

²⁰ For where two or three are gathered
in my name, I am there among them.

Matthew 19:20



Abington Presbyterian Church

September 6, 2026

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Centering Prayer

Lord of the church,
you call a broken people
around your table.
Teach us to listen,
loose us from prejudice,
and bind us to your way
of forgiving grace,
through Jesus Christ,
who stands at the heart
of our gathering. 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 6 for information regarding accessibility and worshipping with children.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Cantilene religieuse

Theodore Dubois

WELCOME AND LIVING OUR FAITH

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus says, "Where two or three are gathered
in my name, I am there among them."

Christ is here.

Calling us to the water,
beckoning us to the feast,

Christ is here.

Speaking to our souls,
listening to our prayers,

Christ is here.

Binding us as one body,
sending us out in service,

Christ is here.

Jesus says, "Where two or three
are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Christ is here. Let us worship the Lord.

*HYMN NO. 5

God the Sculptor of the Mountains

JENNINGS-HOUSTON

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Forgiving God,
You teach us to seek reconciliation
with those who have wronged us;
for, above all else,
we are to love one another.
But we let resentment smolder
until anger flares,
destroying any chance of peace.
We blame others and refuse to repent.
Grant us grace, we pray.**

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.

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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.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Peace Medley* arr. Barbara Brocker & Rob Pearson
Handbell: Julia Waite

*DOXOLOGY HYMN NO. 606

OLD HUNDREDTH

**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.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe ...

... For all these things we praise you,
joining our voices to the whole company of heaven,
who sing together:

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (D)
F C F B^b C F

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of the
2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the

(A) (D/F[#]) (F[#]m) (G) (A) (Bm)
C F/A Am B^b C Dm

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

(G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: American folk melody; adapt. Marcia Pruner, 1980; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984

Music Adapt. © 1980 Church Pension Fund

Music Arr. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

LAND OF REST

Praise to you for the gift of this holy meal ...

... With this bread and this cup
we remember our Lord's Passover
from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

O God of resurrection and new life ...

... we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

Amen.

This is not a Presbyterian table; it is the table of our Lord. All who trust in Christ, regardless of age, are invited to partake of this sacrament.

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.

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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Today’s Centering Prayer is adapted from a prayer by Stephen Shakespeare in *Prayers for an Inclusive Church*; accessed via re-worship.blogspot.com.

The Great Thanksgiving is from the *Book of Common Worship* (Louisville, Westminster John Knox Press, 2018).

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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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Let us keep the feast.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

*HYMN NO. 543 *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

GREEN TYLER

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Allegro from Voluntary I Georg Friedrich Handel

TODAY AT ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- 8:00 a.m.** **Simple Gifts Worship Service** in the Sanctuary
- 9:50 a.m.** **Nursery Care** for infants and toddlers in Room 110
- 10:00 a.m.** **Celebration Worship Service** in the Sanctuary

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

PRAYER LIST

We offer special prayers of comfort and sympathy for the **Adams family** on the death of **Dr. Robert C. Adams** (February 6, 1934—August 30, 2026).

In need of ongoing prayers: Amy Beck, Olive Biggs, James Blomquist (friend of Chuck Twining), Carol Boles (mother of Christine Sacco), Walter Boutcher, William Coles, 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, Brenda Fudell (friend of Nick & Robin Cupo), Carmina Gagliardi (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Wayne Gibbons, Jr., Veda Gill, Becky Gustafson, Lindsay Harbold (APNS parent), Joanne Hawkson (mother of Nick Cupo), Hirst Family (APNS family), Ted Hyczko, Diane Johnson, Stephen Krewson, Emil Kupper, Family of Katie Link (APNS parent), Holland Lutzow (APNS student), Cathy McCullough, Caitlin McCullough & Joseph O'Donnell (friends of Irene Rosenberg), 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).

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

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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.