

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd. I shall
not want.
2 He makes me lie down in
green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
3 he restores my soul.

Psalm 23:1-3a



Abington Presbyterian Church

April 30, 2023

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Fourth Sunday of Easter

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Fourth Sunday of Easter April 30, 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*

O Lord Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth, and the Life:
Do not let us stray from you, the Way, nor to distrust you, the Truth,
nor to rest in anything other than you, the Life. Amen.

PRELUDE

Shepherd Me, O God

Jeffrey Honoré

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

With the Good Shepherd as our guide, we shall want for nothing.
God leads us along peaceful paths, restoring our souls.
Even in the shadow of death, we fear no evil,
For the Good Shepherd walks with us day and night.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow all the days of our lives.
And we shall dwell in the house of the Lord our whole life long.
Let us worship God!

***HYMN 624**

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

TOULON

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious Lord, our Good Shepherd, you call to us.
We know our shepherd's voice but fail to heed it.
Though you beckon us, we go our own way.
Though you defend us, we are filled with fear.
You spread a table before us. Our cup overflows.
Yet, we judge those with whom we are seated
And we worry there will not be enough.
In your mercy, forgive us, Lord.
Take us by the hand and guide us in your ways.
Help us to rest in your company, and there learn to be grateful and generous.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***RESPONSE HYMN 246**

Chris Is Alive (vs. 1 and 5)

TRURO

1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

**5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Greet one another with the sign of Christ's 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

All Grades are dismissed to Sunday School

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 23

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 10:1-10

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

A CELEBRATION OF TRUST

The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton

***HYMN 168**

Within Your Shelter, Loving God

ABBAY

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from a Brief Statement of Faith

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God,
the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.
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.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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 and 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

The Shepherd Psalm

John Carter

The Lord is my shepherd, there's nothing more I'll ever need;
I'll lie down to dream in a pasture of green,
I'll follow wherever he leads.
The Lord is my shepherd, beside the still waters I go;
My soul is restored when I walk with my Lord,
His righteousness 'round me will flow.
And if I should walk in the shadow of death, I will not be afraid;
My shepherd, the Lord, goes wherever I go,
His rod and his staff are my comfort.
I know that the Lord is my shepherd, I'll sit at this table to dine;
His goodness and mercy will follow my days,
And heaven will surely be mine.

*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 816

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

This is the Feast of Victory

Charles Callahan

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton

Liturgist: William Gustafson

Chancel Choir: Shirley Keiter

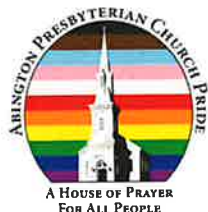
Organ: Shirley Keiter

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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, 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), 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, Judy Sharff (friend of David & Diane Faust), Kirby Lawrence Hill, Miriam Whitten, Carol Young (friend of Bill Gustafson).

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: jthornton@apcusa.org

Web Site: www.apcusa.org

The Reverend Dr. James W. Thornton, *Head of Staff*

Mrs. Tia McCoun, *Congregational Care Associate*

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

April 30 2023

10:00 AM				
AGE/GRADE	ROOM	TEACHER	TOPIC	Pick Up
Birth— 2 year olds	110-112	Childcare	Childcare	110-112
Preschool	221	Farah Khan Gill	Lost Sheep	221
K—2nd Grades	Richard Treat Room (71)	Ellie Ratka	Art	Parish Hall
3rd—5th Grades	Kitchen	Mariam Freeman	Cooking	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.



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.

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. (Off this week)
- Adult Education at 8:45am in the Parlor. (Off this week)
- For more information contact Ruth Sall at 215-887-4530 or rsall@apcusa.org.



Adult Forum Series for Spring: *Being Reformed: Faith Seeking Understanding*

8:45 Sunday mornings, May 7, 14, 21 June 4, 11, 18 in the Parlor.

What does it mean to be a Presbyterian Christian in the world today? God calls us to explore and to work together continually to grow in faith and understanding, but how? Join us in a six-part course, as we explore and celebrate the Reformed and Presbyterian tradition of faith.

We will be using the study guide "Being Reformed: Faith Seeking Understanding" published by the PCUSA. Through readings, discussion, and prayer we will explore aspects of theology, church, worship, spirituality, discipleship, and social righteousness, and how these are significant for our faith.

