

“Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”

*John 17:1b-3*



## **Abington Presbyterian Church**

May 21, 2023

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Seventh Sunday of Easter

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
Seventh Sunday of Easter  
**ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
May 21, 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 God, by your power may we, with all the saints,  
comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ  
that surpasses knowledge, so that we may be filled with your fullness. Amen.

**PRELUDE**

Improvisation on Aurelia

*Erik Meyer*

**LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us worship the eternal God,  
**the source of love and life, who creates us.**  
Let us worship Jesus Christ,  
**the risen one, who lives among us and makes us one.**  
Let us worship the Spirit,  
**the holy fire, who renews us.**  
To the triune God be praise in all times and places,  
**through the grace of Jesus Christ.**

\*HYMN 321

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, in your gracious presence  
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.  
Although Christ is among us as our peace,  
we are a people divided against ourselves  
as we cling to the values of a broken world.  
The profit and pleasures we pursue  
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.  
The fears and jealousies that we harbor  
set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation.  
We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,  
of intellect and reason, and turn them into bonds of oppression.  
Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us.  
Set us free to serve you in the world  
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*RESPONSE HYMN 463 (v. 1, 5) How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

**1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!  
What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**5 "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."**

\*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.**

\*ANTHEM

We Are Blessed

*Andrea Ramsey*

Come on down rain, come on down, come on down rain, and water this ground.  
Come on down rain, clean and cold, come on down, rain, and water my soul.  
We are blessed by God. We are blessed with good friends.  
We are blessed by our families. We are blessed; we are blessed.  
We are blessed with rest. We are blessed with sweet dreams.  
We are blessed with a bed to sleep in. We are blessed; we are blessed.  
We are blessed with hope. We are blessed with freedom.  
We are blessed to have food to eat. We are blessed, we are blessed.

**WORD**

*God's Word is read and its message is proclaimed in scripture, music and interpretation.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*All Grades remain in Worship.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALM

Psalm 68:26-35

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

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Peter 5:6-11

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

SCRIPTURE READING

John 17:1-11, 20-26

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

SERMON

**THAT THEY MAY BE ONE**

*The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain; that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways; in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another.

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

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

*Dale Wood*

*The Chancel Choir sings an anthem based on the text found at Hymn #394*

\*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 317

In Christ There Is No East or West

MCKEE

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in C

*Gerog Böhm*

**Worship Leaders:**

**Preacher:** The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton

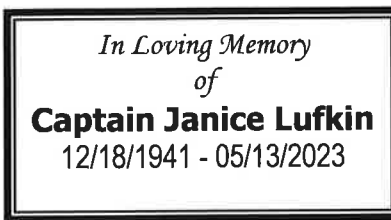
**Liturgist:** Ray Rife

**Children's Message:** Ruth Sall

**Chapel Choir:** Ruth Sall and John Sall, co-directors

**Chancel Choir:** John Sall, director

**Organ:** Erik Meyer



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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), Amy Gould.

**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](mailto:jthornton@apcusa.org)**

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

**James W. Thornton, *Head of Staff***

**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***


**Ashley Rossi & Justin Feil, *Youth Fellowship Coordinators***

# ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN LIFE

May 21 2023

10:00 AM	AGE/GRADE	ROOM	TEACHER	TOPIC	Pick Up
	Birth– 2 year olds	110-112	Childcare	Childcare	110-112
	Preschool	221	Amanda Pompilli	Good Samaritan	221
	K—2nd Grades	All	Kids	In Worship	
	3rd—5th Grades	All	Kids	In Worship	

*Children ages 30 months through 5<sup>th</sup> grade attend Sunday School during the 10am service. Preschool classes start at 10am and are listed in the grid. Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to join us.
- Adult Education at 8:45am in the Parlor.
- For more information contact Ruth Sall at 215-887-4530 or [rsall@apcusa.org](mailto:rsall@apcusa.org).




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

8:45 Sunday mornings, May 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!



Starting on May 30th and continuing through Labor Day (September 4th), the church office will be open as follows:

Monday—Thursday - 8:30am until 3:30pm and CLOSED on Fridays

**Youth News:** Today 5/21/23

Youth group will meet 4-5:30 today followed by dinner. There is no choir rehearsal at 6 p.m.!

Nashville Mission Trip: The third payment of \$100 is due May 28. Please make checks out to Abington Presbyterian Church. Payment can be turned in the church office or given to Justin Feil.

Put these dates on your calendar to attend.....VBS youth activities.

Following VBS each day (from noon—3pm) will be a youth activity. Whether you are helping out with VBS or not, come be a part of the fun. There is NO COST to attend. Please RSVP to [justinfeil4@gmail.com](mailto:justinfeil4@gmail.com) by June 19 if you will be attending.

- June 26 - Mini-golf and Burger King
- June 27 - Pennypack hike and Rita's
- June 28 - Bowling and WaWa
- June 29 - Movie and pizza



**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.



**End-of-Year Picnic info:**

June 11<sup>th</sup> after worship  
On the Church Street lawn, next to the Education Building.  
Food, fellowship, and fun.

- ★ Bring a dish to share.
- ★ Bring a picnic blanket or chairs for the grass or enjoy sitting at a table with friends!
- ★ Burgers and Hot Dogs Provided

- ★ A - M    dessert for 6 – 8 people
- ★ N - Z    side dish for 6 – 8 people

- ★ Old-Fashioned church picnic games for all ages!!
- ★ Egg toss, three-legged race, water balloon race, sidewalk chalk art gallery,
- ★ bubble blowing contest and much more!!



