

25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened.

*Acts 16:25-26*



## **Abington Presbyterian Church**

May 29, 2022

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Seventh Sunday of Easter

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Seventh Sunday of Easter                      May 29, 2022

### 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*

Use this place of prayer, O God, to be a place where your liberating truth prevails in our hearts and lives. Free us, so we might fulfill your calling upon our lives as we seek your direction in prayer, offer our praises for who you are and what you are doing, and get strengthened to join in your ministry to a world that needs it. Amen.

PRELUDE

Melody

*Samuel Coleridge-Taylor*

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

God rules over all! That's something to shout about!  
**We rejoice because what is just and right anchors God's reign.**  
Light-seeds are being planted in our souls.  
**Joy-seeds will sprout in good heart-soil as we worship God!**

\* HYMN 240

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

ALLELUIA NO. 1

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Most high God,**  
we confess that we have fallen short of your fondest hopes for us  
in how we live out our lives.  
We have used others for our own gain.  
We benefit from the labors of many who are exploited and impoverished.  
We resist having love rule our lives.  
Though we do not want to admit it,  
we seek our own way instead of seeking your path of joyful obedience.  
Deliver us, and break the chains of sin which hold us captive.  
Take our misplaced loyalties and turn them around,  
so we serve your purposes instead of our own,  
and we may live as followers of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God creates, redeems, and sustains us. Through Christ, gracious love is poured into our empty souls. Through the Spirit, peace becomes the gift we can share with those around us.  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free!**

HYMN 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

GLORY TO GOD (VASILE)

1 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

2 World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

\* THE PEACE OF CHRIST *Greet one another with the sign of 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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 97

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 16:16-34

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

SERMON

Liberating Power

*The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill*

\* HYMN 79

Light Dawns on a Weary World

TEMPLE OF PEACE

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*from A Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.  
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,  
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,  
and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.  
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,  
engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

#### 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 & 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

(You can leave your offering in the plates at the exits or use the QR code to go to APC's giving page or you can mail your gifts to the church office.)

#### OFFERTORY

Praise the Lord (Cameroon Processional)

*arr. Ralph Johnson*

*The Chancel Choir share a processional song used by the women in Cameroon in west-central Africa as a communion procession. Collected by Elaine Hanson a missionary and member of "Women for Christ" this setting was arranged for mixed chorus and percussion borrowing from original performance styles.*

Praise, praise, praise the Lord!  
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!

#### \* 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.

#### \* HYMN 744

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

FESTAL SONG

#### \* BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE

Carillon

*Malcom Archer*

#### Worship Leaders:

**Preacher:** The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

**Liturgist:** The Rev. Aaron Twitchell

**Children's Message:** Ruth Sall

**Chancel Choir:** John Sall, director

**Organ:** Erik Meyer

**Permissions:**

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**In need of special prayers this week:** Doris Boerner, Ira Greenbaum (nephew of Marlyn Whyte), Helen Porter (mother of Joe Porter), Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Linda Maisenhelder, Christine Kim (wife of Stephen Kim), Will Pompilli (son of Teresa Pompilli), Wayne Gibbons, Jr., Susan Arnhold (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Judy Meissner, Susan Johnson, John and Phyllis Frazier, Robin Cupo, Laura Lafferty, Emil Kupper, Joanne Lieb (friend of Ian & Amy Beck), Erma Yerkes, Joseph May, John & Carolyn Burrell (Janet Gildner's parents), Victor Johnson III (Pete Johnson's nephew), Laurie Betts, Sally Hardy, Barbara Benson, Katie Link, Kevin Alexander (Betsy Alexander's son), Valerie Steigerwalt (niece of Marlyn Whyte), Tom Watkinson (Lisa Brownholtz's father), Pete Johnson, Jennifer Edward (friend of Nick Cupo).

**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: [klhill@apcusa.org](mailto:klhill@apcusa.org)

Web Site: [www.apcusa.org](http://www.apcusa.org)

The Reverend Dr. Kirby Lawrence Hill, *Head of Staff*

The Reverend Aaron Twitchell, *Associate Pastor*

The Reverend Dr. Jade King Bass, *Minister of Congregational Care*

Ruth Ideen-Sall, B.M. *Director of Children's Choirs and Ministries*

John Sall, M.M. *Director of Music Ministries*

Eric Meyer *Organist*

**The APC Pandemic team has these updated safety protocols to match community conditions:**

Masks are now optional in church facilities (including during singing).

You are encouraged to maintain some social distancing in where you choose to sit.

There is a full-time mask section on the lectern-side rear portion of the sanctuary (section where the video equipment is) for whoever wants to use it. This section is still using the color-coded guidance for social distancing.