See Ruth Sall to obtain a copy of the study guide. Extra copies will be available at class time. Sessions will be facilitated by Charlotte Dean and Peter Dykstra and are open to high school age students and adults. Hope you can join us!

Youth News:

Today 4/30/23

No Youth Activities—Choir Tour



Please stay alert for announcements on helping with VBS and taking part in after-VBS youth activities.

SUMMER YOUTH NOTES:

All APC families are eligible to use a \$200 scholarship to a Christian summer experience of their choice (Massanetta, Nashville, Bear Creek, etc.). This is separate from a need-based scholarship which is always available on a case-by-case basis. Our Talent Show helps to support scholarships to summer experiences.

NASHVILLE MISSION TRIP payment was due March 26: The second payment of \$150 was due March 26. Please turn into the church office or Justin Feil. Please make checks payable to Abington Presbyterian Church.

BEACH DAY: Mark your calendars: August 19, 2023 will be APC Youth Beach Day in Ocean City, NJ! Spend the day together at the beach. More details to follow.

Doing some Spring cleaning? If you come across unused greeting cards, notecards, birthday, and sympathy cards, we would appreciate your donations. There is a simple brown box on the filing cabinet outside the office marked "Cards" to place them in. Thank you.

Women's Gathering

Please join us on Thursday, May 11th at 5:30 at the Olive Garden, 2328 Easton Road, Willow Grove. Please RSVP to Sheila Jackson - dljskj@gmail.com.

Youth Music Tour Homecoming Concert TONIGHT!

Come hear our amazing Youth at 7:00pm.





5th Annual WKM Golf Outing

(Benefiting West Kensington Ministry)



Monday, May 15, 2023

Best Ball / Scramble Format

9:45 a.m. Shot-Gun Start

(Sign-In/Registration starting at 8:45 AM)

~ Five Ponds Golf Club ~

Donation: \$175.00 per player

Includes: Lunch

Greens Fees and Cart

Putting Contest

Hole Prizes, Door Prizes

Post-Tournament Reception

A fun day to benefit a Critical Urban Ministry

Support Opportunities: Sponsor a Hole - \$250

Sponsor or Donate a Prize - \$400 or prize value

Sponsor WKM logo Golf Balls - \$900

Sponsor or Co-Sponsor Golf Outing - \$5000

Sponsor or Co-Sponsor Lunch - \$1500

Sponsor or Co-Sponsor Reception - \$2500

Silent Auction - Bid or Donate an Auction Item

Purchase Mulligans, 50/50 Raffle

To Register: go to www.westkensingtonministry.com

Click on the GREEN "Golfer Registration" icon

It's near the bottom of the home page



at Music
Abington presents

7:30 p.m. Friday, May 19, 2023

Abington Symphony Orchestra

performing Michael Daugherty's *Once Upon a Castle*
and other works

John Sall, director
Erik Meyer, organ

Abington Presbyterian Church, 1082 Old York Road, Abington PA
livestream option available at www.apcusa.org/MusicAtAbington
free childcare • fully accessible • free will donations received



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.

APC Congregation Survey for Designated Pastor Search

The Designated Pastor Nominating Committee (DPNC) needs your input. We are seeking feedback from the congregation which will help to inform the search for APC's new pastor. This survey will take 5-10 minutes to complete. Please scan the QR code below to access the survey. Hard copies are also available in the church office and can be placed in the box marked DPNC Survey. If you have trouble with the QR code below the direct link is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9ZF7JVJ>

The survey will be available until May 1, 2023.

Your feedback is greatly appreciated and will be very important to the search process. Note: This survey is anonymous and identifying information will not be collected. All are welcome and your feedback is appreciated. Thank you!



Envisioning the Future of APC Survey

The Session at APC has been tasked with designing a plan for the future growth of the church, and your input is essential. Beginning Sunday, April 30 and running through May 7, we invite you to take 5-10 minutes to complete the Envisioning the Future of APC Survey. It will be available in print in the worship bulletin and in electronic form here: <https://forms.gle/xp7TFqu33TiRoWnD9>

If you have ideas for the future growth of APC and would like to chat with the committee, we will be holding listening sessions after worship on April 30 and May 7. We thank you for your input on envisioning the future of our church.

The Envisioning the Future of APC Survey is a joint venture of the Missions Committee and the Congregational Life Committee. This survey was designed by Nick Allgyer, Don Brooks, Cindy Miller, and Suzin Weber on behalf of the Session of APC.

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

