

14 Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

John 14:1-3



Abington Presbyterian Church

May 3, 2026

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Centering Prayer

Living God,
gather us into your house
to sing your praise today.
Jesus Christ,
teach us to follow you
and feed us at your table.
Holy Spirit,
send us from this place
with good news
for everyone.
Amen.

The people **gather** in response to God's call to worship our Creator with thanksgiving and praise.

The whole congregation joins together in speaking (or singing) the text in **bold** print. At the asterisk (*) please stand in body or rise in spirit. Purple *Glory to God* hymnals are located in the pew racks. Please join in singing!

Hearing Assistance Devices are available in the Narthex (at the back of the Sanctuary). Please see an Usher for Assistance.

Children's Worship Bags are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Fifth Sunday of Easter

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Prelude in D-flat Major

Johann C.H. Rinck

WELCOME AND LIVING OUR FAITH

CALL TO WORSHIP

We have gathered—
new followers and lifelong disciples,
the powerful and the powerless,
those who have too little and those who have too much.

**We have gathered,
for we are one in Christ.**

We have come—
seekers and skeptics,
sinners and saints,
the poor in spirit and the rich in faith.

**We have come,
for we are eager to hear God's word.**

We are here, together.

Let us glorify the one true God.

*HYMN NO. 248

Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God,
For the times we've hurt you—

forgive us

For the times we've hurt others—

forgive us

For the times we've hurt ourselves—

forgive us

For we are made in your image

and it is very good.

*SILENT PRAYER

*ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE NO. 267 (v. 1) *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* MADRID

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
Praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Ruth Sall

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Gabriel Jackson

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 10:9-23 New Testament, p. 129

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25:4-5 *Show Me Thy Ways* Walter Pelz
Chancel Choir: John Sall, director
Andrew DiGiandomenico, guitar; Janet Easlea, oboe

Show me thy ways O Lord, teach me thy paths;
Lead me in thy truth and teach me.
For thou art the God of my salvation
and on thee do I wait all the day.

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 10:34-48 New Testament, p. 129

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON “A Witness to the World: Peter and Cornelius”
The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Apostles’ Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,

(Continued on page 4.)

The congregation is invited to share signs of Christ’s peace, such as a handshake, with one another.

Following the Children’s Message, children (through Grade 5) will remain in worship.

Where the **word** is read and proclaimed, we believe Jesus Christ the living Word is present by the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, the proclamation of the word through the reading and interpretation of Scripture is central to our worship.

We respond to the proclamation of the Word by confessing the faith of the Church. Today we are using one of our oldest and most familiar affirmations of faith. Roman Christians developed an early form of the Apostles' Creed around 180 C.E. and used it to teach church doctrine to candidates for baptism. The present form of the Apostles' Creed dates to the eighth century.

In gratitude for the grace we have received, we respond with **thanksgiving** and offer our lives to God.

Your presence and participation in worship is an expression of self-offering. If you've not already done so, please sign the red Friendship Pad, located at the end of the pew on the center aisle, then pass it along the row. If you prefer an electronic form or are worshipping with us via livestream, you may follow the link to the online Friendship Pad using the QR Code below.

Abington Presbyterian Church
Online Friendship Pad



We are grateful for gifts of time, talent and treasure. If you prefer to give a financial gift online, you may use the QR code below.



**suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

True Light

Keith Hampton

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

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Almighty God is Light. He lives in us as true light.
In the beginning, out of the darkness, God created true light.
He lives in us as true light.

Don't let the light that you've given me die.
And don't desert my mind.

But let the one who serves you, praise you again.

This little of mine. I'm going to let it shine.
Everywhere I go I want the world to know:
God gave the world true light.
Hold on to the true light. True Light. God's love. God's grace.
I'm going to let it shine.
Everywhere I go I want the world to know:
God gave the world true light.

*DOXOLOGY HYMN NO. 267 (v. 3) *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

MADRID

**Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

HYMN NO. 507

Come to the Table of Grace
(vv. 1, 3, 5)

TABLE OF GRACE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Norah Amewoa, Adam & Owen Berry,
Harper Rounds and Iona Thompson

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Why do we give thanks and praise before this table?

We give thanks for God's work of creation and salvation.

It is our greatest joy, creator God,
to give you thanks in every time and place ...

... According to our Lord's commandment:

**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory.**

What do we ask at this table? ...

... At this table we ask for unity in Christ our Lord,
and we ask for strength to serve the world in his name
until the day you make all things new.