Thanks to all for your cooperation. We show our love for God and neighbor by being sensitive to the needs of others.

The Pandemic Work Team consists of the following people:

Medical Professionals: Frank Sandstrom, MD; Michelle Feil, MSN, RN

Church Council Representatives: Suzin Weber, Carolyn Koch, Don Brooks

Church Facility Expertise: John Miller

From the Staff: Rev. Aaron Twitchell, John Sall, Ruth Sall, Barb Foy, Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

10:00 AM				
AGE/GRADE	ROOM	TEACHER	TOPIC	Pick Up
Birth– 2 years	Nursery & Toddler Room 110–112	Childcare	Childcare	110-112
3 years - Pre-K	Children's Choir Room Sanctuary Basement	No Sunday School	Memorial Day Weekend	
Kindergarten— 6th Grade	Parish Hall Basement	No Sunday School	Memorial Day Weekend	



The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 30th in observance of Memorial Day.

**Simple Gifts 8:00am Service** is moving outdoors for the summer beginning next Sunday, June 5th.

We will be gathering near the flagpole.



*Outdoor Worship Service*

Adult Ed:

Summer is coming and that has usually meant a downtick in education offerings here at APC. But these are not ordinary times and Aaron is not an ordinary pastor! If you are passionate about something and are interested in sharing it with your fellow congregants, please reach out to Pastor Aaron. Why can't we have Forum in the summer? We can!

\*\*\*\*\*  
★ ATTENTION ALL YOUTH: On Sunday, June 5th from 4:00-6:00 pm we'll celebrate the end of the program year with a fun party, food, and games, and we'll bid farewell to our graduating seniors. Hope to see everyone there. All are welcome!  
★ Rising 6th and 7th graders! On Sunday, June 12th at the churchwide picnic, APCYG (our church youth group) would like to officially welcome you to Youth Fellowship. During the picnic, we'll break off from the crowd for some fun activities, games, and get-to-know-yous. Hope to see you there! Questions? Reach out to Pastor Aaron at [atwitchell@apcusa.org](mailto:atwitchell@apcusa.org).  
\*\*\*\*\*



No Sunday School today  
Memorial Day Weekend.



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

All nursery volunteers will be vaccinated and wearing masks.  
Our limit per room is 4 children.



CALLING ALL YOUTH:

The Presbytery is sponsoring a trip to Montreat this summer. Join 2500+ other youth from all around the country for a week of fun. Plus, Pastor Aaron is going!

Go to the link below for more information and to register!

<https://presbyphl.org/event/2022-youth-conference-montreat/>.

Abington Presbyterian Church  
**Vacation Bible School**  
**SUMMER SPLASH!!**  
**June 27-30, 2022**  
**9:00am-12:00pm**

Join us for a fabulous week of splashing and playing in God's word! Our Bible stories are all about water: Noah's Ark, Jonah and the Whale, Lydia, and Jesus walks on the water. Children from ages 3 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to attend.



Register at this link:



We'll see you there!







# Church Picnic

## SAVE THE DATE!

### June 12th

**That's right, it's back, the APC Family Summer Picnic at Alverthorpe Park!**

On June 12<sup>th</sup>, following the 10:00 AM Service, please join us for food, fellowship and fun for all! We will provide the burgers, dogs and drinks. We ask that you provide the sides - families A-L are asked to bring a salad to share and families M-Z are asked to bring a dessert to share. If you wish, bring a lawn chair, blanket and frisbee. There will be picnic tables under the covered pavilion for seating, so we will get together rain or shine. In addition to games for young and old, we will be offering a Nature Walk around the grounds of Alverthorpe Park!

During the picnic, Youth will break off from the crowd for some fun activities, games, and get-to-know-yous.

**Mark your calendar for the date and we look forward to seeing you at then picnic!**



### Alverthorpe Park Map

The Picnic Pavilion is off of Fox Chase Road. There will be balloons by the entrance to note the entrance location. Please use this entrance, not the main entrance, to get to the pavilion reserved for APC!

Are you a caring individual with a heart of compassion? The care team ministry is alive and active at Abington Presbyterian Church. We make in-person visits, make phone calls, send greeting cards and encourage our members who are sick, recuperating, grieving and feeling a little down. We also celebrate the joys of new births, birthdays, anniversaries and graduations.

If you have a desire to serve the members at APC in this ministry, please reach out to Pastor Jade at [jkb@apcusa.org](mailto:jkb@apcusa.org) or call the church at 215-887-4530 and leave a message with the church secretary, Susan Schied.



