

23 Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord.



"Jesus Christ Conquers"
(wood carving on the Communion table and over the North and South vestibule doors)

5 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

Jeremiah 23:1,5

Abington Presbyterian Church

November 26, 2023

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Christ the King ∞ Reign of Christ

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Christ the King Sunday
ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
November 26, 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*

Fill our worship with grace, Lord Jesus Christ, that every thought, word, and deed may be acceptable to you, our Redeemer and our King. Amen.

PRELUDE

Alleluyas

Simon Preston

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is a great God who says:

**I am the Alpha and Omega,
the first and the last,
the beginning and the end.**

Day and night around the throne they never stop singing:

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,
who was, who is, and who is to come.**

***HYMN 265**

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

DUKE STREET

(* - Indicates all who are able may stand)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Righteous God,
you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all.
We confess that we have not bowed before him,
and are slow to acknowledge his rule.
We give allegiance to the powers of this world,
and fail to be governed by justice and love.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Raise us to acclaim him as ruler of all,
that we may be loyal ambassadors,
obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

*RESPONSE HYMN

Glory to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, 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 Grades are dismissed to Sunday School*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 23:1-6

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Colossians 1:11-20

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 23:33-43

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

SERMON

VIVA, CRISTO REY

The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton

*HYMN 267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from The Confession of 1967

**Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ,
such as a heavenly city, a father's house, a new heaven and earth,
a marriage feast, and an unending day
culminate in the image of the kingdom.**

**The kingdom represents the triumph of God over all
that resists God's will and disrupts the creation.**

**Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world,
stirring hope in humankind and preparing the world
to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption.**

**With an urgency born of this hope,
the church applies itself to present tasks
and strives for a better world.**

It does not despair in the face of disappointment and defeat.

**In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement
to the final triumph of God.**

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 SENTENCE

OFFERTORY

O God Beyond All Praising

Richard Proulx

O God, beyond all praising, we worship you today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at every gift you send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

The flower of earthly splendor in time must surely die,
its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;
but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown
though small in mortal stature, to heavens garden grown:
for Christ the man from heaven from death has set us free,
and we though him are given the final victory.

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favor may serve you as our King;
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to praise you still:
to marvel at your beatify and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God (LASST UNS ERFREUEN)

Hymn #609

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN 268**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

George Blake

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton

Liturgist: Bill Gustafson

Chancel Choir: John Sall, director

Children's Message: Ruth Sall

Organ: Erik Meyer

Hearing assistant devices are available in the Narthex, please see an usher for assistance.

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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), 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, Victor V. Johnson, Jr, Carolyn Ming, Richard Decembrino family, Olive Biggs, Stephen Krewson, Kristine Biddle (mother of Isaiah and Kade Holt).

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.

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.

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., *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

November 26, 2023

10:00 AM				
AGE/GRADE	ROOM	TEACHER	TOPIC	Pick Up
Birth– 2 year olds	110-112	Childcare	Childcare	110-112
Preschool	221		Advent Calendar	221
K—2nd Grades	Youth Lounge (72)	Ruth Sall	Games	Parish Hall
3rd—5th Grades	Youth Lounge (72)	Ruth Sall	Games	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 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.



APC GIVING

	YTD 10/31/23	YTD 10/31/22	Annual 2023 Budget
Income	\$534,692	\$531,681	\$658,500
Expenses	\$574,570	\$615,514	\$728,500
(Deficit)/Surplus	(\$39,878)	(\$83,833)	(\$70,000)

COME TO A CHRISTMAS PARTY!

All APC seniors are welcome to join APC staff and Older Adult Committee members to a Christmas Party at Rydal Park. Please join us for entertainment, caroling, fellowship and refreshments as we gather together to celebrate the Christmas Season.

WHEN: Wednesday, December 6
TIME : 1:30 - 3 P. M.
WERE : Sun and Social Room, 6th Floor
THEME: Christmas memories



Adult Forum

Advent is a time of anticipation and joy, not just for family gatherings and gifts, but for the celebration of the incarnation of our Lord. How can you be more open to receiving and sharing God's joy and gladness this season? Join us at Adult Forum as we encounter works of sacred music and visual arts that speak of joy and we explore how mindfulness and breathing can help us embody the joy and peace of the season. Sundays at 8:45 am in the Parlor.