We hope to see you there.  
Congregational Life Council



**2023 GRADUATES, Let us hear from you!**

If you have a 2023 graduate of a high school or above program, please send the name of the graduate, where they graduated from, and their degree or area of certification, etc. to [justinfeil4@gmail.com](mailto:justinfeil4@gmail.com). Thanks!!!





APC is excited to offer VBS for preschool and elementary age children this summer. We are planning on a pre-school class, K-4th grade traditional VBS rotations of crafts, games and more. A middle school VBS will focus on 5th and 6th grade Service Projects for the local community.



Operation Restoration VBS  
June 26-29: 9am - noon  
Registration Deadline: June 9, 2023  
Age: 3 years old (must turn three by June 1, 2023) through 6th grade  
Cost: \$25 per child or \$50 per family

Check made payable to APC or through online giving  
(To Pay Online: Go to <https://apcusa.org/give/donate/> and select Program/Event Fee.  
Please include VBS Fee and your child's name on page 2.)

Questions regarding registration, please contact Blythe Palumbo  
at [blythep42@gmail.com](mailto:blythep42@gmail.com) or Ruth Sall at [rsall@apcusa.org](mailto:rsall@apcusa.org)



## NOAH'S ARTS CAMP FOR KIDS (NACK!)

Our annual musical theater and arts camp is coming soon! Camp will be held July 24-28 from 9 am to 4 pm daily, with a performance on July 30 at 10 am Sunday worship. The family preview is Friday, July 22 at 4 pm.

NACK is a fun all-day day camp for rising 2nd to rising 8th graders. Campers attend art, movement, music, handbells, and drama workshops while working toward a performance on Sunday with a Friday family preview. Campers bring lunch and enjoy outdoor recreation every day.

Ages: rising 2nd through 8th graders (fall '23)  
Date/time: July 24-28, 9 am to 4 pm  
Family preview: July 28 at 4 pm (after camp)  
Performance: July 30 during the 10 am worship  
Cost: \$75 per child

Follow the QR code to the registration information page



## Theology on Tap

### When:

7:30pm on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>

### Where:

Human Robot  
208 York Rd, Jenkintown, PA

### Overview:

Theology on Tap is calling on all those interested in enjoying local brews and engaging in hearty conversation. Over the coming months, we will reflect on the Apostles' Creed after listening to conversations between Dr. A.J. Swoboda (professor at Bushnell University) and Dr. Nijay Gupta (professor at Northern Seminary) on the podcast *Slow Theology: Simple Faith for Chaotic Times* (available wherever you get your podcasts). For our next session, listen to the following episodes:

Feb 9, 2023 – ST12: What is the Goal of the Christian Life? (29 min)

May 5, 2023 – ST16: What Do I Do with Mean Christians? (30 min)

### Want to RSVP or Get More Info?

Contact Nick Allgyer at [nta107@gmail.com](mailto:nta107@gmail.com)



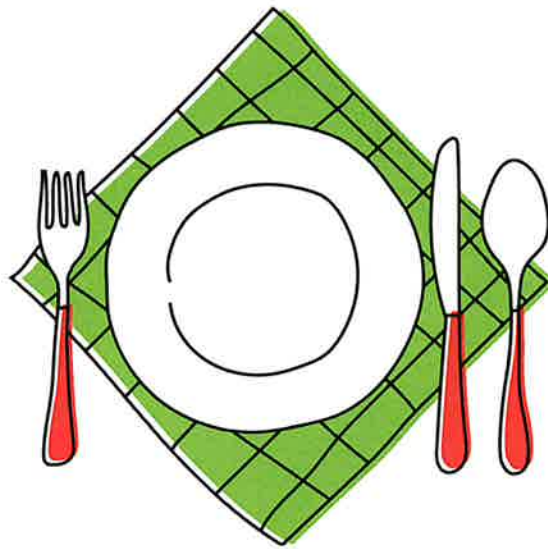
# Calling all chefs & servers!

Saturday, June 10th

Where: **Face to Face Mission,**  
123 East Price Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19144

When: Cooking from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
or Serving from 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Contact Don Brooks at [dmkabrooks@comcast.net](mailto:dmkabrooks@comcast.net)



*Outdoor Worship Service*

Simple Gifts 8:00am Service is moving outdoors for the summer beginning Sunday, June 4th.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day.



ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESENTS



# THE ST. THOMAS GOSPEL CHOIR

Directed By

*Watt Blocker*

*From The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas*

## IN CONCERT

SUNDAY JUNE 4, 2023 - 4PM

Abington Presbyterian Church  
1082 Old York Road  
Abington, PA 19001

*A MUSICAL JOURNEY OF HYMNS, SPIRITUALS AND FOOT STOMPING, HAND CLAPPING GOSPEL MUSIC*

### Join us for this free worship concert

The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas Gospel Choir currently consist of 60 spirit-filled, energetic, and anointed musicians and singers sharing their music at over 100 services, programs, concerts, and celebrations every year.

Freewill offering received \* Free professional child care \* Reception follows



## APC Deacons Family Summer Support Food Drive



# HUNGER DOESN'T TAKE A VACATION

In support of families in need during the summer, please drop off non-perishable items in the orange food pantry bins. High need items are:

- Dishwasher tablets
- Dish soap
- Laundry detergent tablets
- Cleaning supplies (glass or multi-purpose cleaner)
- Tall kitchen garbage bags
- Ziploc totes, size extra large or jumbo



**MAY 14  
TO  
MAY 28**

All donations will be  
dropped off to Family  
Promise Montco PA



[www.fpmontco.org/donate-items](http://www.fpmontco.org/donate-items)



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

