

³⁴ Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night,
before the cock crows, you will deny me three times."
³⁵ Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you,
I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

Matthew 26:34-35



The Prodigal Son

Abington Presbyterian Church

March 5, 2023

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Second Sunday in Lent

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Second Sunday in Lent March 5, 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*

We give thanks, O God, that you are with us through thick and thin. When we are unsure what lies ahead or are unsure of ourselves, enable us to rely on your strength. Bless this time of worship and empower us to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRELUDE

Prelude for Organ

Josephine Boulay

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

We lift up our hearts to you, Holy God.
We seek to trust the Lord with our past, present, and future.
Teach us, Lord, that we may know your ways.
Guide our every move, Holy One,
that we may faithfully walk in your paths of love and mercy.
Let us worship the One who leads us in what is right.
Together, let us worship God!

*** HYMN 22**

God of the Sparrow

ROEDER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and gracious God,
At times we feel so frail and fragile,
getting blown about by the latest crisis,
by bad news, by our own short tempers and failings.
You call us to hold fast to what is good,
but so often we flounder,
unable to find that solid thing that will center us again.
Help us to see you as our center,
and to cling to the good that you create in the world.
Help us to set aside all our jealousies and prejudices,
all of our betrayals and lies,
all that adds to the world's hurt.
Help us to grow even more into Christ's likeness,
that we will boldly bear his love and truth to the world.
We pray in his name.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (sung) A Prayer for Mercy (Mass for Treble Voices)

Allen Pote

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy on us.

When we make mistakes by doing things we should not do, O Lord, forgive us; help us be true.

When we face decisions and knowingly choose the wrong, O Lord, forgive us; help us be strong.

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The strength of God's love and mercy is greater than the weakness of our faithfulness.

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

Children are dismissed to Sunday School

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 25:1-10

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 26:31-35; 69-75

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Grace at the Crux: Deny-ability

Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

* HYMN 377

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Taken from Declaration of Faith

**In forming his people and sending them into the world
Jesus called individuals to be disciples.
They were to share the joy of his companionship,
to understand and obey his teachings,
and to follow him in life and death.**

**We confess that Christians today are called to discipleship.
Life shared with Christ and shaped by Christ
is God's undeserved gift to each of us.
It is also God's demand upon every one of us,
never perfectly fulfilled by any of us.
Forgiven by God and supported by brothers and sisters,
we strive to become more faithful and effective
in our daily practice of the Christian life.**

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

OFFERTORY

Lord, For Thy Tender Mercies' Sake

Richard Farrant

Lord, for the tender mercies' sake,
lay not our sins to our charge,
but forgive that is past
and give us grace to amend our sinful lives.

To decline from sin and inclined to virtue,
that we may walk with a perfect heart
before thee now and evermore.

*** DOXOLOGY**

Hymn 606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, y heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF 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.

O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy

*Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

You are holy, O God of majesty...to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit ...praying now as our Lord Jesus has taught us saying:

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEIVING OF ELEMENTS

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

* HYMN 494

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

QUEBEC

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue in D minor

Clara Schumann

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

Liturgist: Cindi Willis

Children's Message: Ruth Sall

Chapel Choir Senior High Singers: John and Ruth Sall, co-directors **Chancel Choir**

Organ: Erik Meyer

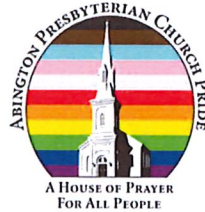
In observance of Women's History Month, the organ music at our services will feature women composers.

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In need of special prayers this week: Doris Boerner, Helen Porter (mother of Joe Porter), Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Linda Maisenhelder, Will Pompilli (son of Teresa Pompilli), Wayne Gibbons, Jr., Judy Meissner, Susan Johnson, John and Phyllis Frazier, Robin Cupo, Laura Lafferty, Emil Kupper, 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), Gordy Hawkinson (Nick Cupo's Uncle), Jen Klauder (friend of Cindi Willis), Valerie Steigerwalt (niece of Marlyn Whyte), Peggy Savage, John Connelly (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Jim Holman (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Paul Costello Family, Mary Ann Wherry, Diana Sall (John Sall's mother), Jan Young (Tink McDevitt's mother), Chris McDevitt (Ralph McDevitt's brother).

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

March 5, 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	Jesus feeds 5,000	221
K—2nd Grades	Richard Treat Room (71)	Eliza Feil	Lent—Art	Parish Hall
3rd—5th Grades	Youth Lounge (72)	Connie Allgyer	Lent—Digital Media	Parish Hall

Children ages 30 months through 5th grade attend Sunday School during the 10am service. Preschool classes start at 10am and are listed in the grid. Kindergarten through 5th graders start the worship service with their families and proceed to their classrooms after the Children's Moment. All children are welcome to attend Sunday School. If you are a visitor today, please feel free to accompany your child to his or her classroom.

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.



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.