**Through Christ,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church,
now and forever. Amen.**

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.**

In the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), we believe that all are welcome at God's table, regardless of age or understanding. Today we celebrate the feast that unites *all* of us as God's children by inviting young worshippers to take on leadership roles in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Our liturgy at the table is adapted from a Great Thanksgiving published in the *Book of Common Worship*, prepared by the Office of Theology and Worship for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) This prayer is modeled after the Jewish practice of the youngest child asking four questions at the Passover Seder and allows children of the church to take an active role. The Session of Abington Presbyterian Church has also given special approval for children to help serve the bread and the cup during today's service.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Let us keep the feast.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

VOLUNTARY

Liebeslied

Johann Kaspar Mertz

Guitar: Andrew DiGiandomenico

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

*HYMN No. 769

For Everyone Born

FOR EVERYONE BORN

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Postlude on “Hymn to Joy”

Jason D. Payne

During Communion of the People, please come forward to one of the communion stations, take a piece of bread, and dip it into the cup of grape juice. The bread at the station nearest the lectern (front of the sanctuary, “house left”) is **gluten-free**. Individually **packaged elements** are available on each plate of bread. If you need to remain seated during Communion of the People, please raise your hand so that an usher can direct servers to you.

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Today's Centering Prayer is one of the prayers for use with children published in the *Book of Common Worship* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2018). The Prayer of Confession is from resources that are conducive to intergenerational worship, published at re-worship.blogspot.com.

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TODAY AT ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- 8:45 a.m.** **Bible Study: Introduction and overview of the "I Am" sayings, their importance and meaning in John's Gospel** in the Parlor
- 9:50 a.m.** **Nursery Care** for infants and toddlers in Rooms 110
Preschool Sunday School in Room 112
- 10:00 a.m.** **Celebration Worship Service** in the Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m.** **Congregational Conversation** in Parish Hall
- 3:00 p.m.** **Festive Youth Ringers** in the Bell Room
- 4:00 p.m.** **Youth Fellowship** in the Youth Lounge
- 5:30 p.m.** **Youth Dinner** in the Parish Hall
- 6:00 p.m.** **Chapel Choir** in the Choir Room
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PRAYER LIST

In need of special prayers this week:

We offer special prayers of comfort and sympathy for the **McMillan family** on the death of **Mary Anne McMillan** (March 11, 1933—April 27, 2026).

In need of ongoing prayers: Bernadette Barnhurst (mother of Marie Barnhurst), Olive Biggs, Carol Boles (mother of Christine Sacco), Kierstin Blomquist (cousin of Chuck Twining), Walter Boutcher, Rick Bruce, John Connelly (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Corrigan Family (APNS family), Robin Cupo, Linda Doyle, Heather Ferretti (Daughter of Trish Miller), John Frazier, Phyllis Frazier, Carmina Gagliardi (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Wayne Gibbons, Jr., Lindsay Harbold (APNS parent), Joanne Hawkson (mother of Nick Cupo), Hirst Family (APNS family), Ted Hyczko, Diane Johnson, Stephen Krewson, Emil Kupper, Laura Lafferty, Family of Katie Link (APNS parent), Holland Lutzow (APNS student), Mary Anne McMillan, Clinton Mench (APNS parent), Joan Meyers, Gail Mignogna, Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Will Pompilli (son of Teresa Pompilli), Sharon Robson (friend of Kimberly Browne), Ed Sacco, Lisa Seufert, Heather Shay-Herzig, Valerie Steigerwalt (niece of Marlyn Whyte), Jackie Thurlow, Eugenia Velazquez (Iris Long's mother), Shirley Waters, Barbara Weber, The Weir Family, Cindi Willis, Callum Wright (friend of Barbara-Ann Schwartz, APNS teacher).

Stay connected with our community of faith!

You Tube:

@AbingtonPresbyterianChurch4784

Facebook:

@Abington Presbyterian Church-APC (Public Group)
@Abington Presbyterian Church Youth Fellowship (Private Group)

To read about all the exciting things happening at Abington Presbyterian Church, **please pick up a copy of "Abington Presbyterian Life" from an Usher or subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter.** To be added to the distribution list for the E-Blast, please call the church office or email Susan Schied: sschied@apcusa.org

Our community of faith strives to live by the words of the Apostle Paul: *Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep* (Romans 12:15). As you pray throughout the week, we invite you to lift up the names of those who have requested prayer. Our church family would also like to rejoice with you if you are celebrating the arrival of a child, grandchild or great-grandchild; marking an important milestone; or have another joy to share.

To add a name to the Prayer List or share a joy, please call the church office or email Susan Schied: sschied@apcusa.org

ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. Sudie E. Niesen Thompson, M.Div., Th.M.	Pastor/Head of Staff
The Rev. Judith A. Dwyer, M.A., M. Div.	Parish Associate

MUSIC STAFF

John Sall, M.M.	Director of Music Ministries
Ruth Sall, B.M.	Children & Youth Choir Director
Lois Leong, M.M.	Organist & Director of Handbells

EDUCATION STAFF

Ruth Sall, B.M.	Director of Christian Education
Justin Feil	Youth Fellowship Coordinator
The Rev. Ashley Rossi, M.Div.	Youth Fellowship Coordinator

SUPPORT STAFF

Fred Cipriano	Facilities Manager
Susan Schied	Secretary
Jackie Thurlow	Bookkeeper



Abington Presbyterian Church | Founded 1714

1082 Old York Road, Abington, PA, 19001
215.887.4530 • apcusa.org

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.