

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

May 26, 2024 at 10 am

*"Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life."
(Philippians 2:15-16)*

PRELUDE

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"REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS"

Rejoice in the Lord always,
Again I say rejoice;
Rejoice in the Lord always,
Again I say rejoice.
Rejoice, rejoice,
Again I say rejoice;
Rejoice, rejoice,
Again I say rejoice. *[Repeat once]*

*"Rejoice In the Lord Always," by Evelyn Turner;
© 1967 Curb Word Music; CCLI License # 1680430.*

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Here today there is love, freely available to all.
Not our human loving, fragile and intermittent,
but God's supreme love.

**Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth,
break forth into joyous songs of praise.**

Here today is love, higher than our loftiest hopes,
deeper than the immensities of time and space,
God's all-encompassing love.

**Let the seas roar their praise,
and everything in them.**

**Let the rivers clap their hands
and the hills sing together their happiness.**

The joy of the living Christ Jesus be with us all
as we worship our loving and Triune God together.

Based on Psalm 98, John 15:9-17.

* *Please stand if you are able*

*

HYMN #145: "REJOICE YOU PURE IN HEART"

Rejoice you pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high,
The cross of Christ your King.

Rejoice! rejoice!

Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

Yes, on through life's long path,
Still chanting as you go;
From youth to age, by night and day,
In gladness and in woe. *[Refrain]*

At last the march shall end;
The wearied ones shall rest;
The pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. *[Refrain]*

Then on, you pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high,
The cross of Christ your King. *[Refrain]*

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"WONDERFUL, MERCIFUL SAVIOR"

Wonderful merciful Savior,
Precious Redeemer and Friend,
Who would have thought that a Lamb
Could rescue the souls of men;
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

You are the One that we praise;

You are the One we adore;

You give the healing and grace

Our hearts always hunger for,

Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper,
Spirit we long to embrace,
You offer hope when our hearts
Have hopelessly lost the way;
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way. *[Refrain]*

Almighty, infinite, Father,
Faithfully loving Your own;
Here in our weakness You find us,
Falling before Your throne;
Oh, we're falling before Your throne. *[Refrain]*

*"Wonderful Merciful Savior" by Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse,
© 1989 Curb Dayspring Music; CCLI License # 1680430*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)

Merciful God,
you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.
We humbly confess our sins and ask for your mercy.
We so often stray from your ways like lost sheep,
following the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We too seldom love you with a pure heart;
We find it hard to love our neighbors as ourselves.
We too quickly forget your call to be passionate for justice,
to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you.
Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.
In your great compassion,
cleanse us from our sin.
Create in us a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.
Do not cast us from your presence,
or take your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(Based on Isaiah 53:6, Micah 6:8, and Psalm 51:10-12)

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

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"OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART, LORD"

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord;
Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see You; I want to see You.
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord;
Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see You; I want to see You.
To see You high and lifted up,
Shinin' in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy:
Holy, holy, holy;
We cry holy, holy, holy.
You are holy, holy, holy,
I want to see you.

*"Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord," by Paul Baloche
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THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Sermon: *"Joyful Living: Like Stars in a Dark Sky"*

Philippians 2:12-18

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

¹⁴ Do everything without grumbling or arguing, ¹⁵ so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky ¹⁶ as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain.

¹⁷ But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. ¹⁸ So you too should be glad and rejoice with me.

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“THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE”

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine;
Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine;
Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

All around the neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine;
All around the neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine;
All around the neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.

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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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

* Please stand if you are able

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HYMN #339: "BE THOU MY VISION"

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art—
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

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Church Office: 360.532.1330 email: office@aberdeenpres.org

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

WEBSITE: ABERDEENPRES.ORG

CALENDAR

TODAY	Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
Tuesday, May 28	Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30) Handbell Rehearsal (5:00 pm in the Sanctuary)
Wednesday, May 29	Quilting Group (10:30 – 2:30)
Sunday, June 2	Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor) Sunday Worship with Communion (10:00 in the Sanctuary)

* *Please stand if you are able*