you are cursed and banished from the ground, which has swallowed your brother's blood.<sup>12</sup> No longer will the ground yield good crops for you, no matter how hard you work! From now on you will be a homeless wanderer on the earth."

<sup>13</sup> Cain replied to the LORD, "My punishment is too great for me to bear!<sup>14</sup> You have banished me from the land and from your presence; you have made me a homeless wanderer. Anyone who finds me will kill me!"

<sup>15</sup> The LORD replied, "No, for I will give a sevenfold punishment to anyone who kills you." Then the LORD put a mark on Cain to warn anyone who might try to kill him.<sup>16</sup> So Cain left the LORD's presence and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

## Genesis 6:5-8

<sup>5</sup> The LORD observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil. <sup>6</sup> So the LORD was sorry he had ever made them and put them on the earth. It broke his heart. <sup>7</sup> And the LORD said, "I will wipe this human race I have created from the face of the earth. Yes, and I will destroy every living thing—all the people, the large animals, the small animals that scurry along the ground, and even the birds of the sky. I am sorry I ever made them." <sup>8</sup> But Noah found favor with the LORD.

## Genesis 11:1-4

At one time all the people of the world spoke the same language and used the same words. <sup>2</sup> As the people migrated to the east, they found a plain in the land of Babylonia and settled there.

<sup>3</sup> They began saying to each other, "Let's make bricks and harden them with fire." (In this region bricks were used instead of stone, and tar was used for mortar.) <sup>4</sup> Then they said, "Come, let's build a great city for ourselves with a tower that reaches into the sky. This will make us famous and keep us from being scattered all over the world."

<sup>5</sup> But the LORD came down to look at the city and the tower the people were building. <sup>6</sup> "Look!" he said. "The people are united, and they all speak the same language. After this, nothing they set out to do will be impossible for them! <sup>7</sup> Come, let's go down and confuse the people with different languages. Then they won't be able to understand each other."

## 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.*

\*

### 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.

## ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS

\*

### HYMN #428: "WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN"

---

We give Thee but Thine own,  
Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

\* Please stand if you are able

May we Thy bounties thus  
As stewards true receive,  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,  
To Thee our firstfruits give.

To comfort and to bless,  
To find a balm for woe,  
To tend the lonely in distress,  
Is angels' work below.

The captive to release,  
To God the lost to bring,  
To teach the way of life and peace—  
It is a Christ-like thing.

And we believe Thy Word,  
Though dim our faith may be;  
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,  
We do it unto Thee.

### **BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

420 N Broadway, Aberdeen, WA 98520

Pastor Chuck Guth (cell) 847.800.7119 email: [chuck@aberdeenpres.org](mailto:chuck@aberdeenpres.org)  
(office) 360.532.1331

Church Office: 360.532.1330 email: [office@aberdeenpres.org](mailto:office@aberdeenpres.org)

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](http://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

**TODAY, February 12** Potluck (after the 10:00 service)  
Youth Group (after the potluck)

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

**Wed, February 22** Ash Wednesday Service (6:00/7:00 pm)