

46 They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. 47 When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Mark 10:46-47



I pray that...Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:17-19

Abington Presbyterian Church

October 29, 2023

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Commitment Sunday

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Reformation Sunday
ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
October 29, 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, pour out your Spirit of grace and love.
Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts, that with steady minds
and burning zeal we may worship you in spirit and in truth. Amen.

PRELUDE

Improvisation on "O Quanta Qualia"

Erik Meyer

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 34

Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
O magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt God's name together.
O taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are those who take refuge in God.

***HYMN 386**

Come, Worship God (Psalm 95)

O QUANTA QUALIA

(* - Indicates all who are able may stand)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of joy and God of life,
we come before you as a people hungry for mercy.
We have been so blind to your movement in the world
that we have failed to notice blessing after blessing.
We have preoccupied ourselves with pleasures
and have overlooked the joy you offer us.
We have been so concerned with making a living
that we have missed the life you set among us.
Forgive us, gracious God.
Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your gift of grace;
open our lips and hands to share it with all humanity
in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE HYMN 477 Thy Mercy and Thy Truth (Psalm 36)

TALLIS' ORDINAL

Thy mercy and thy truth, O Lord,
transcend the lofty sky;
thy judgments are a mighty deep,
and as the mountains high.

Lord, all thy creatures thou wilt save.
Since thou art ever kind,
beneath the shadow of thy wings
we may a refuge find.

*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 Grades are dismissed to Sunday School

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 34:1-8

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 7:23-28

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 10:46-52

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

ANTHEM

Hail To the Lord's Anointed

Timothy Shaw

Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captives free,
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He shall pour down his blessings upon the barren earth;
faith, hope, and love together before him spring to birth.
Upon the mountains with him shall peace and gladness go;
and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

He comes with consolation to those who suffer wrong;
and for the poor and needy, the courage to be strong:
he offers songs for singing, turns darkness into light, for souls,
condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.

Kings shall fall down before him, their royal tribute bring;
all nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing.
Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
Hail the anointed One!

SERMON

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton

*HYMN 334

With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring (Psalm 138)

ST. PETERSBURG

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from The Heidelberg Catechism

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong -- body and soul,
in life and in death -- to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.
He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.
He also watches over me in such a way
that not a hair can fall from my head
without the will of my Father in heaven;
in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.
Because I belong to him,
Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life
and makes me wholeheartedly willing
and ready from now on to live for him.

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.*

A COMMITMENT OF STEWARDSHIP

(Please come forward during the Offertory and place
both your offering and your 2024 pledge in the basket)

OFFERTORY

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love

arr. Lloyd Larson

*The Chapel Choir offers an arrangement of a folk-style song from the Christian community in Ghana
praying to be filled with the spirit of Jesus, a spirit of faithful servanthood. It can followed as hymn #203.*

***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 34**

Bless the Lord, My Soul and Being (Psalm 104)

RUSTINGTON

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

TOCCATA

Giovanni Martini

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton

Liturgist: Kim Mormello

Children's Message: Ruth Sall

Organ: Erik Meyer

Chancel Choir: John Sall, director

Chapel Choir: Ruth Sall and John Sall, co-directors

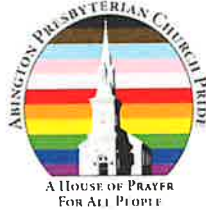
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For Pastoral Care: To notify the church of an illness, hospitalization, death, or to request prayer, contact a minister or call your Deacon or the Church Office at (215) 887-4530.

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, 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, Miriam Whitten, Marian Poole, Leigh Shull, Victor V. Johnson, Jr, Carolyn Ming, Richard Decembrino family, Olive Biggs, Stephen Krewson.

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 Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton, *Head of Staff*

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*

ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN LIFE

October 29, 2023

10:00 AM				
AGE/GRADE	ROOM	TEACHER	TOPIC	Pick Up
Birth– 2 year olds	110-112	Childcare	Childcare	110-112
Preschool	221	Christine Sacco	Noah– Rainbow & Promise	221
K—2nd Grades	Richard Treat Room (71)	Ruth Sall	Art	Parish Hall
3rd—5th Grades	Richard Treat Room (71)	Ruth Sall	Art	Parish Hall

Children ages 30 months through 5th grade attend Sunday School during the 10am service. Preschool classes start at 10am and are listed in the grid. Kindergarten through 5th graders start the worship service with their families and proceed to their classrooms after the Children's Moment. All children are welcome to attend Sunday School. If you are a visitor today, please feel free to accompany your child to his or her classroom.

