

¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.

Luke 15:17-20



Abington Presbyterian Church

February 25, 2024

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Second Sunday in Lent

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Second Sunday in Lent
ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
February 25, 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*

Fill our worship with grace, Lord Jesus Christ, that every thought, word, and deed
may be acceptable to you, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

PRELUDE Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love (Hymn #203) *arr. Kevin McChesney*

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

INTROIT Jesus Loves Me *Swedish Folk tune, arranged Helen Kemp*

Jesus loves me, Jesus loves me, He is always, always near.
If I always trust and love him, there is nothing I need fear.
Jesus loves me, Jesus loves me, He is always, always near.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.
For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.
God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

***HYMN 307** God of Grace and God of Glory CWM RHONDDA
(* - Indicates all who are able may stand)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** from Psalm 130

Out of the depths we cry to you, O LORD.
LORD, hear our voices! Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of our supplications!
If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O LORD, who could stand?
But there is forgiveness with you.
We wait for you, O LORD, our souls wait,
and in your word we hope; for with you there is steadfast love,
and with you is great power to redeem.
So, we ask you to redeem us and all of your people
from our selfishness and all of our iniquities.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE HYMN 447

We Are Forgiven

WE ARE FORGIVEN

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

*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

Lenten Love Song

Helen Kemp

The Carol Choir and Chapel trebles offer an anthem inspired by Matthew 26:36-39.

Now Jesus went into the garden, the garden of Gethsemane.

He went there sad and very weary to be alone to pray.

"Dear God, I am so sorrowful, is there no other way?

Dear God, if it is possible, let this cup pass away."

Now Jesus went into the garden, the garden of Gethsemane.

The olive tree bent over him, and heart him sadly pray:

"Dear God, your Son is sorrowful, but knows your way is best.

Let love take hold of me! Help me to be bold and free to do your will and rest."

Ubi caritas et amor, Ubi caritas Deus ibi est. (Where charity and love are found, God is there.)

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 32

OT p. 506

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

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

NT p. 181

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

ANTHEM

In My Father's House

Craig Courtney

In my Father's house, you will find a place
in the warm embrace of an open door.

In my Father's house, leave the past behind,
come inside and find what you're longing for.

In my Father's house, solace can be found,
comfort will surround the bruised and broken.

In my Father's house, children live in peace,
war and hatred cease and love is spoken.

In my Father's house, you will find a place
in the warm embrace of an open door.
In my Father's house, leave the past behind,
come inside and find what you're longing for.
In my Father's house, pardoned from all sin,
free from what has been, life can start again.
In my Father's house, prodigals come home,
no one walks alone, come and enter in, in my Father's house.

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
The Word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God.**

NT p. 78

SERMON THE OFFENSE OF GRACE

The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton

*HYMN 475 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from The Confession of 1967

**The reconciling work of Jesus
was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind.
His cross and resurrection become personal crisis
and present hope for people
when the gospel is proclaimed and believed.
In this experience the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all,
moves them to respond in faith,
repentance, and obedience,
and initiates the new life in Christ.
The new life takes shape in a community in which people know
that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are.
They therefore accept themselves and love others,
knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand,
except God's grace.**

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 My God How Wonderful Thou Art *F. Melius Christiansen*

*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 610	O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing	AZMON
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***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Variations on Nettleton UNDINE SMITH MOORE

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. James W. Thornton

Liturgist: Eric Gildner

Children's Message: Ruth Sall

Cherub Choir: Ruth Sall, director

Carol Choir: Ruth Sall, director

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

Chancel Choir: John Sall, director

Celebration Ringers: Risë Kagan-Erickson, director

Organ: Erik Meyer

Those being ordained and installed today include: Zene Colt, III, Christian Feil, Aized Gill, Lily Orlevitch and Valerie Pendley.

Those being installed today include: Marie Barnhurst-Robinson, Matt Berry, David Bishop, Pam Callantine, Tiffany Clark, Zene Colt II, Sandy Hostetter, Karen Hoyle, Sheila Jackson, John Miller, Paul Orlevitch, William Stock, Kathy Thygeson, Haley Wikoff.

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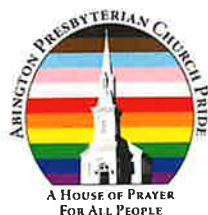
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Hearing assistant devices are available in the Narthex, please see an usher for assistance.

Joys: Our church family would like to celebrate and share joys in our midst including the arrival of a child, grandchild, or great-grandchild in your family. Please let Susan in the office know about these happy events that we may share here.

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.

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, Sally Hardy, Katie Link, Ted Hyczko, 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, Ed Messina, Peter S. Johnson, Carmina Gagliardi (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), David Cardwell (brother of Bob Cardwell), Thubi Kolobe (friend of Thembeke Mason).