Many organizations are calling for donations to help humanitarian efforts in Ukraine and the neighboring countries. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is also providing opportunity for folks to help with financial donations that will support Ukraine with emergency humanitarian aid such as food, shelter and hygiene items. PDA is hearing that the reformed churches in Ukraine and the region are also feeling called to join in the humanitarian response. PDA, therefore, anticipates that their response will include both financial and technical assistance as the network of faith communities providing humanitarian assistance grows in the months ahead. As is the mission of One Great Hour of Sharing, PDA responds with immediate aid and long-term assistance.

If you wish to donate through PDA, you can give by check, made out to APC and marked Ukraine, or through the APC online portal (at <https://apcusa.org/give/donate/>). Please indicate your donation only in the box for "Special Offering" and mark for Ukraine).

Monetary donations will be collected through May 31, 2022.



**SUMMER HOURS**  
▶ for ◀  
**CHURCH OFFICE**

Starting on May 31st and continuing through Labor Day (September 5th), the church Office will be open as follows:

**Monday—Thursday 8:30am—3:30pm.**

**On Fridays, the Church Office will be closed.**

We are looking for good folks to help lead our Sunday School classes in the mornings and as advisers for Sunday afternoon Fellowship next year.

You **do not** need to have any special skills as a teacher, theologian, astronaut, poet, etc. Training will be included. All you need is a heart for our young people and a desire to provide them with a safe place to grow here at APC.

All ages, genders, races, and Harry Potter houses are encouraged to volunteer. Please reach out to Pastor Aaron if you are interested!

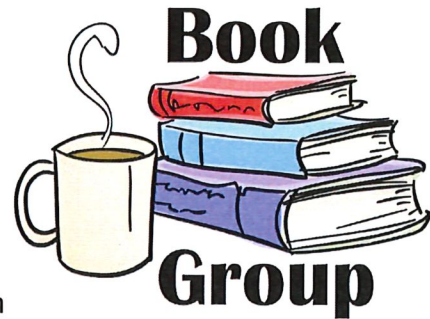


The next meeting of the APW Book Group is scheduled for Tuesday, June 7 at 7:30 PM via Zoom.

This month's selection is ***The Lace Reader***, and our discussion leader is **Cindi Willis**.

Brunonia Barry's debut novel tells the story of Towner Whitney, a woman who is brought back to her hometown of Salem, Massachusetts, by the disappearance of her aunt. Barry's Salem is a place filled with tourists, witches, and ladies who make bobbin lace, in which fortunes can be read.

Anyone interested in joining this group should email Joanne Welsh at [jtwelsh@gmail.com](mailto:jtwelsh@gmail.com).



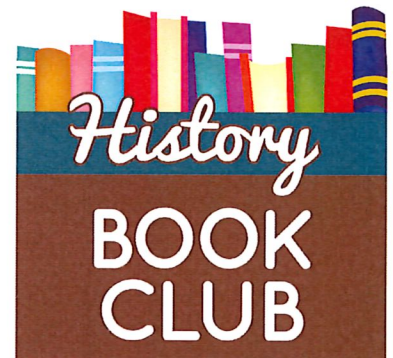
Gotta Grad? We'd like to recognize all graduates, high school and up, in worship.

Please email information to Sue Parsons by June 7th.

12 people attended our last book discussion about Ben Franklin.

Our next book is: **Forget the Alamo: The Rise and Fall of an American Myth** by Bryan Burrough, Chris Tomlinson, & Jason Stanford.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, *June 28 at 7PM in the Parlor.*



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



*at Music* **50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**  
Abington SEASON 1972 - 2022

# QUAKERTOWN BAND

Patriotic selections  
and hymn arrangements!

Sing along  
with the band!



Keith Spencer  
guest soloist

**7:30 p.m. Sunday, June 12, 2022**

Abington Presbyterian Church, 1082 Old York Rd, Abington PA  
free will donations received • fully accessible  
livestream option available at [www.apcusa.org/MusicAtAbington](http://www.apcusa.org/MusicAtAbington)

PHOTOGRAPH BY AP/PAUL HARRIS This project was supported in part by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

*at Music*  
Abington presents

The Quakertown Band with The Abington Presbyterian Oratorio Choir  
and guest artist: Keith Spencer singing Sophisticated Ellington &  
Ol' Man and Deep Rivers

Hymnsongs include: Now Thank We All Our God, Rejoice the Lord is  
King & It is Well With My Soul.

Patriotic selections include: American the Beautiful, Star Spangled  
Spectacular: The music of George Cohan: Yankee Doodle Dandy &  
You're a Grand Old Flag and Armed Forces Salute (featuring the 5 songs  
of the military branches).

The audience is invited to join in singing the Stars & Stripes Forever and  
God Bless America.

Sunday, June 12, 2022 at 7:30pm.