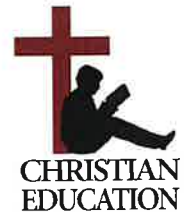


Nursery Care— is offered for children birth through toddler in the nursery and the toddler rooms (110 and 112)

Christian Education Offerings

8:45am

- Middle School Sunday School at 8:45am in the Parish Hall basement. All 6th - 8th graders are welcome to join us.
- Confirmation Class, contact Bill Stock for more information.
- Adult Education at 8:45am in the Parlor.
- For more information contact Ruth Sall at 215-887-4530 or rsall@apcusa.org.



TODAY—Adult Forum—The Symbolic Meaning of Numbers in the Bible

Have you ever wondered why the number 40 appears so many times in the Bible – in Genesis it rained 40 days and 40 nights; the Israelites wandered in the desert 40 years; Jesus fasted 40 days? In fact, the number 40 shows up 159 times. Why? Of course, that doesn't come close to the number 7, which shows up over 700 times. What does that mean?

At the 8:45 Adult Forum TODAY, Pastor Jim will teach a class on The Symbolic Meaning of Numbers in the Bible. Come and enjoy!

Is your world too noisy? You might be interested in a newly forming group at APC called “**Circles of Trust.**” The format of a Circle is simple and beautiful. For one hour we will focus on quiet reading, meditation, and prayer. One or more small groups (4-8 people) will meet monthly on a day and time that is most convenient for the group.

If you'd like to learn more about this calming and quiet practice please join us for a brief meeting in the **Chapel TODAY after the 10 am service.** Questions? Speak to Donna Dykstra at 201-390-7069 or Tia McCoun at 215-887-4530.

APC GIVING

	YTD 9/30/23	YTD 9/30/22	Annual 2023 Budget
Income	\$473,811	\$486,944	\$658,500
Expenses	\$518,250	\$554,818	\$728,500
(Deficit)/Surplus	(\$44,439)	(\$67,874)	(\$70,000)

The Property Committee needs your help!

Do you have experience in the application process for Federal or State Grant monies? If so, the Property Committee would be interested in your assistance!

Please contact Mike Palumbo at mpalumbo42@gmail.com for more information.

Don't get rid of your leftover Halloween candy. Donate it!



APC Youth Group will have a box outside the church office after Halloween to collect leftover candy that we'll make into care packages for college and college-aged students. All candy should be turned in by Nov. 12 please.

CARE PACKAGES: Do you have a college student or college aged child? If so, we will be sending them care packages. Please send their name and address to jen-nie.colt@gmail.com or justinfeil4@gmail.com by Nov. 12.

YOUTH NEWS

Upcoming Youth Calendar highlights:

TODAY 10/29:

Halloween Fun -- Please come dressed up 4-5:30!

11/10 - Middle School Lock-In 7 p.m. - 9 a.m.

11/18 - Service at Share in Philadelphia



Share service opportunity

Who: Youth 13 years old and above. Limited to 15 people! Look for sign-up in weekly email.

What: Warehouse Packing, Car packing: pack up DoorDash cars with Senior Food Box Program boxes, Produce sorting, Cleaning/organizing small cleaning and organizing tasks to aid in warehouse maintenance

When: Saturday, Nov. 18. Meet at APC at 8:15 to drive down. Serve 9-12, and return by 1:30 p.m.

Where: Share Food Program Warehouse at 2901 W. Hunting Park Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19129

Walk of Remembrance

Is there someone in your life you are missing?
Maybe you are separated by death, by illness, or by conflict.
On November 1st, from 5:30 to 6:30 PM, we are holding a Candlelight
Walk of Remembrance.



We will have your seat and candles available at the outdoor labyrinth located in the lower parking lot. (corner of Adams Avenue and Church Street). Wear comfortable shoes and warm jacket. This event is rain or shine. In inclement weather, please come to the Parish Hall.

To assure we have candles to represent each person you want to lift up, RSVP by 10/29. Please RSVP to Cindy Miller at crmiller56@gmail.com or the APC office at 215-887-4530.

HALLOWEEN PARADE



HALLOWEEN TREAT

Treat yourself to a morning of Halloween fun! APC Older adults and friends are invited to join with our Nursery School children to enjoy the costume parade and mini-concert of happy Halloween songs.

Playing Halloween Bingo with the children is an added treat. Meet in the parish hall at 9:00 am on Tuesday, October 31. Stay for a light lunch. RSVP to office, 215-887-4530 by Oct. 30.

Hello parents of college aged youth at APC,

The APC Youth Fellowship group would like to send your college aged student a care package of goodies around finals time, to let them know they are thought of and loved by their APC family. But we need your help to make that happen!



