

5 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children,
2 and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself
up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:1-2



Abington Presbyterian Church

August 28, 2022

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

12th Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF WORSHIP
12th Sunday after Pentecost August 28, 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*

God of love, plant us in the soil of your grace. Nurture us with the strength of Christ, the true vine which enables fruitful living. Abide in us, that we may abide in you and live in your love. Amen.

PRELUDE *Allegro risoluto from Violin Sonata* *Antonin Dvorak*

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Our lives are connected to many things.
But it is in you, O God, that we live and move and have our being.
Christ is the vine; we are the branches.
Apart from Christ, we have no life within us.
The source of our fruitful living is that connection.
Relying on the Holy Spirit, we worship the One who is the basis of our vitality.

*** HYMN 308** **O God in Whom All Life Begins** **NOEL**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We give thanks, O God, that we have been grafted into Christ,
to be branches on a vine which bears the loveliest of all the fruits of earth.
Yet we confess that all is not well with the way we live.
We have allowed anger to lead to alienation.
Our words have been used for other purposes than to build up.
The ways we live have produced little fruit.
Lead us, so we may imitate your ways and walk in your love.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's grace and life flows through us, restoring us -
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*** HYMN 582** **Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me** **GLORY TO GOD (VASILE)**

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.

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

John 15:1-11

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Christ's Church: Imitators of God

The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

* HYMN 407

Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers

NUN DANKET ALL' UND BRINGET EHR'

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good

and makes everyone equally in God's image,

male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God's commandments,

we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,

accept lies as truth,

exploit neighbor and nature,

and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah

chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,

like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,

God is faithful still.

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

Adoration

Felix Barowski

* 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.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* HYMN 729

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

Erik Meyer

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

Liturgist: Mariam Freeman

Organ: Erik Meyer

Violin: Lutz Mueller

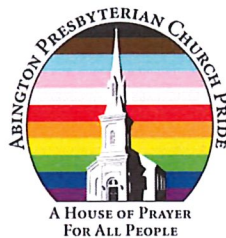
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In need of special prayers this week: Doris Boerner, Ira Greenbaum (nephew of Marlyn Whyte), Helen Porter (mother of Joe Porter), Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Linda Maisenhelder, Christine Kim (wife of Stephen Kim), Will Pompilli (son of 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, Erma Yerkes, Joseph May, John & Carolyn Burrell (Janet Gildner's parents), Victor Johnson III (Pete Johnson's nephew), Laurie Betts, Sally Hardy, Katie Link, Kevin Alexander (Betsy Alexander's son), Jennifer Edward (friend of Nick Cupo), Karen Dirks, Marilyn DeBacco (mother of Barb Foy), Ted Hyczko, Todd Smyth, Victor Johnson Jr. (Pete Johnson's brother), Ann Miller (friend of Pete Johnson).

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

Web Site: www.apcusa.org

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

Ruth Ideen-Sall, B.M., *Interim 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

August 28, 2022

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: John Sall, Ruth Sall, Barb Foy, Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill



During the summer 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.

Simple Gifts worship service at 8 a.m. meets outside near the flag-pole through Labor Day weekend. If there is inclement weather, this service will gather in the sanctuary.



Outdoor Worship Service

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 5th for Labor Day.





Summer Sunday School is finished.
Classes will resume in the September. 18th

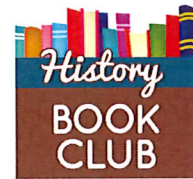


Nursery Care— is offered for children birth through toddler in the nursery and the toddler rooms (110 and 112)

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

The next book is: **Leonardo De Vinci** by Walter Issacson (576 pages).

Our next meeting is Tuesday *Sept. 27 at 7PM in the Parlor.*



Clip and Save on your Fridge

Mission Council Update

The members of Mission Council feel that it is important to offer hands-on opportunities to serve our members both within APC and our neighbors outside of our church. With that goal in mind, we have put together a calendar of projects that *everyone* in APC can participate in at their own pace and level of interest!

Saturday, September 17th – Face-To-Face Cooking in the morning and/or serving supper in the afternoon.

Sunday, September 25th—PB&J Project following the 10:00AM Service to take with us for their guests.

October TBD – Crafting Day at APC and Rydal Park. Knitting Linus blankets, knit hats for the NICU, Scarves, etc.

November TBD – Fall leaf raking for our older congregational members

Sunday, December 4th—PB&J Project following the 10:00AM Service to take with us for their guests.

Saturday, December 10th - Face-To-Face Cooking in the morning and/or serving supper in the afternoon.