Adult Education

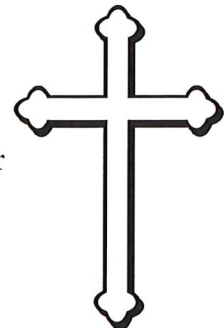
The 8:45am Adult Education class with Suzin Weber is held in the Parlor. Suzin leads us through the Book of James and takes a deep dive into the entire epistle. Come join this thought-provoking bible study that links the person of James to his writings.

On behalf of Erma Yerkes's family, we would like to thank everyone here who was involved with Erma in one way or another.

She loved being involved in the Abington Presbyterian Church as a Deacon, helping with communion, working with the pantry, having fun in the Come Doubles Club, Civic Club and many other activities.

There were many people from church in her life for many years. You were part of her family. You celebrated each other, had meals with each other, played or listened to music together, gave each other rides and were there in need for each other. You gave her friendship and conversation and shared your lives with her.

We appreciate your kindness to her and her beloved husband, Ralph, throughout the years. Sincerely, The Yerkes family





Throughout the season of Lent, the Chapel will be available for meditation and prayer. Times to visit include before and after Sunday worship, events on weekday evenings, or when the office is open during the day. There will be guided prayer stations, as well as open space for contemplation and quiet.

The Chapel is located off the North Transept in the Sanctuary, to the right of the pulpit.

APC Deacons Community Blood Drive

Saturday, March 18, 2023
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM ~ Parish Hall



**American
Red Cross**

Please visit the church's Facebook page to make an appointment to give blood.

Youth, we need you! Youth Group meets 4-5:30 p.m. today for Talent Show preparation. There is only one more Sunday to prepare after today. We also need to know what act you will be doing if you are performing individually or in a small group.

A Talent Show dress rehearsal is planned for Friday, March 17 from 6-9 p.m. Please plan to attend to finalize the show.

Thank you to all who participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring! We had hundreds of pounds of non-perishable goods donated as well as \$425 for Family Promise Montco PA.

Plan to attend the 2023 Youth Talent Show on Saturday, March 18!

All are invited to attend the annual Talent Show.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for desserts and to bid on raffle baskets (please see additional note about donating a basket*)

Show starts at 7 p.m.

Suggested admission is \$15/adult, \$7/child, \$40 family cap

Raffle basket tickets are \$2/ticket or \$10/6 tickets

Proceeds benefit the scholarships for the youth summer trips



*If you would like to donate a raffle basket or have an item to donate for a raffle basket, please visit this sign up genius.....<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044fa8aa22a1fd0-youth#/>

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS): Hunger, Disaster, Development.



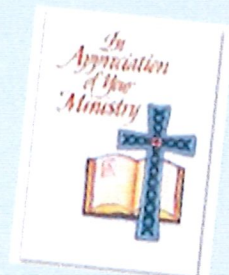
For over 70 years, OGHS has partnered with other organizations to respond to God's love and take action to share bread with the hungry, restore hope out of disaster, and loose the bonds of injustice through the self-development of people. **OGHS is a first responder when disaster strikes.** It is gratifying to know that OGHS teams are already assessing the needs and making available the funds to respond to the loss of lives, homes and livelihoods of

those suffering after the earthquake in Turkey and Syria.

As partners in ministry, we are part of that response team. Through your gifts to OGHS, during the season of Lent, you can join with Presbyterians worldwide to share God's love with our neighbors in their times of need. Offering envelopes are in the pew racks.



Look what is happening!



A Special Reception to

Honor Kirby Lawrence Hill's Ministry at APC

Sunday, April 2nd following 10 a.m. worship service

Join us in making this a day to remember for Kirby and Nancy by contributing in any of the following ways.

1. Scrapbook of Memories and Appreciation – Cards, letters, pictures, and memories are being combined into a scrapbook. Twelve by twelve pages are available outside the church office door for you to design OR drop off your items and we will assemble them.
2. Assisting with the "finger food" menu by contacting Anne-Marie Constable by emailing her at sweets.amc@gmail.com or by calling 267-800-3737. We are serving appetizers and mini desserts/cookies.
3. Contributing to a "purse" for Kirby (check or envelop marked gift for Kirby) and mailed, left in office, or placed in the offering plate.
4. Simply join us at the reception!

COMMITTEE FOR OLDER ADULT MINISTRY

"Happiness is being surrounded by the young".
(From "The Swedish Art of Aging Exuberantly").

APC members and friends are invited to share in some happiness as our nursery school children present a special program on Wednesday, March 8, at 10 a. m., in the Parish Hall. The children will sing songs for our enjoyment. We will share a snack and make a craft together.

Afterwards, guests will meet in the Parlor for a light lunch. Please RSVP to the church office-215-887-4530- by Monday, March 6. Come and enjoy this program with our nursery school children.

The next Women's Gathering will be Lunch at **11:30a.m.** on Friday, March 10th at Bonnet Lane Restaurant, 1720 Old York Road, Abington.


