

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

March 12, 2023 at 10 am

"By faith Isaac promised blessings for the future to his sons, Jacob and Esau." (Hebrews 11:20)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*

HYMN #139: "COME THOU ALMIGHTY KING"

Come, Thou Almighty King,
Help us Thy name to sing, Help us to praise:
Father, all-glorious, O'er all victorious,
Come, and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, Thou Incarnate Word,
Gird on Thy mighty sword, Our prayer attend:
Come, and Thy people bless, And give Thy word success;
Spirit of holiness, On us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear In this glad hour:
Thou who almighty art, Now rule in every heart,
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

To Thee, great One in Three,
The highest praises be, Hence evermore!
Thy sovereign majesty May we in glory see,
And to eternity Love and adore.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

*

"SEEK YE FIRST"

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.

"Seek Ye First," by Karen Lafferty.

© 1972 CCCM Music/Universal Music—Brentwood Benson Publishing; CCLI License # 1680430.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER (unison)

**Holy and loving God,
as we worship you today in this season of Lent,
we long for your Spirit to both comfort and challenge us,
to help us become more holy and more loving.
In a world that does not understand repentance,
we pray for new understanding, humility, patience, and discipline
that will help us die to sin and live for Jesus.**

**We acknowledge our brokenness, our sinfulness;
In your mercy, forgive us that we might be
faithful subjects of your kingdom.**

**Journey with us, Holy God,
as we continue our way to the cross;
Prepare our hearts that we might fully respond
to your Son and our risen Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.**

CHOIR: "PSALM 96: SING UNTO THE LORD"

THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: *"A Growing Family (and Family Dysfunction)"*

Genesis 25:19–26

This is the account of the family of Isaac, the son of Abraham.²⁰ When Isaac was forty years old, he married Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean from Paddan-aram and the sister of Laban the Aramean.

²¹ Isaac pleaded with the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was unable to have children. The LORD answered Isaac's prayer, and Rebekah became pregnant with twins.²² But the two children struggled with each other in her womb. So she went to ask the LORD about it. "Why is this happening to me?" she asked.

²³ And the LORD told her, "The sons in your womb will become two nations. From the very beginning, the two nations will be rivals. One nation will be stronger than the other; and your older son will serve your younger son."

²⁴ And when the time came to give birth, Rebekah discovered that she did indeed have twins!²⁵ The first one was very red at birth and covered with thick hair like a fur coat. So they named him Esau.²⁶ Then the other twin was born with his hand grasping Esau's heel. So they named him Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when the twins were born.

Genesis 35:1-4, 9-15

Then God said to Jacob, “Get ready and move to Bethel and settle there. Build an altar there to the God who appeared to you when you fled from your brother, Esau.”

² So Jacob told everyone in his household, “Get rid of all your pagan idols, purify yourselves, and put on clean clothing. ³ We are now going to Bethel, where I will build an altar to the God who answered my prayers when I was in distress. He has been with me wherever I have gone.”

⁴ So they gave Jacob all their pagan idols and earrings, and he buried them under the great tree near Shechem. . . .

Now that Jacob had returned from Paddan-aram, God appeared to him again at Bethel. God blessed him, ¹⁰ saying, “Your name is Jacob, but you will not be called Jacob any longer. From now on your name will be Israel.” So God renamed him Israel.

¹¹ Then God said, “I am El-Shaddai—‘God Almighty.’ Be fruitful and multiply. You will become a great nation, even many nations. Kings will be among your descendants! ¹² And I will give you the land I once gave to Abraham and Isaac. Yes, I will give it to you and your descendants after you.” ¹³ Then God went up from the place where he had spoken to Jacob.

¹⁴ Jacob set up a stone pillar to mark the place where God had spoken to him. Then he poured wine over it as an offering to God and anointed the pillar with olive oil. ¹⁵ And Jacob named the place Bethel (which means “house of God”), because God had spoken to him there.

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.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: “HEIDELBERG CONFESSION, Q21”

Q:

What is true faith?

A:

**True faith is a sure knowledge whereby I accept as true
all that God has revealed to us in his Word.**

**At the same time it is a firm confidence that not only to others, but also to me,
God has granted forgiveness of sins,
everlasting righteousness, and salvation,
out of mere grace, only for the sake of Christ's merits.**

This faith the Holy Spirit works in my heart by the gospel.

“CHRIST OUR HOPE IN LIFE AND DEATH”

What is our hope in life and death
 Christ alone Christ alone
 What is our only confidence
 That our souls to Him belong
 Who holds our days within His hand
 What comes apart from His command
 And what will keep us to the end
 The love of Christ in which we stand.

*O sing hallelujah
 Our hope springs eternal
 O sing hallelujah
 Now and ever we confess
 Christ our hope in life and death.*

What truth can calm the troubled soul
 God is good God is good
 Where is His grace and goodness known
 In our great Redeemer's blood
 Who holds our faith when fears arise
 Who stands above the stormy trial
 Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
 Unto the shore the rock of Christ. [REFRAIN]

Unto the grave what will we sing
 Christ He lives Christ He lives
 And what reward will heaven bring
 Everlasting life with Him
 There we will rise to meet the Lord
 Then sin and death will be destroyed
 And we will feast in endless joy
 When Christ is ours forevermore. [REFRAIN]

“Christ Our Hope in Life and Death”

*by Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, and Matthew Merker,
 © 2020 Getty Music Hymns and Songs, et al.; CCLI License # 1680430*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

420 N Broadway, Aberdeen, WA 98520

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

Church Office: 360.532.1330 email: 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

CALENDAR

- TODAY, Mar 12** Youth Group (4:30 pm)
- Wednesdays** Lent Coffee & Study (1:00 pm);
Mar 15, 22, 29 Lent Soup & Study (6:00 pm)
- Thursday, Mar 16** Deacons (6:00 pm)
- Sunday, Mar 19** **Celebration of the Church's 135th Anniversary**
Potluck (after the 10:00 service)
- Tuesday, Mar 21** Worship at Channel Point (10:30)
Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group (1:00 pm)
- Saturday, Mar 25** Feast For All (5:00 – 7:00)
- Sunday, Mar 26** Youth Group (4:30 pm)