December 3 *Advent in Song* with John and Ruth Sall

December 10 *Advent in Gentle Movement and Breath* with Tink McDevitt

December 17 *Advent in the Visual Arts* with Michelle Feil

YOUTH NEWS



RSVP FOR Senior High Lock-In

Who: all 9-12th graders

What: Fun, games, movie, projects, food, and a little sleep

When: 7 p.m. Friday Dec. 22 - pick-up by 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 23

Where: APC

Cost: None.

RSVP to justinfeil4@gmail.com please!

Youth needed to babysit for MOLO group's outing Saturday, Dec. 2 from 2-7:30 p.m. at APC. Please email justinfeil4@gmail.com if you are interested in babysitting.

Theology on Tap

When:

7:30pm on Wednesday, November 29th

Where:

Human Robot

208 York Rd, Jenkintown, PA

Overview:

Theology on Tap is calling on all those interested in enjoying local brews and engaging in hearty conversation. Over the coming months, we will reflect on the podcast series *Hinge* (available wherever you get your podcasts). *Hinge* is a podcast about doubt, identity, and the search for the real Jesus. For our next session, listen to the following episodes:

Episode 4 – Watertight Arguments (35 min)

Episode 5 – Accident of History (37 min)

Want to RSVP or Get More Info?

Contact Nick Allgyer at ntal07@gmail.com



Deep thanks for all who made chili and partook in the first annual Chili Cook Off last Sunday.

It raised over \$400 for youth programming. Thank you!

Champion Chili Recipe

The Sall household has long enjoyed the winning cook-off recipe for “Cabin Chili” which is slightly altered from one in **The Big Book of Soups & Stews: 262 Recipes for Serious Comfort Food** by Maryana Vollstedt (Chronicle Books, 2012). May it keep you warm and full this winter!

1¼ lbs ground beef (80 or 85% lean)

1 large onion

1 large can (28 oz) crushed tomatoes

1 can (15 oz) tomato sauce

1 large can (40 oz) kidney beans, drained

¾ teaspoon salt

1½ Tablespoons chili powder

1 teaspoon ground cumin

¼ teaspoon fresh ground pepper



Combine beef and onion over medium heat until no pink remains (c. 10 minutes). Add everything else once simmering reduce heat to low to simmer for 20-30 minutes stirring occasionally. Enjoy with your preferred toppings (cheddar cheese, sour cream, Fritos, pickled jalapenos).

Mission Council Offers Alternative Gifts for Christmas Giving Opportunities. Locally you can support **Gemma Services** whose vision and mission illustrates the deep belief in the importance of every individual. The new tagline, "Because You Matter," has the power to transform hope into action for children, youth and families facing emotional and behavioral challenges often caused by loss or serious traumas such as abuse, neglect and addiction. Your donations will help children and families experience joy and hope during the Christmas season.

Alternative Gifts purchased from the Presbyterian Giving Catalogue are tangible ways that we can share our faith by supporting people at home and around the world who are in need of hope and relief from the traumas of poverty and upheaval.

Please review the **Alternative Gift Form** included with the worship materials to place your order. Checks are payable to Abington Presbyterian Church, marked Gemma Services or Alternative Gifts. Please include your member number.



Mission Council Offers Christmas Giving Opportunities



Purchasing alternative gifts for family and friends are tangible ways that we can share our faith by supporting people at home and around the world who are in need of hope and relief from the traumas of poverty and upheaval. A small gift has a big impact and adds joy to families celebrating Christmas.

