



¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:16-17



John baptizing Jesus (South Transept)

Abington Presbyterian Church

January 8, 2023

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Baptism of the Lord

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Baptism of the Lord January 8, 2023

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 all that has been and of what is new, we turn to you for spiritual refreshment and practical directions. Take us by the hand and renew in us once more your holy covenant. Grant us the help we need to live freely in response to your Spirit. Amen.

PRELUDE Improvisation on West Main Erik Meyer

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

The One who granted us the breath of life is present here to greet us.
Praise God for the gift of life and the linking of our lives with one another.
God's own Spirit rests upon us, drawing us into the family of faith.
We have been baptized into Christ and share in the mission entrusted to Jesus.
We come together to remember Jesus' baptism and ponder its implications for us.
By the power of heaven and the Holy Spirit, we rejoice that we are God's beloved children.

*** HYMN 317** In Christ There Is No East or West MCKEE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God, in our baptisms,
you marked us with your love,
inviting us into covenant with you.
You continue to reveal yourself to us.
As we see and experience the brokenness of the world,
we know that we are called to embody your love.
Yet we act as though the task is too big for us.
We have ignored the pain of others.
Forgive us when we have forgotten our baptism,
when we have not recognized that our lives are meant for something big.
Cleanse us anew and reshape us to live as your children.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Even when we fall short of who we are called to be,
God still calls us by name and pours out the Holy Spirit upon us.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

HYMN 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

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 Isaiah 42:1-9
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 3:13-17
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON God's Servant *The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill*

* HYMN 164 Down Galilee's Slow Roadways WEST MAIN

* LITANY FOR BAPTISM OF THE LORD
Through the words of the prophet, the Lord said:
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.
God calls us by name; we belong to God.
When Jesus was baptized by John,
suddenly the heavens were opened.
God calls us by name; we belong to God.
As Jesus was coming out of the water,
the Spirit of God rested on him like a dove.
God calls us by name; we belong to God.
And a voice said: You are my beloved Son;
with you I am well pleased.
God calls us by name; we belong to God.

O God, keep us your children born of water and the Spirit, faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called your beloved. Do this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*HYMN 543

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

GREEN TYLER

(As the hymn is sung, you are invited to come to the baptismal font to receive a reminder of your baptism)

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

O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word

Robert Buckley Farlee

O radiant Christ, incarnate Word, eternal love revealed in time:
Come, make your home within our hearts, that we may swell in light sublime.

Our bartered, busy lives burn dim, too tired to care, too numb to feel.
Oh, come and shine upon our shadowed world: your radiance bathes with power to heal.

Your glory shone at Jordan's stream, the font where we were born anew.
Attune your church to know you near; illumine all we say and do.

O Light of Nations, fill the earth; our faith and hope and love renew.
Come, lead the peoples to your peace, as stars once led the way to you.

* 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 484

Out of Deep, Unordered Water

RUSTINGTON

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Chorale Prelude on "Hampton"

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

Liturgist: Tiffany Clark

Children's Message: Ruth Sall

Chancel Choir: John Sall, director

Organ: Erik Meyer

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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, 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, Peter Mason (John Waters' nephew), Shawn London (William Coles' daughter), Rusty Thurlow (Jackie Thurlow's husband), Bill Kostik (Shelia Jackson's brother), Ian Beck, Gordy Hawkinson (Nick Cupo's Uncle).

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

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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

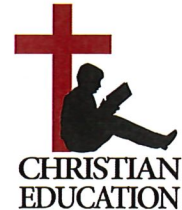
January 8, 2023

10:00 AM				
AGE/GRADE	ROOM	TEACHER	TOPIC	Pick Up
Birth— 2 year olds	110-112	Childcare	Childcare	110-112
Preschool	221	Sue Parsons	Mary & Joseph take Jesus to	221
K—2nd Grades	Kitchen	Mariam Freeman	Cooking	Parish Hall
3rd—5th Grades	Richard Treat Room (71)	Connie Allgyer	Art	Parish Hall

Christian Education Offerings

8:45am

- Middle School Sunday School at 8:45am in the Parish Hall basement. All 6th - 8th graders are welcome to join us.
 - Confirmation class led by Bill Stock and Karen Hoyle.
 - Senior High Dialogue at 8:45am in the Parish Hall basement. All 10th-12th graders are welcome to join us.
 - Adult Education at 8:45am in the Parlor.—Resumes next week, Sunday, Jan. 15th.
- For more information contact Ruth Sall at 215-887-4530 or rsall@apcusa.org.



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.



Coffee Fellowship

Please join us today, after the worship service, for Coffee Fellowship and a **de-greening** of our facilities.