Please send me the mailing address of your college aged youth by Nov 12th. If they are living at home and commuting to school, or not attending school and working right now, that's fine too! We just want them to know we are thinking of them. Jennie Colt — jennie.colt@gmail.com

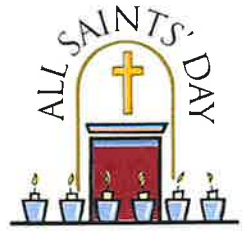
Covid-19 cases have been rising, so the former Pandemic Response Team shares these reminders and recommendations as we seek to protect our church family and our health. You are always welcome to wear a quality mask to reduce risk. If you do not feel well, please don't attend indoor events in person.

If you have been exposed to Covid-19 you should mask with quality mask for 10 days and test on day 6. If you have a positive test OR symptoms (fever, ache, loss of smell/taste, etc) isolate immediately, mask for 10 days when indoors. You may end isolation (but continue masking) on or after day 6 if you are fever and symptom free without medication.

[NOTE: www.cdc.gov is the best single source for information: go to Coronavirus page "Other topics" and click on "If you were exposed" or "If you are sick" where a calendar calculator can help navigate all this.]

All Saints' Sunday

Next Sunday, November 5th, will be a time when we remember those who have died in the last year. We will remember church members who have died in the last year and those in worship, at both services, will have opportunity to light a candle in memory of those they have lost.



Women's Gathering



Please join us on Thursday, November 16th at 5:30pm at Marzano's Restaurant located at 309 York Road, Jenkintown.

To RSVP or need additional information, please contact Sheila Jackson at dljskj@gmail.com

APC Fall Clean-Up Day

APC is having a Fall Clean-Up Day on Saturday, November 11th from 9—12.



All are welcome to come and help declutter many areas around the church.

Lunch will be provided.

A Day of "WORKSHIP"

Next Sunday, November 5th, Mission Council in partnership with The Anti-Racism Task Force is planning a day of "**Workship**". We will meet at 1:00 PM in the APC parking lot and caravan down to **West Kensington Ministry** for a few hours of fix-up, clean-up and toss-out fun. After our "work" is done, we are invited to stay for their 4:00 PM worship service followed by a simple supper for all in attendance.

Their worship meeting room at WKM is limited in space, so we are limited to 15 APC members who can participate in this unique day of service. Anyone interested should contact Don Brooks at dmkabrooks@comcast.net.



**November 26th from 4:00-5:30pm – Advent Fair and Hanging of the Greens Event
followed by the Crockpot Potluck!**

Bring a crockpot dish to plug in while you help decorate the church and create Advent Crafts. There is something for every age.

Our Advent theme this year centers around the Star. During the decorating time we will hang the 6-foot Moravian star in the sanctuary and create stars for the sanctuary Christmas trees and to take home.



We will also continue our tradition of making a fresh greens Advent Wreath. Here is the link for the form to sign up to make a wreath <https://forms.gle/ao8dNjTSKqBQMoYR7>.

For more information, please contact Ruth Sall.

Old York Road Ministerium Presents
The 73rd Annual
Interfaith
Thanksgiving Service
Tuesday, November 21
7:00 p.m.
Hosted by: Old York Road Temple-Beth Am
971 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001
An evening dedicated to interfaith
prayer, thanksgiving & community
together with our Jewish, Christian
& Muslim neighbors.
Donations of canned food welcomed!
Donations will be distributed locally to
Jenkintown Food Cupboard



Thanksgiving ~ Deacon Food Baskets "Help Fight Hunger Project"

APC Deacon Food Coordinator Contacts:
Laurie Wikoff - elwikoff@comcast.net / 215-808-9683
Sheila Jackson - dljskj@gmail.com / 610-806-3313

**Food donations & contributions needed by
Sunday, November 12, 2023**

These are the items that are included in our food baskets. If you wish to donate any of these items, please place them in the food bins by the office... Thank you!

- 1 can baked beans
- 1 can corn
- 1 can green beans
- 1 can tuna fish
- 1 jar peanut butter
- 1 jar grape jelly
- 1 box cereal
- 1 box complete pancake mix
- 1 bottle pancake syrup
- 1 box spaghetti
- 1 jar spaghetti sauce
- 1 box stuffing
- 1 box macaroni and cheese
- 1 box instant mashed potatoes
- 1 package of cookies
- 1 can soup
- 1 bag of apples*
- 1 frozen turkey*
- 1 loaf bread*
- 1 disposable aluminum roasting pan*

* These items will be purchased by the Deacons

FYI - An average family "Food Basket" costs approximately \$70
If you would like to contribute funds towards the "food basket" expenses:
Please state "Deacons Food Basket" and your envelope # on your check,
or use APC Website-Give tab
<https://apcusa.org/give/> or the Mobile App and
put "Deacons Food Basket" in the "Notes" box.

We are also in need of drivers to help deliver
food baskets on the morning of
Saturday, November 18th.
Please see the sign-up sheet at the Deacon's
bulletin board or contact Tim Waite at
kathyandtim.waite@comcast.net / 215-470-1879



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



SCAN ME