

14 "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. 15 No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

*Matthew 5:14-16*



## Abington Presbyterian Church

February 4, 2024

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

**ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**February 4, 2024**

**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, you pour out the Spirit of grace and love.

Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts, that with steady minds  
and burning zeal we may worship you in spirit and truth. Amen.

**PRELUDE**      Improvisation on Laudes Domini

*Erik Meyer*

**LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Psalm 112

Praise the LORD!

**Happy are those who fear the LORD,  
who greatly delight in God's commandments.**

They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;  
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

**It is well with those who conduct their affairs with justice.**

**For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.**

**WESTMINSTER CHIME**      Joyful Ringers

**\*HYMN 667**      When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

(\* -- Indicates all who are able may stand)

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy and merciful God,  
in your presence we confess our sinfulness,  
our shortcomings, and our offenses against you.  
You alone know how often we have sinned  
in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts,  
in forgetting your love.**

**Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed  
and sorry for all we have done to displease you.  
Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light  
and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 581                      Glory Be to the Father

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.**

\*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 112:1-9	OT p. 563
The Word of the Lord		
<b>Thanks be to God.</b>		

SCRIPTURE READING	1 Corinthians 2:1-9	NT p. 166
The Word of the Lord		
<b>Thanks be to God.</b>		

SCRIPTURE READING	Matthew 5:13-20	NT p. 4
The Word of the Lord		
<b>Thanks be to God.</b>		

ANTHEM                                      Light of the World                                      *arr. Benjamin Kornelis*

You are the light of the world.  
You are the light of the world, so shine, shine, shine where you are.  
You are the light of the world.  
    You are a city on a hill.  
    You are a candle in the dark.  
    You are a star in the night.  
    You are the light of the world.

SERMON

BE WHAT YOU ARE

*The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton*

\*HYMN

## Bring Forth the Kingdom

Marty Haugen

Verses

*Cantor:*



1. You are salt for the earth, O peo - ple:
2. You are a light on the hill, O peo - ple:
3. You are a seed of the Word, O peo - ple:
4. We are a blest and a pil - grim peo - ple:

*All:*

*Cantor:*



Salt for the King - dom of God! Share the fla - vor of  
Light for the Cit - y of God! Shine so ho - ly and  
Bring forth the King - dom of God! Seeds of mer - cy and  
Bound for the King - dom of God! Love our jour - ney and

*All:*



life, O peo - ple: Life in the King - dom of God!  
bright, O peo - ple: Shine for the King - dom of God!  
seeds of jus - tice, Grow in the King - dom of God!  
love our home - land: Love is the King - dom of God!

Refrain



Bring forth the King - dom of mer - cy, Bring forth the



King - dom of peace; Bring forth the King - dom of jus - tice,



Bring forth the Cit - y of God!

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Kendall and Matthew Williams

Matthew Peel Williams

Graham Lundy Williams

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

*Hymnal p. 35*

BAPTISM SONG

Welcome, Child of God

AR HYD Y NOS

Raindrops, oceans, lakes, and rivers; welcome, child of God.

Mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters; welcome, child of God.

When the world feels wide around you,

When the dark of night surrounds you,

We are here to tend and guide you. Welcome, child of God.

## 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 ANTHEM

Rise, Shine!

Dale Wood

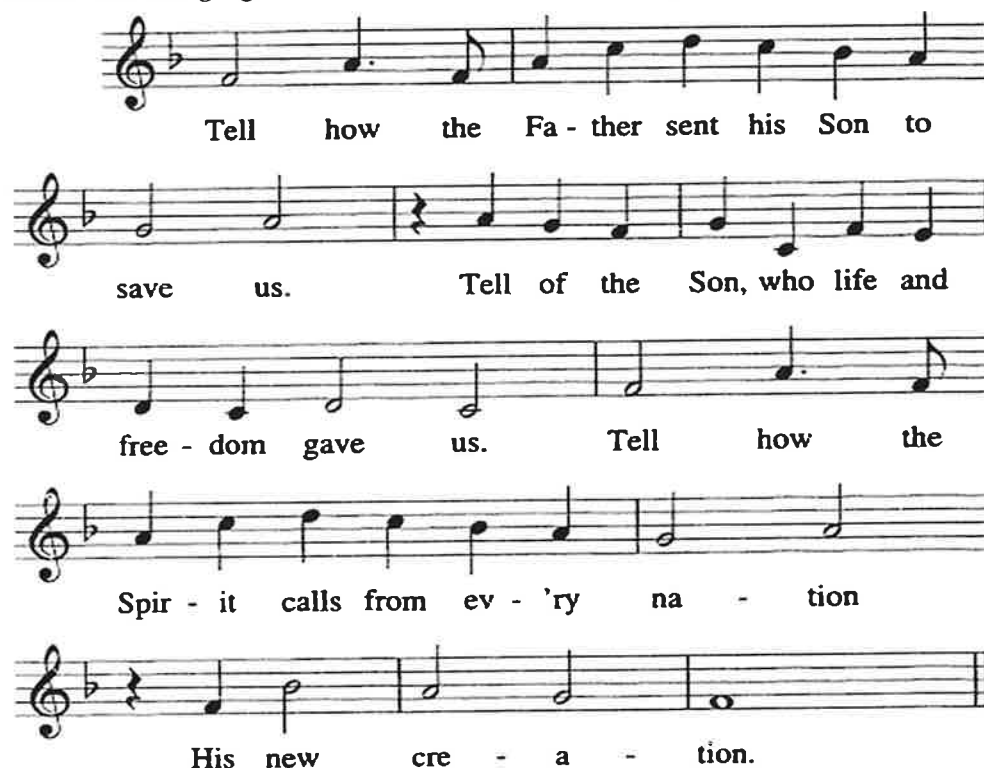
*The congregation is invited to rise and sing the final stanza as our doxology.*

Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered  
our human story; God in him is centered.  
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.

See how he sends the powers of evil reeling;  
He brings us freedom, light and life and healing..  
All men and women, who by guilt are driven, now are forgiven.

Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling,  
Your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.  
To all the world go out and tell the story of Jesus glory.

\*DOXOLOGY The Congregation is invited to stand and sing the final verse with the choir



Tell how the Fa - ther sent his Son to  
save us. Tell of the Son, who life and  
free - dom gave us. Tell how the  
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion  
His new cre - a - tion.

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

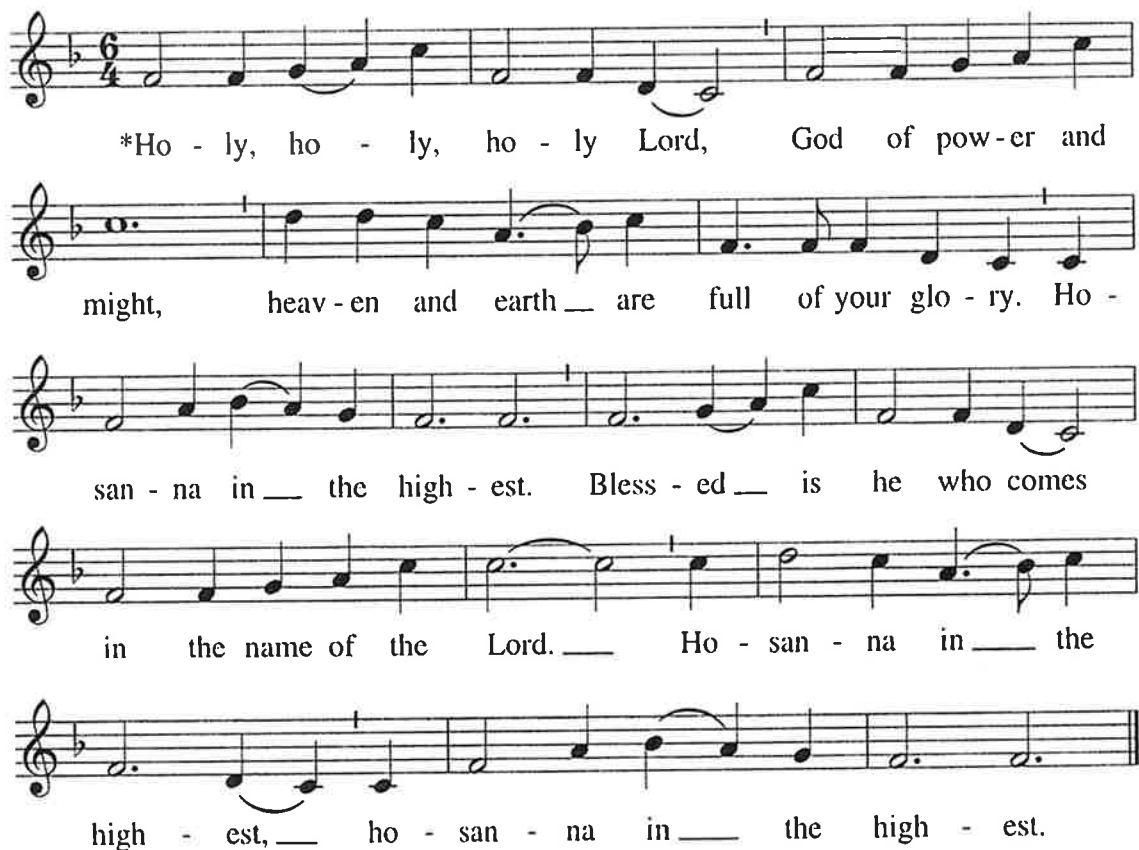
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We glorify your name and lift our voices in joyful praise:

### 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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,**

**Christ is risen,**

**Christ will come again.**

We join together in the prayer Christ taught his disciples, saying:

### 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

Gifts of God for the people of God ... **Let us keep the feast.**

### RECEIVING OF ELEMENTS

Please come forward to one of the stations for Communion today. Gluten free communion bread will be available in front of the lectern. Self-contained packets will be available at the middle of the sanctuary.

COMMUNION HYMN 312      Take Us As We Are, O God

ENDLESS FEAST

### PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

\*HYMN 377

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Solemn Processional

*Robert A. Harris*

### Worship Leaders:

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

**Liturgist:** Kathy Messina

**Children's Message:** Ruth Sall

**Joyful Ringers:** Risë Kagan-Erickson, director

**Chancel Choir:** John Sall, director

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

**Organ:** Erik Meyer

We are pleased today to celebrate the **Sacrament of Baptism** for Matthew Peel Williams and Graham Lundy Williams, children of Kendall and Matthew Williams. The Sponsors standing with them today are Jurgens Bauer, Faith Williams, Stephen Williams, and Christina Bauer.

**Hearing assistant devices** are available in the Narthex, please see an usher for assistance.

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**or 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.

**In need of special prayers this week:** Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Will Pompilli (son of Teresa Pompilli), Wayne Gibbons, Jr., Judy Meissner, John and Phyllis Frazier, Robin Cupo, Laura Lafferty, Emil Kupper, Laurie Betts, Sally Hardy, Katie Link, Jennifer Edward (friend of Nick Cupo), Ted Hyczko, Gordy Hawkinson (Nick Cupo’s Uncle), Jen Klauder (friend of Cindi Willis), Valerie Steigerwalt (niece of Marlyn Whyte), John Connelly (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Mary Ann Wherry, Miriam Whitten, Victor V. Johnson, Jr, Richard Decembrino family, Olive Biggs, Stephen Krewson, Kristine Biddle (mother of Isaiah and Kade Holt), Ed Messina, Gaylen Byker (friend of Sandra & Jim Holt and former member of APC), Sandra Brown (sister of Diane Faust), Peter S. Johnson, Carmina Gagliardi (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates).



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, M.Div., D.Min., Head of Staff**

**Tia McCoun, M.Div., Congregational Care Associate, M. Div**

**Ruth Ideen-Sall, B.M., Director of Christian Education**

**John Sall, M.M., Director of Music Ministries**

**Eric Meyer, M.M., Organist**

**Ashley Rossi, M.Div., & Justin Feil, Youth Fellowship Coordinators**





### Interested in Walking the Labyrinth

Join us Wednesday, February 7, 2024, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm INDOORS!

Labyrinth Walk: Stepping Out In Love  
Followed by supper sandwiches.

Please RSVP to the church office by Sunday, February 4.



The Session has called for our annual congregational/corporate meeting to be held in the Sanctuary Sunday, February 18 following the 10am Worship Service. At the meeting, there will be a financial report for 2023, presentation of the 2024 budget adopted by the Session, a report on staffing plans, a vote on terms of call for the pastor, and a report of the Nominating Committee with the election of church officers. Please plan to attend this important meeting.



### APC GIVING

	YTD 12/31/23	YTD 12/31/22	Annual 2023 Budget
Revenue	\$658,957	\$670,074	\$658,500
Disbursements	\$695,743	\$737,020	\$728,500
(Deficit)/Surplus	(\$36,786)	(\$66,949)	(\$70,000)

BSA Boy Scout Troop's Pancake Breakfast is TODAY after the 10:00 service from 11:00am to 1:00pm in Parish Hall.

\$6.00 for Adults, \$4.00 for Youth. Proceeds benefit BSA Troop 1.

**Troop 1 meets on Mondays, 7:15-8:30pm in the Rec Room.**  
Contact or speak with Allen Tsung, Jesse Freeman, and Mariam Freeman.  
Email [mariambirouti@gmail.com](mailto:mariambirouti@gmail.com) for more information.

Be on the lookout for more Troop 1 related news and fundraisers!





Do you have too many bud vases that need a new home? We are collecting 9" tall bud vases for flowers here at church. Look for a box by the office labeled bud vases. Thanks!

### Ash Wednesday Dinner and Service

February 14th will be the beginning of the season of Lent.