There is no Adult Education this Sunday. Class will resume next Sunday, January 15th with Suzin Weber and the study of James.

The History Book Club's next meeting is Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at 7PM in the Parlor.

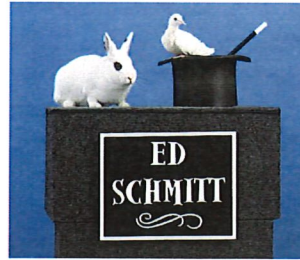
The book is: **Rising Tide: The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 and How it Changed America** by John M. Berry.

Please join us for the next Women's Gathering on Friday, January 20th for **LUNCH** at Riviera D'Italia, 1185 Easton Rd, Abington at 12 noon.
RSVP to Sheila Jackson at dljskj@gmail.com

Winter Picnic



THE MAGIC and BALLOONS of



Hey, it's winter! Come warm up at the APC Winter Picnic!
Right after the 10AM Service on January 22nd, bring a meal and a blanket (and a dessert to share)
Then get ready to be AMAZED by Magician Ed Schmitt!
His show is for ALL ages and full of surprises!

Invite a friend, find your picnic blanket and basket and SEE YOU THERE in Parish Hall.
Seating will be by blanket (like at the beach, first come first serve) or table and chair -- for anyone who doesn't wish to sit on the ground. Questions?
Contact anyone from Congregational Life Council or the APC office.

APPORTIONMENT FOR 2023

Please be aware that the Presbytery
apportionment amount for this year is **\$32.00 per
APC member, not per family!** These funds help to
pay for staff at Presbytery, Synod and General As-
sembly levels of our denomination.

**Kindly make checks payable to
Abington Presbyterian Church**



PRESBYTERY of PHILADELPHIA
CHRIST'S WORK ♦ OUR WITNESS

Stewardship Update

Thank you to all who have pledged for 2023. If you have not pledged, there is still time, and we encourage you to do so. If you have pledged, we encourage you to think about increasing your pledge if at all possible. So far our pledges have fallen far short of our goal for this year, and are even short of the pledging for 2022. By way of example, below is a comparison of the giving for 2022 as compared to the pledges for 2023 to date:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Number of pledges	175	151
Amount pledged	\$585,000	\$536,000



As you can see we have quite a gap to make up to even reach the 2022 pledges. You may recall, our goal for the Stewardship Campaign this year was \$645,000. Please send in your pledges to help us meet our goal.
The Stewardship Committee

MISSION COUNCIL REFUGEE RELIEF

On a recent early Wednesday morning, Rev. Adan Mairena was part of a team of volunteers working with the City of Philadelphia's Office of Emergency Management that welcomed asylum seekers arriving in Philadelphia from Texas. Men, women and children stepped off the bus with little of their own and in great need of warm clothing.

Mission Council is holding a clothing drive to answer the call for help. Clothes will be taken to Philadelphia's Welcome Center for distribution. Please bring **NEW** items from the list below and place them in the box outside the Church Office door. (Please, no coats or jackets!)

Specific new items needed are:

sweat pants
gloves

sweaters
scarves

socks
hats

winter footwear
underwear

If you prefer, you can donate financially by making a check out to Abington Presbyterian Church, marked "Refugee Relief." **The clothing drive runs through January 22, 2023.**



Mission Council is discussing a Knitting, Crafting, Sewing project planned for the spring to benefit the less-fortunate. We are thinking of scarves, socks, hats, Linus blankets, prayer shawls and any other items you can think of.

This could be an afternoon event after church or a do-it-yourself project that you drop off upon completion. Although a few of us have experience with some of these projects, we are still looking for our APC members who will find this interesting and, perhaps, teach others their unique talent!

If you are interested in this mission project, please contact anyone on Mission Council or email Don Brooks at dmkabrooks@comcast.net with your level of interest and your ideas! We need your help to make it work for others!

Music at Abington has a tiny pause in the month of January while we prepare for the second half of the season, but just around the corner you'll find musical opportunities waiting to welcome you to wide variety of experiences.



Friday, February 3, 7:30pm the award-winning **Dali Quartet** ushers in a full month of music. The **Dali Quartet** is internationally acclaimed for bringing Latin American quartet repertoire to an equal standing alongside the Classical and Romantic canon. Its fresh approach has been featured in distinguished concert series in New York, Toronto, Philadelphia, DC, LA, Seattle, San Juan, Oaxaca, and countless communities beyond.

PLUS – every Tuesday in February we will feature a different local organist in our annual Tuesday Noon Organ recital series presented in partnership with the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. These programs highlight an delightful variety of old favorites and new inspirations.

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



SCAN ME