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

James W. Thornton, M.Div., D.Min., Head of Staff

Tia McCoun, M.Div., Congregational Care Associate

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

ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN LIFE

February 25, 2024

10:00 AM				
AGE/GRADE	ROOM	TEACHER	TOPIC	Pick Up
Birth– 2 year olds	110-112	Childcare	Childcare	110-112
Preschool	221	Christine Sacco	Jesus Feeds 5,000	221
K—2nd Grades	Parish Hall Basement	Ruth Sall	Prayer Centers	Parish Hall
3rd—5th Grades	Parish Hall Basement	Ruth Sall	Prayer Centers	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)

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, contact Bill Stock for more information.
- Adult Education at 8:45am in the Parlor.
- For more information contact Ruth Sall at 215-887-4530 or rsall@apcusa.org.



Adult Forum

Martyrdom, me? What do you mean? How? Why? Join us at Adult Forum, at 8:45 Sunday morning, March 3rd in the Parlor to discuss the *Christian Century* article, "A Rich Woman Who Took the Magnificat Seriously," which explores the writings of Vida Dutton Scudder, an early 20th Century social activist, who points Christians to solidarity and martyrdom. Copies are available in the parlor or with this link or QR code.
<http://tinyurl.com/yc7vp6t7>

The other Sundays of each month, Suzin Weber will be leading a class on the book of Hebrews.



TODAY, immediately following the 10am Worship Service, there will be a celebration in the Parish Hall to share our gratitude for Pastor Jim Thornton on his last Sunday serving as Bridge Pastor at APC. Join together to celebrate Pastor Jim and thank him for his service and leadership during this time of transition for APC. We hope to see you there!

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 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.

Faithbased Care Leaders Community Training 2024—March 13, 2024—9:00am to 2:30pm
Host Venue: Abington Presbyterian Church Cost: \$25.00 per person (APC members free, email Tia At tmccoun@apcusa.org)

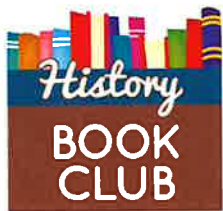
Scan QR code for additional information

To register: Send check to Boots & Wings Project
124 W 5th Ave., Collegeville, PA 19426
Venmo: @soul-utionsforcaregivers
Have Questions?
Email: answersforcaregivers@gmail.com



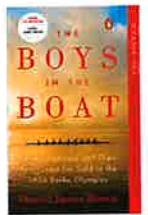
APC GIVING

	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)



The next History Book Club meeting will be held on Thursday, Mar. 14th at 7pm in the Parlor.

We will be discussing "The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics" by Daniel James Brown.



Talent Show planning the next 3 Sundays 4:00-5:30 p.m.!

Special Sunday March 24.

In place of youth group, we will be going to Gemma Services 1-3:30 p.m. to play with kids there. More information and an introduction will come this Sunday at 5:30 during dinner.



Summer Faith Opportunities

Please check email and Facebook for important details on attending either:
Massanetta 6-8th grade from July 11-14 / Montreat 9-12th grade from July 7-13

INTERFAITH MULTICULTURAL AWARENESS WEEK



MONDAY, MARCH 4 - SUNDAY, MARCH 10

- Monday, March 4, 7:00 p.m: Tour of Won Buddhist Temple located at 423 Abington Ave, Glenside, PA and hands on meditation activities led by Pastor Grace Song.
- Tuesday, March 5, 7:00 p.m: Tour of Willow Grove Islamic Center located 502 Easton Rd. Willow Grove, PA for a discussion and Q & A on Islam .
- Wednesday, March 6, 7:00 p.m: Zoom Townhall meeting on Gun Violence and Gun Safety. **Meeting ID: 828 3994 451 Passcode: 975646**
- Thursday, March 7, 7:00 p.m: Tour of Old York Road Temple-Beth Am located at 971 Old York Road, Abington, PA for discussion and Q & A on Judaism.
- Sunday, March 10, 2:00 p.m: Townhall Meeting (in person) on Combating Racism, Islamophobia, and Antisemitism at Grace Presbyterian Church located 444 York Rd, Jenkintown, PA



Theology on Tap

When:

7:30pm on Wednesday, February 28th

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. ALL persons are welcome, and drinks are OPTIONAL. Recently, we have reflected on the podcast series *Hinge* (available wherever you get your podcasts). *Hinge* is a podcast about doubt, identity, and the search for the real Jesus. For our next session, listen to the following episode and bring ideas for our next podcast series.

Episode 10 – Cards on the Table (44 min)

Want to RSVP or Get More Info?

Contact Nick Allgyer at nta107@gmail.com

TROOP 1'S PARENTS NIGHT OUT!