*Mark your
calendar!*

Please RSVP to Sheila Jackson at dljskj@gmail.com if you plan on attending.



The Property Committee and Tuesday Group volunteers are always looking for a few more volunteers to assist with project management, hands-on help, or to simply hold a flashlight on various maintenance, landscaping, and improvement projects in and around the church buildings. For more information, please reach out to Michael Palumbo, John Dwyer, John Miller, or any Tuesday group volunteer.

To everyone at Abington Presbyterian Church,

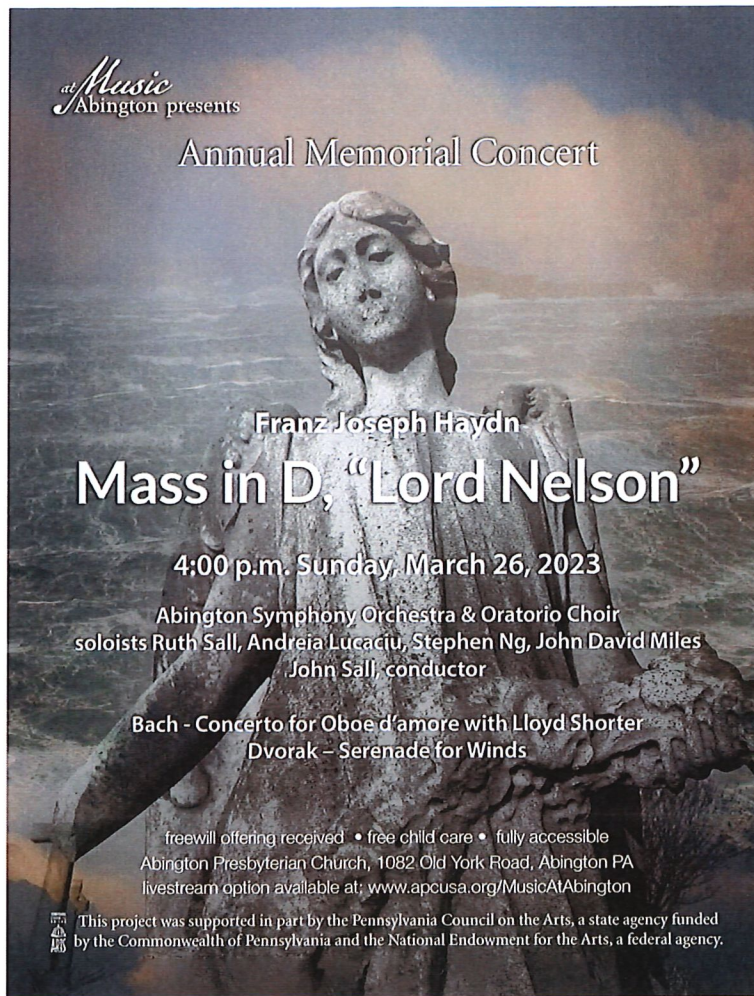
Thank you all so much for your generous support! We are all so grateful for you stepping forward in this moment of crisis. We have welcomed 19 buses and over 800 people so far, and we can only do this in community – thank you for being part of that community. During Advent, as we waited at 5:30 AM for the buses, it became clearer and clearer that these people arriving – families with kids, single adults, grandparents, were not just representing the journey of Mary, Joseph and Jesus...but were the Holy Family. Christ's call for us to see him in the marginalized is such a transformational call and I am so grateful to strive toward that with you – to walk the path of discipleship with all of you. Many blessings and look forward to our continued work together.

In gratitude,

Peter and everyone at NSM



(This hand-written note from Peter Pedemonti from NSM of Philadelphia was in response to the support we offered the asylum seekers arriving from the southern border).



The second annual **Interfaith Multicultural Awareness Week** sponsored by our area Ministerium is in the first full week in March.

On **Monday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m.** we are invited to a Persian Feast and Purim (the story of Esther) festival at Old York Road Temple Beth-Am. We hope those who have already RSVP enjoy the richness of this event. We are past the date for RSVP's.

Tuesday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. we are invited to visit the Samarpan Hindu Temple in Bensalem for a tour, Q and A. 2746 Mechanicsville Road, Bensalem, PA

Wednesday, March 8 at 7:00 p.m. will be a Zoom meeting on food insecurity presented by an organization called Why Hunger. Meeting ID: 827 4249 4378, passcode: Hunger

Thursday, March 9 at 7:00 p.m. we are invited to visit the Won Buddhist Temple in Warminster for an opportunity to participate in meditation and Tai Chi. 800 Jacksonville Rd. Warminster, PA

Sunday, March 12, we are invited to a worship service at Salem Baptist Church at 8:45 or to a 2:00 p.m. panel discussion by area clergy on how to address religious and racial bigotry. 2741 Woodland Rd, Abington, PA

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

