

8 There is therefore now no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the
law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you
free from the law of sin and of death.

Romans 8:1–2



Abington Presbyterian Church

July 12, 2026

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Centering Prayer

God of mercy,
grant that the Word
you speak this day
may take root in our hearts,
and bear fruit to your
honor and glory,
for the sake of Jesus Christ
our Lord. 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!

Welcome! Abington Presbyterian Church strives to be a house of prayer for all people. Please see page 5 for information regarding accessibility and worshipping with children.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Early American Voluntaries

W. Selby, F. Linley, B. Carr, C. Zeuner

WELCOME AND LIVING OUR FAITH

CALL TO WORSHIP

God's word is a lamp to our feet
and a light to our path.

**We gather 'round table, font, and pulpit
to root ourselves in sacred story
and grow in faith.**

God's teachings are our heritage;
they bring joy to searching hearts.

**We gather in God's presence
to offer our thanks and praise!**

*HYMN NO. 15

All Creatures of Our God and King
(vv. 1-4)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God the Sower,
we confess that we do not always live
as people who obey your law.
Sometimes, we are like rocky ground.

**We welcome your word when life is simple.
But as soon as we face challenge,
we forget your teachings and our faith withers.**

Sometimes, we are a thicket full of thorns.

**We clamor for more and step over the needy.
Your word is choked out of our hearts.**

Forgive us, Lord.
Let your Spirit work within and among us;
make us good soil.

**Weed out our resistance
and water us with your grace,
that your word might grow within us
and we might bear fruit
for the sake of your kingdom.**

*SILENT PRAYER

*ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE NO. 581 *Glory Be 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.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Michelle Feil

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Don Brooks

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 New Testament, p. 13

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 25:19-34 Old Testament, p. 21

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson

*HYMN NO. 171 *A Sower Came from Ancient Hills* SEACHRIST

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) may follow their teachers to Sunday School or 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 use the online Friendship Pad using the QR Code inside the folder.

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.



*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,
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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Adoration

Florence Price

*DOXOLOGY (No. 15, v. 6) *All Creatures of Our God and King*
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
Sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

SENDING

*HYMN No. 307 *God of Grace and God of Glory* CWM RHONDDA

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune in D* David N. Johnson

WORSHIP NOTES

Mr. Wesley Parrott: Since retiring from his post as Organist at Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral in Philadelphia in 2024, Wesley Parrott continues serving as Liturgical Musician at St. Francis De Sales R.C. Church, west Philadelphia, and he is regularly heard at Church of the Holy Trinity, Rittenhouse Sq., St Patrick’s R.C. Church 20th St, and other local Philadelphia churches, including Abington Presbyterian Church.

He holds degrees from The Curtis Institute of Music, The University of the South and Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester, and has also served as Director of Music at The Old Presbyterian Meeting House in Alexandria, VA, New York Avenue Presbyterian Church and Church of the Epiphany, Washington, D.C. In 1979, he was winner of 3 three US national organ playing competitions and in 1982 he was a finalist in the International Organ Playing Competition, Grand Prix de Chartres, Chartres, France.

Wesley has served as an assistant organist at Macy’s Grand Court Wanamaker Organ, Organist/Choirmaster at St Mark’s Episcopal Church, Locust St. and St Mary’s Church, Cathedral Rd. He remains active in the Philadelphia Chapter of the AGO and is a past president of The Franklin Inn Club, Philadelphia.

There are two **flexible seating areas** in the Sanctuary—one near the “house left” arched doorway and one in front of the pulpit. These sections are for worshippers with accessibility needs (e.g. those who use wheelchairs or walkers; those who need support to stand; those worshipping with children in strollers) and their companions.

Hearing Assistance Devices are available in the Narthex (at the back of the Sanctuary). Portable **pew cushions** are available at the North Transept (“house right”) entrance. Please see an Usher for assistance.

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

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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

TODAY AT ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8:00 a.m. Simple Gifts Worship Service on the Church Lawn

9:50 a.m. Nursery Care for infants and toddlers in Room 110

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship Service in the Sanctuary

Following the Children’s Message (approx. 10:20 a.m.)

Children’s Summer Sunday School in the Children’s Choir Room

11:00 a.m. Lemonade on the Lawn on the Church Lawn

PRAYER LIST

In need of ongoing prayers: Bob Adams, Ray Bettys (friend of Craig & Carole Jean Nicholson), Olive Biggs, Carol Boles (mother of Christine Sacco), Walter Boutcher, 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), 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, Valerie Steigerwalt (niece of Marlyn Whyte), Jackie Thurlow, Shirley Waters, Barbara Weber, The Weir Family, Callum Wright (friend of Barbara-Ann Schwartz, APNS teacher).

The Abington Presbyterian Church Session

The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, Moderator

Sandy Hostetter, Clerk of Session

Class of 2027

Marie Barnhurst
Zene Colt II
Sandy Hostetter
Karen Hoyle
Blythe Palumbo
William Stock

Class of 2028

Michelle Feil
Aized Gill
Bill Gustafson
Valerie Pendley
Lillian Sall
Chuck Twining

Class of 2029

Kimberly Browna
Judy Cornman
Kathy Messina
John Miller
Alice Price

Youth Elders (September 2025 - June 2026): Lukas Meyer & Auggie Sall

The Abington Presbyterian Church Board of Deacons

David Bishop, Moderator

Russ Cornman, Vice Moderator

Rev. Judith A. Dwyer, Staff Liaison

Class of 2027

Matt Berry
David Bishop
Pam Callantine
Mary DeVan
Linda Hurd
Sheila Jackson
Paul Orlevitch
Haley Wikoff

Class of 2028

Don Brooks
Ashley Burgos
Isaac Burgos
Janet Easlea
Nancy Hartzell
Lauren Keiter
Tim Waite
Ed Wikoff

Class of 2029

Russ Cornman
Marilyn Hagy
Glenn Hostetter
Kevin Kelly
Ted Lutkus
Joanne Maransky
Chris Sacco
Julia Waite

Youth Deacons (September 2025 - June 2026): Lily Orlevitch

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 • Office Hours: Monday —Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

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.