

<sup>16</sup> I pray that, according to the riches of his glory,  
he may grant that you may be strengthened in your  
inner being with power through his Spirit, <sup>17</sup> and  
that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith,  
as you are being rooted and grounded in love.

*Ephesians 3:16–17*



## Abington Presbyterian Church

October 31, 2021

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Pledge Sunday & Reformation Sunday

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**31<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost    October 31, 2021**

**GATHERING**

*The people gather wherever they may in response to God's call, offering praise in words of scripture, prayer, and song. The people acknowledge their sinfulness and receive the good news of God's forgiveness.*

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP**      *A time for quiet preparation before worship*

O God, by the power of your word and work, transform us. By the wisdom of your counsel, teach us. Direct our thoughts and actions. Be our Deliverer, surrounding us with love that is eternal and joy that is complete. Amen.

**PRELUDE**

Aria

*Flor Peeters*

**LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

To God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever!

**God's power is at work within us to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine!**

According to the riches of God's glory and the power of God's Spirit, we have been blessed and strengthened.

**Christ dwells in our hearts through faith that we may be rooted and grounded in love.**

God grants us power to comprehend love's breadth and length, its height and depth.

**The love of Christ surpasses knowledge and fills us with the fullness of God!**

**\* HYMN 624**

I Greet Thee Who My Sure Redeemer Art

TOULON

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy God, we come before you in humility,**

**for we do not live as we ought.**

**We do not love you with our whole heart and mind and strength.**

**We do not love our neighbor as ourselves.**

**So we pray, in all humility,**

**that you will change our hearts and minds,**

**that you will show us again how to love others the way you love us,**

**That you will put power and courage in our hearts to do your will.**

**This we pray in Jesus' name.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The wideness of God's mercy, the range of God's forgiveness, the infinite love of God are given to us in order to restore us to the fullness of life meant for us –

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

\* RESPONSE

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Hymn #582

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

\* THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*Greet one another with the sign of peace.*

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

ANTHEM

Christ Has Broken Down the Wall

*Mark A. Miller*

*The Chapel Choir sings an anthem drawn from the imagery of Ephesians 2:14 in a text by the composer.*

Christ has broken down the wall. Christ has broken down the wall.  
Let us join our hearts as one. Christ has broken down the wall.

Christ has broken down the wall. Christ has broken down the wall.  
Let us join our hearts as one. Christ has broken down the wall.

We're accepted as we are. We're accepted as we are.  
Through God's love all is reconciled. We're accepted as we are.

Cast aside your doubts and fears. Cast aside your doubts and fears.  
Peace and love, freely offered here; cast aside your doubts and fears.

We will tear down the walls! We will tear down every wall!  
God has called us one and all. Christ has broken down the wall.  
Christ has broken down the wall.

**WORD**

*God's Word is read and its message is proclaimed in scripture, music and interpretation.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 1:1-3

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 3:14-21

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rooted and Rising

*The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill*

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*from A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.  
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,  
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,  
and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.  
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,  
engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.  
In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

\* HYMN 833

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

ST. MARGARET

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom  
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day  
our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine  
is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

THANKSGIVING & SENDING

*After the proclamation of God's Word, we respond with gratitude prepared to go  
into the world where we are called to live according to God's will.*

OFFERTORY

O Love

Elaine Hagenberg

*The Chancel Choir shares a new musical setting of Hymn 833, verses 1 and 3.*

\* DOXOLOGY

Hymn 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\* HYMN 536

Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen

SURGE ECCLESIA

\* BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE

Processional

*William Mathias*

*[some announcements follow]*

**Worship Leaders:**

**Preacher:** The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

**Liturgist:** The Rev. Aaron Twitchell

**Chapel and Chancel Choirs:** John Sall, director

**Cello:** Mary Felley

**Organ:** Erik Meyer

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**In need of special prayers this week:** Len Browna, Sylvia Jolly, MM Harris, Herb Harris, Doris Boerner, Helen Porter (mother of Joe Porter), Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Linda Maisenhelder, Christine Kim (wife of Stephen Kim), Will Pompilli (son of Teresa Pompilli), Wayne Gibbons, Jr., Susan Arnhold (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Kris and Erik Reidenbach (friends of Sally Adams), Judy Meissner, Nina DiTimasso and Audrina Rose (friends of Anne-Marie Constable), Barb Kelly, Susan Johnson, John and Phyllis Frazier, Robin Cupo, Laura Lafferty, Emil Kupper, Joanne Lieb (friend of Ian & Amy Beck), Erma Yerkes.

**For Pastoral Care:** To notify the church of an illness, hospitalization, death, or to request prayer, contact a minister or call your Deacon or the Church Office at (215) 887-4530.

Abington Presbyterian Church celebrates God’s infinite love and believes all people are equal in the eyes of God. We welcome all to worship and serve with us. We seek to work together to oppose intolerance, racism, and injustice that threaten the unity of humankind.