Gifts for Gemma Services

Gemma Services changes lives by transforming hope into action for children, youth and families facing emotional and behavioral challenges often caused by loss or serious traumas such as abuse, neglect and addiction. The holidays are a magical time at Gemma. "Wow! It looks like a fairy tale!" exclaimed a child in residence as they arrived at the Harrison gym for the annual holiday celebration last year, which had been transformed into a winter wonderland. "This is the best night of my life!" exclaimed another child upon receiving a stack of donated gifts. You can help Gemma show hundreds of children and families who participate in our programs how much they matter this holiday season!

Presbyterian Giving Catalogue

Gifts purchased from the Presbyterian Giving Catalogue are tangible ways that you can provide help and relief to people, families and communities around the world.

____ **Farming Tools, \$10.** Growing and harvesting crops is possible only with the proper tools, such as shovels and machetes. This necessary equipment can help bring a fruitful yield from the land.

____ **Family of Chickens, \$25.** Eggs for food, feathers for pillows and fertilizer for crops. By giving a family of chickens, you can help improve the food security and livelihoods of farmers and families around the world.

____ **Kitchen Kit, \$25.** Food requires preparation and families who have lost everything in a disaster often lack the basic tools needed to cook a meal. A kitchen kit contains cooking pots, utensils, bowls, cups and spoons.

____ **Sewing Machine, \$50.** New sewing equipment can launch a business that mends, alters and sells clothing and linens. Your gift can help provide a stable source of income for a family in a developing part of the world.

____ **Water Filter, \$50.** In many places, residents must cope with contaminated local water systems. A water filter provides a family with safe water for drinking, bathing and cooking and keeps 300 empty water bottles out of local landfills.

____ **Refugee Food Basket, \$50.** Extend a caring hand with a basket of food and essential supplies to our neighbors around the world who are struggling and searching for a peaceful place to call home.

____ **Teacher Training, \$85.** Your gift can increase access to education for girls around the world by expanding teacher training. Through a learning program that doesn't require technology – not even electricity – more teachers can be effectively trained to serve in remote communities where girls may otherwise have little opportunity for schooling.

____ **Women's Empowerment Project, \$100.** Where women receive education and economic opportunity, communities thrive. By helping to provide agricultural and vocational training, literacy education and access to loans and credit services for women, you are helping them in their efforts to care for their families and reduce hunger and poverty in their communities.

GEMMA SERVICES and Alternative Gift donations should be made by December 18, 2023.

Please fill out this form with your check for GEMMA donation and/or ALTERNATIVE GIFTS from the Presbyterian Gift Catalogue and mail to the church. *Please make checks payable to Abington Presbyterian Church and add your member number.* We will mail you a card(s) with the project(s) you purchased for your honoree.



\$ _____ **TOTAL: GEMMA Gift Donation.** \$25 suggested per gift donation.

\$ _____ **TOTAL: Presbyterian Gift Catalogue**

NAME _____ Member # _____

Your address: _____

COME TOGETHER TO CREATE CHANGE. Small Gifts. Big Impact.
Abington Presbyterian Church: 1082 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001
Questions: Please contact Georgene Pilling at gapilling25@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS 2023

We are so very blessed at APC to enjoy beautiful and inspiring music in a lovely and worshipful sanctuary. At our most holy times of year we are even more fortunate to be able to witness even more of those gifts in a sanctuary that has been lovingly decorated. Thanks to those who have given their time, talents and treasure we are able to make this happen each year.

This Christmas, consider making a gift to enrich the season and enhance our music with added musicians as well as beautifying the sanctuary with flowers and special decorations in memory/honor of a loved one. We ask that you mark your check as "*Christmas Gift*" and include this form with your donation.

Yes, I/We would like to remember/honor a loved one with a gift:

Your Name:

Your Name (s) as printed in the Bulletin:

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

Enclosed please find \$ () Check () Cash

APC envelope # (if available)

Please make checks payable to Abington Presbyterian Church.



We want to be able to support and thank our veterans in the APC family.

Please reach out to the church office if you or someone you know should be on our Veteran's list.



Christmas Eve Services

No 8:00am Simple Gifts Worship Service

10:00am Celebration Worship Service

5:00pm Family Friendly Service

7:30pm Traditional Service

Childcare available for both services

December 31st

10:00am only with Communion



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