We look forward to having a simple soup, fruit, and bread supper in the Parish Hall at 6 p.m., followed by a service about 6:45 where there will be the imposition of ashes and the sacrament of communion.



A SignUpGenius link has been created for those who would be able to provide food for the meal.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B48A4AD23A7FA7-47342243-ashwednesday>

We need your talent! Planning for the Talent Show will be a high priority at youth group over the next week. Please share your talents and come 4-5:30 p.m.!

Update the Youth Sunday planning:

High School students: Youth Sunday Planning

10-12 graders and any 9th grader not in confirmation will continue to meet 8:45-9:30 TODAY to plan details for the Feb. 11 Youth Sunday.



Also all Youth Sunday participants, plan on a "dress rehearsal" of the Youth Sunday service 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 10.

### APPORTIONMENT FOR 2024

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 Assembly levels of our denomination.

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

You can mail or drop-off your payment at the Church Office.



**PRESBYTERY of PHILADELPHIA**  
CHRIST'S WORK • OUR WITNESS

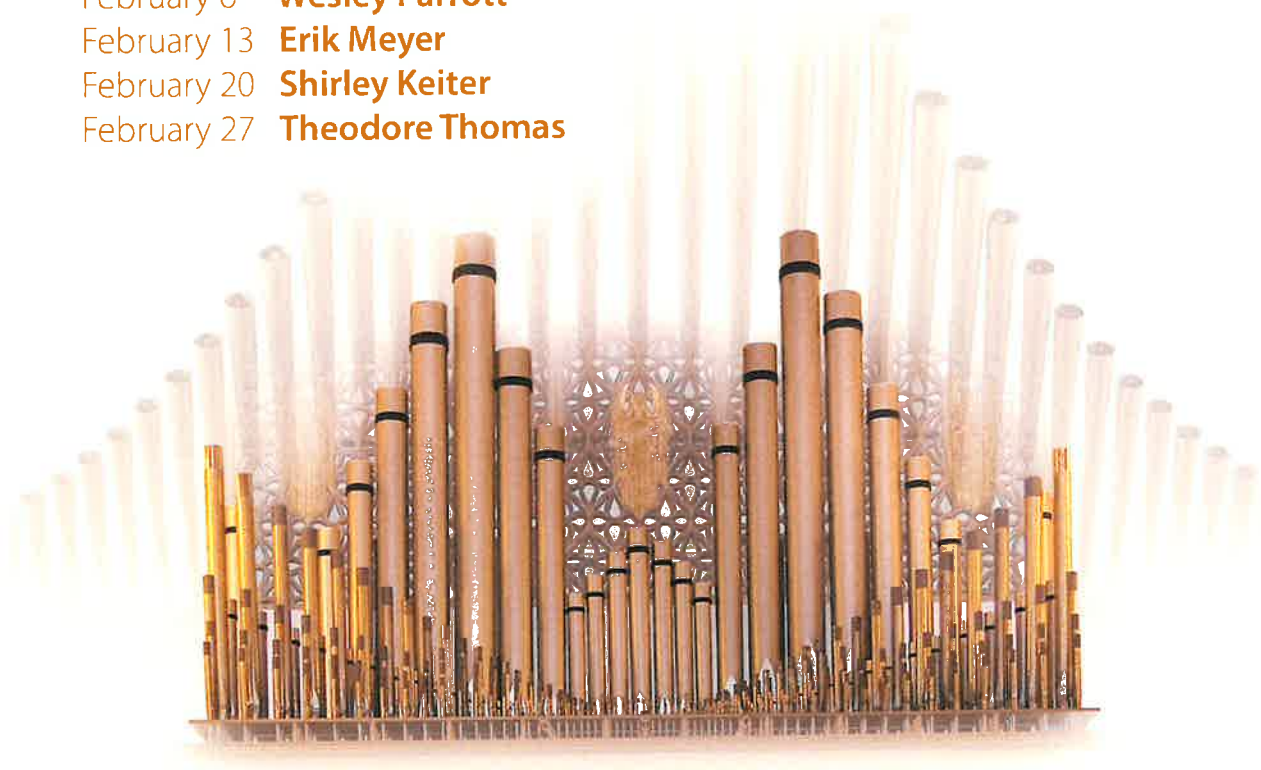


*Music*  
at Abington presents

February Organ Recitals  
each Tuesday at 12:00 noon

# AGO Organ Recitals

February 6 **Wesley Parrott**  
February 13 **Erik Meyer**  
February 20 **Shirley Keiter**  
February 27 **Theodore Thomas**



**Abington Presbyterian Church**

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page on our APC website