As we get closer to each project, more information will be offered. Mark your calendars now for an event that is of interest! Everyone is welcome! For more details, talk to anyone from Mission Council or contact Don Brooks at dmkabrooks@comcast.net

Music Ministry is resuming rehearsals and wants to invite and welcome you to join in this opportunity. Recent research continues to produce more and more evidence of the emotional and physical benefits participating in choir and other musical endeavors. (Google it!) We would love to include you in this ministry, the only requirements are your interest to be a part of working together, and willingness to grow and learn. Opportunities for almost everyone are part of our music ministry:

For children:

Cherub Choir (grades K-2). Rehearse Wednesdays 4:15-4:55. Begin 9/14

Carol Choir (grades 3-5). Rehearse Wednesdays 5:00-6:00. Begin 9/14

Joyful Bell Ringers (grades 3-5). Rehearse Wednesdays 4:15-4:55. Begin 9/14

For youth: cookout and kickoff coming August 30

Chapel Choir Middlers (grades 6-8) & Chapel Choir Senior Highs (grades 9-12).

Kickoff event 8/30. Rehearse Sundays both apart and together 6:00-7:15. Begin 9/18

Festive Youth Ringers (grades 6-12). Rehearse Tuesdays 7:30-8:30. Begin 9/13

Abington Symphony Orchestra (advanced students by audition). Mondays 7:30. Begin 9/12

For adults

Chancel Choir (for Sunday worship leadership). Rehearse Thursdays 7:30. Begin 9/8

Oratorio Choir (for special programs and events). Rehearse Thursdays 8:30. Begin 9/22

Celebration Ringers Bell Choir. Rehearse Tuesdays 8:30. Begin 9/13

Abington Symphony Orchestra. Mondays 7:30. Begin 9/12



Refreshing Mountain Camp Fall Youth Retreat Sept. 23-25, 2022

Who: 6th—12th grade youth

When: Friday 9/23 meet @ 6:00 p.m. @ APC

Sunday 9/25 return to APC @ 12:00 p.m.

Cost: \$50 per youth (Scholarships available)

What: High Ropes Course & Zip Line

Teambuilding Adventure

Movie, Campfire w S'mores, Worship, and Games!!!

Check out the website: www.refreshingmountain.com

Questions? Contact....

Justin Feil 215-512-4946 or justinfeil4@gmail.com

Or Ashley Rossi 215-870-7170 pastorash80@gmail.com



To register:

Fill out **APC Parental Consent Form** and
Refreshing Mountain Release Form
(both on the church website)

Return forms and check for \$50 payable to APC,
to the Church office or Justin Feil **by**
SUNDAY 9/4 (Labor Day weekend)

Anti-Racism Book Study

The APC Anti-Racism Book Study will have its final meeting on Emmanuel Acho's book "Uncomfortable Conversations With a Black Man" on Tuesday, August 30th at 7:30PM in the church parlor.

The discussion will center on chapters 13-15 and how to be an ally.

All are welcome - come and add your voice to this important conversation. A light snack will be provided.

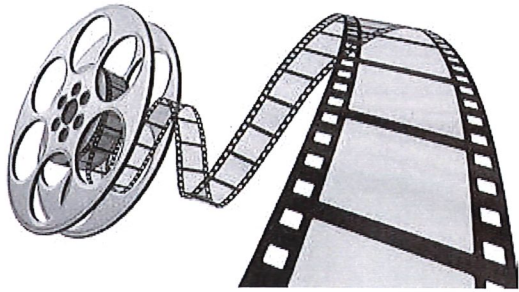
Be a part of the ushering team at APC



Older adults, young people, and even parents with their children are welcome to join and serve with us as our congregation continues to grow. *Anyone with a smile and warm heart is qualified!*

Ushers commit to being present one Sunday per month to greet and hand out bulletins to members and visitors as they arrive for worship. We make ourselves available to assist visitors and the elderly as needed. Parents, this is the perfect opportunity to teach and demonstrate good social skills to your children. Young people and seniors can give back to APC by being a small but critical part of our worship experience. Our hope is to build a team of committed ushers to reflect the welcoming and inclusive spirit we are building here at APC.

Please feel free to contact Eric Gildner at gildneres@gmail.com or the church office with any questions you might have



Have you always felt that you are the next Cecil B. Demille or Steven Spielberg? Have you always wanted to work behind the camera? Have you always wanted to say, "I want to thank The Academy..." Well, the Stream Team is looking for you! We need some folks who are interested in helping stream the Sunday 10:00 AM Service. It requires a little more than an hour on a Sunday and you would work behind the camera one and maybe two Sundays a month as your schedule allows.

To learn more, contact Don Brooks at dmkabrooks@comcast.net, Chris Ellis at ctellis@comcast.net or Glenn Hostetter at hostetter@comcast.net.

So, ready, set and action!

The Stream Team

Homecoming is almost here!

Join us on Sunday, September 11th after the 10am worship service for our annual party celebrating the start of the new program year!

There will be hotdogs, cotton candy, popcorn, snow cones and fun fellowship for all ages. There will be a Moon Bounce and games with great prizes for kids and live jazz music.

All church councils, committees, interest groups, and music groups are invited to share their information at tables set up outside. Come see what is happening at APC and enjoy a great time of food, fellowship and fun!

See you on Sunday, September 11th at 10am for worship and afterward for Homecoming festivities!



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