**ENJOY A NIGHT OUT WHILE WE
TAKE CARE OF THE KIDS!***

*** Open to all Kids 3-12. Must be toilet trained.**

MARCH 9, 2024 6:30-9PM

AT ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Activities will be run by scouts with registered adult leaders on hand to supervise.

**Kids will enjoy hands-on scout skills activities and a
Movie. Snacks will be provided! No dinner will be served.**

\$10 Donation/Child Only 36 Spots! Sign up Soon!

Go to link or scan QR Code below: <http://tinyurl.com/mu5b3rjc>
Questions? Email - trooponeabington@gmail.com



Music
at Abington presents

Leoš Janáček

The Diary of One Who Vanished

a lecture/recital

Sunday, February 25, 2024, at 3:00 P.M.



Stephen Ng, tenor
Ting-Ting Wong, piano
with Maren Montalbano, mezzo-soprano

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

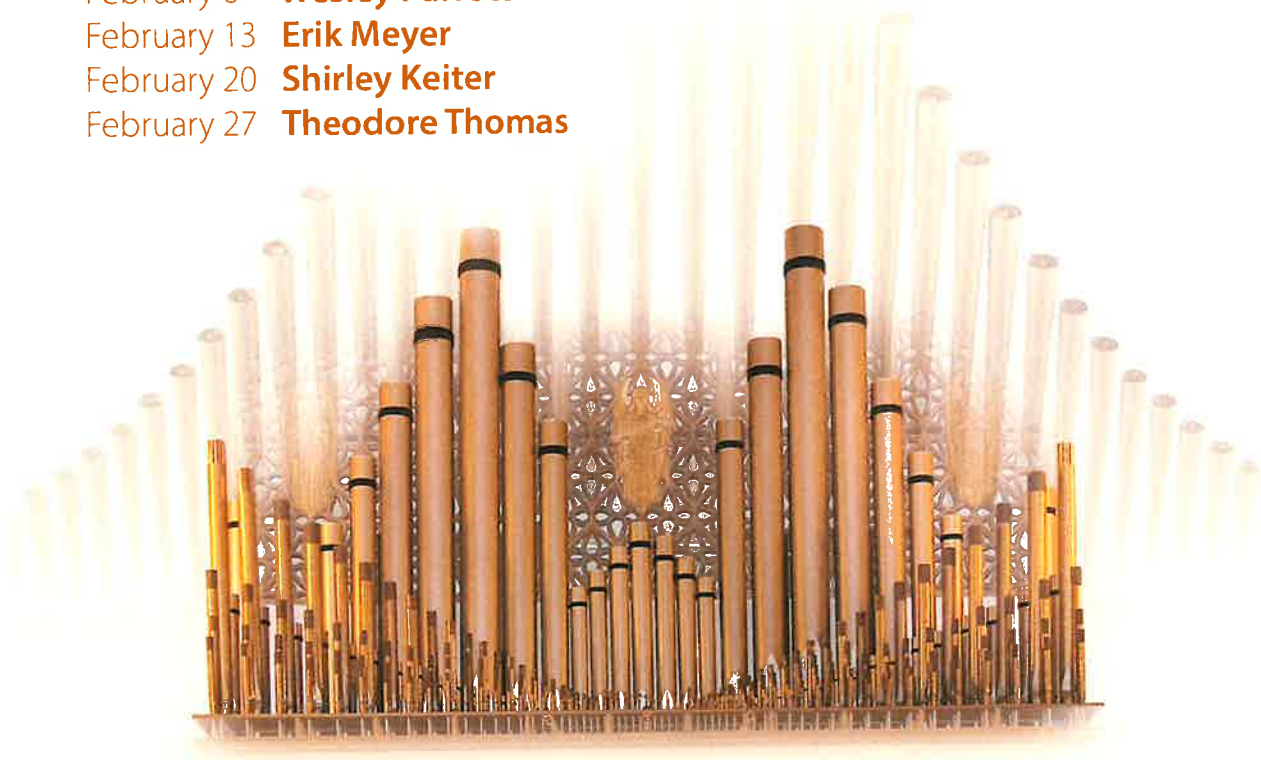
Janáček, a Czech composer, is one of the most important exponents of musical nationalism in the 20th century. *Zápisník zmizelého* (The Diary of One Who Vanished) is a narrative song cycle of 22 songs written for tenor and piano, with 3 of the numbers featuring also a mezzo-soprano and a backstage trio of singers. The poems first appeared in a newspaper in Brno, which were printed anonymously and were supposedly found by the father of a young man who had abandoned his home and country for a gypsy woman. The music and the words together portrayed the struggle of the young man and his transformation to form his new family with the gypsy. This performance will be sung in Czech, preceded by a short lecture on the composer, background, and story of the songs to deepen the experience for listeners.

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

Old York and Susquehanna Roads • Abington, PA • fully accessible
215-887-4530 www.apcusa.org/MusicAtAbington

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

