

***Worship at First Presbyterian Church***  
***Sunday, October 13, 2024 at 10 am***

*"Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

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**HYMN #210: O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST (verses 1-3, 5)**

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O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home:

Before the hills in order stood,  
Or earth received its frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God,  
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight  
Are like an evening gone;  
Short as the watch that ends the night  
Before the rising sun.

Our God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while life shall last,  
And our eternal home.

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

**CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)**

*I will listen to what God the LORD says;  
he promises peace to his people . . . .  
Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,  
that his glory may dwell in our land.  
Love and faithfulness meet together;  
righteousness and peace kiss each other.  
Faithfulness springs forth from the earth,  
and righteousness looks down from heaven.*

**We meet you here, Lord,  
at the intersection of love and faithfulness.**

Here prayer and praise join hands,  
scripture is embraced,  
and our voices unite in hymns to you.

\* *Please stand if you are able*

**Speak tenderly to our hearts in this hour of worship,  
God of all Creation,  
and show us the path to peace. Amen.**

*The opening portion, in italics, is from Psalm 85:8–11.*

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**LIKE A RIVER GLORIOUS**

Like a river glorious is God's perfect peace,  
over all victorious in its bright increase:  
perfect, yet still flowing fuller every day;  
perfect, yet still growing deeper all the way.

*Trusting in the Father, hearts are fully blest,  
finding, as he promised, perfect peace and rest.*

Hidden in the hollow of his mighty hand,  
where no harm can follow, in his strength we stand.

We may trust him fully all for us to do;  
those who trust him wholly find him wholly true. [Refrain]

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

**Gracious and merciful God:**

**You are all-wise and You know us inside and out.  
We come to You now only too aware of the darkness and sin in our lives.**

**We confess that we have said and done things  
that are against Your will and that have hurt others.  
Our words have not reflected Your grace, goodness, and mercy.  
Our deeds have often revealed our pride, self-centeredness, and apathy.  
We have often been too busy to stop and listen to Your voice.  
We too often fail to live like Jesus, and to rest in You.**

**Lord, we are sorry and we ask for your forgiveness.**

**Holy Spirit, fill us with Your hope and peace.**

***Hear us now as we continue to confess our sins in silence . . . .***

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

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**HYMN #341: BLESSED ASSURANCE**

Blessed assurance: Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

*This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels, descending, bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *[Refrain]*

Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with His goodness, lost in His love. *[Refrain]*

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## READING AND PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Sermon: *"The Promise of Peace"*

### **John 14:27**

"I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid."

### **Romans 5:1-2**

Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. <sup>2</sup> Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory.

### **Ephesians 2:14-18**

For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us. <sup>15</sup> He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups. <sup>16</sup> Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death.

<sup>17</sup> He brought this Good News of peace to you Gentiles who were far away from him, and peace to the Jews who were near. <sup>18</sup> Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us.

### **Philippians 4:6-7**

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. <sup>7</sup> Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

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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**

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.

\* *Please stand if you are able*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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### *CHRIST THE SURE AND STEADY ANCHOR*

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Christ, the sure and steady anchor,  
In the fury of the storm;  
When the winds of doubt blow through me,  
And my sails have all been torn,  
In the suffering, in the sorrow,  
When my sinking hopes are few,  
I will hold fast to the anchor,  
It shall never be removed.

Christ, the sure and steady anchor,  
While the tempest rages on;  
When temptation claims the battle,  
And it seems the night has won,  
Deeper still then goes the anchor,  
Though I justly stand accused,  
I will hold fast to the anchor,  
It shall never be removed.

Christ, the sure and steady anchor,  
Through the floods of unbelief;  
Hopeless somehow, O my soul, now,  
Lift your eyes to Calvary.  
This my ballast of assurance,  
See His love forever proved,  
I will hold fast to the anchor,  
It shall never be removed.

Christ, the sure and steady anchor,  
As we face the wave of death;  
When these trials give way to glory,  
And we draw our final breath,  
We will cross that great horizon,  
Clouds behind and life secure,  
And the calm will be the better,  
For the storms that we've endured.

Christ, the shore of our salvation,  
Ever faithful, ever true,  
We will hold fast to the anchor,  
It shall never be removed.

*"Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor" by Matthew Boswell and Matthew Papa.*  
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### **BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

\* Please stand if you are able

## Calendar

- TODAY** Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor)  
Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)  
Potluck (after the service)
- Tuesday, Oct. 15** Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)  
Worship at Channel Point (10:30)  
Alzheimer’s Caregivers Support Group (1:00 pm)
- Wednesday, Oct. 16** Quilting Group (10:30 – 2:30)
- Thursday, Oct. 17** Deacons’ Meeting (6:00 pm)
- Sunday, Oct. 20** Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor)  
Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
- LOOKING AHEAD** Oct. 30, Soup and Study: *From Manuscript to Translations*  
Coffee and Study (1:00 pm)  
Soup and Study (6:00 pm)  
Oct. 31, Halloween “Coffee for Parents” (5:00 – 8:00)  
Nov. 2, Spaghetti Dinner/Craft Fair Fundraiser (5:00–7:00)

## Church Financial Update (through September)

Actual Expenses to Date: \$147,810 Giving to Date: \$143,044  
*Thank you for your faithful and generous support of our church and its mission!*

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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](mailto:chuck@aberdeenpres.org)

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

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

[aberdeenpres.org](http://aberdeenpres.org)