

²³ Search me, O God, and know
my heart;
test me and know my
thoughts.
²⁴ See if there is any wicked way
in me,
and lead me in the way
everlasting.

Psalm 139:23–24



Abington Presbyterian Church

July 23, 2023

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

8th Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
July 23, 2023

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 your power may we, with all the saints, comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that we may be filled with your fullness. Amen.

PRELUDE

Pastorale #3: Andante

Valentin Rathgeber, arr. Alan Hawkins

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

There is none like you, O Lord,
nor are there any works like yours.
All the nations you have made shall come
and bow down before you, O Lord,
and shall glorify your name.
For you are great and do wondrous things,
you alone are God.

***HYMN 5**

God the Sculptor of the Mountains

JENNINGS-HOUSTON

(* - Indicates all who are able may stand)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love.
We have not loved our neighbors,
and we have refused to hear the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience.
Relying on your unmerited grace,
help us to be patient and forgiving of ourselves and others,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***HYMN OF PRAISE 581** **Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me**

**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 Christ's peace.*

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

WORD

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

All Children are welcome to attend Summer Sunday School in the Children's Choir Room.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING **Isaiah 44:1-8**

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

SCRIPTURE READING **Psalm 86:11-17**

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

SOLO ANTHEM

**My Master Hath a Garden
My Master hath a garden
Full-filled with diverse flowers,
Where thou may'st gather posies gay
All times and hours,
Where nought is heard but paradise bird,
Harp, dulcimer, and lute,
With cymbal and timbrel
And the gentle sounding flute.**

Richard Hundley

**O Jesus, Lord, my heal and weal,
My bliss complete,
Make thou my heart thy garden plot**

True, fair, and neat;
That I may hear this music clear:
Harp, dulcimer, and lute,
With cymbal and timbrel
And the gentle sounding flute.

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 13:24-30
The Word of the Lord ... Thanks be to God.

SERMON PATIENCE AND GRACE *The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton*

*HYMN 833 O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go ST. MARGARET

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from The Letter to the Romans, Chapter 8*

**We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

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**

THANKSGIVING and 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 Hallelujah *Leonard Cohen, arr. Kate Agioritis*

*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 547**

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

AR HYDY NOS

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Pastorale #5: Allegro

Valentin Rathgeber, arr. Alan Hawkins

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton

Liturgist: Kim Mormello

Children's Message: Ruth Sall

Bassoon Trio: Benjamin Hoyle, Karen Hoyle, Timora Thurston

Soloist: Ruth Sall

Organ: Erik Meyer

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In need of special prayers this week: Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Linda Maisenhelder, Will Pompilli (son of Teresa Pompilli), Wayne Gibbons, Jr., Judy Meissner, Susan Johnson, John and Phyllis Frazier, Robin Cupo, Laura Lafferty, Emil Kupper, Victor Johnson III (Pete Johnson's nephew), Laurie Betts, Sally Hardy, Katie Link, Jennifer Edward (friend of Nick Cupo), Karen Dirks, Marilyn DeBacco (mother of Barb Foy), Ted Hyczko, Shawn London (William Coles' daughter), Bill Kostik (Shelia Jackson's brother), Gordy Hawkinson (Nick Cupo's Uncle), Jen Klauder (friend of Cindi Willis), Valerie Steigerwalt (niece of Marlyn Whyte), John Connelly (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Jim Holman (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Paul Costello Family, Mary Ann Wherry, Kirby Lawrence Hill, Miriam Whitten, Carol Young (friend of Bill Gustafson), Gina Marshall (Cynthia Browna's sister-in-law), Bob Browna (Len Browna's brother), Russell Warner (son-in-law of Mary DeVan).

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.

Joys: Our church family would like to celebrate and share joys in our midst including the arrival of a child, grandchild, or great-grandchild in your family. Please let Susan in the office know about these happy events that we may share here.



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.

ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Founded 1714

1082 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001

Phone: (215) 887-4530 Fax: (215) 887-5988 E-mail: jthornton@apcusa.org

Web Site: www.apcusa.org

The Reverend Dr. James W. Thornton, *Head of Staff*

Mrs. Tia McCoun, *Congregational Care Associate*

Ruth Ideen-Sall, B.M., *Interim Director of Christian Education*

John Sall, M.M., *Director of Music Ministries*

Eric Meyer, *Organist*

The Rev. Ashley Rossi & Justin Feil, *Youth Fellowship Coordinators*

Simple Gifts 8:00am Service is moving outdoors for the summer beginning Sunday, June 4th.



Outdoor Worship Service



Nursery Care— is offered for children birth through toddler in the nursery and the toddler rooms (110 and 112)

Summer Sunday School— for children preschool through 2nd grades. Come join a one-room-schoolhouse class every Sunday at 10am in the Children's Choir Room located under the sanctuary in the basement. Children will enjoy playing together, hearing a Bible story, doing a short craft, eating a snack, and conclude with time on the church playground. Older children are welcome to be helpers during the class, as well. For more information, please see Mrs. Sall.



Our next book is

One Giant Leap: The Impossible Mission That Flew Us to the Moon by Charles Fishman (480 pages).

Our next meeting is Tuesday **July 25 at 7PM** in the Parlor.

The APC's Anti-Racism Team will have a Book Study in August on Tuesday evenings at 7PM in the church parlor. The featured book will be "The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness" by Michelle Alexander. The book is available in paperback and is 312 pages long. All are welcome!

Please come and add your voice to this important discussion: August 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th - don't worry if you have to miss one or two sessions due to vacation or other obligations, your participation would still be encouraged and impactful.

Youth News:

DATE CHANGE FOR BEACH DAY: Beach Day will be Saturday, August 26 for all youth going into 6th grade up to Class of 2023. We will spend the day in Ocean City, N.J. Meet at APC at 8 a.m. Return by 11 p.m.



2023 2nd Quarter Contribution Statements

The 2nd quarter contribution statements were mailed; look for them in your email or mailbox.

Emailed statements will have the following message in the "From Line" and "Subject line" since they are sent through our vendor, CCIS:

From line: support@ccissoftware.com

Subject line: Contribution Detail - Etc.

If you changed your email, please send an email to jthurlow@apcusa.org requesting your email to be updated including whether "individual name and/or family update".

Thank you! Any questions, please contact Jackie Thurlow in the Church Office.

GEMMA SERVICES changes lives by transforming hope into action for children, youth and families facing emotional and behavioral challenges. Those served often are impacted by loss, unexpected challenges, or serious traumas such as abuse, neglect and/or addiction. Gemma Services offers education programs, mental health services in residential and community settings, foster care, adoption services and prevention programs.
(gemmaservices.org)

2023 Backpack and School Supply Collection June 19 through July 31

Help children served by Gemma begin school with all the right stuff!

SUPPLY LIST

Backpack – *gender neutral please!*

3 composition books

4 2-pocket folders

1 box of pencils

1 large eraser

1 box crayons

1 package colored pencils or markers

2 glue sticks (no paste or liquid glue)



Please bring your filled back pack to APC and leave it outside the church office no later than July 31st. Any questions, please contact Mission Council (Georgene at gapilling25@gmail.com).

This QR Code takes you to the donation
page on our APC website

