

³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jeremiah 31:33



Abington Presbyterian Church

March 17, 2024

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Fifth Sunday in Lent

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Fifth Sunday in Lent
ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
March 17, 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*
God of Grace –

*You have given me a mind to know you, a heart to love you, and a voice to sing your praise.
Fill me with your Spirit so that I may celebrate your glory and worship you with passion and joy.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

PRELUDE Fugue in C major BWV 545 *Johann Sebastian Bach*

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Gospel tells of seekers who came near to voice their plea:
"We wish to see Jesus."
We gather because we share their longing:
We wish to see Jesus.
Friends, through word and Spirit, Christ meets us here.
Let us worship the Lord.

***HYMN 826** Lift High the Cross **CRUCIFER**
(* - Indicates all who are able may stand)

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of Grace,
You have claimed us in the waters of baptism
and welcomed us into the family of faith.
But we have denied your hold on our lives
and distanced ourselves from your love.
You call us to follow Christ faithfully,
but we pursue self-serving interests
rather than committing to the way of self-giving service.

You call us to love as Christ loved,
but we privilege our own comfort
over the charge to offer compassion and care.
Forgive us, we pray.
Write your law once more upon our hearts,
and school us in your ways of grace,
so that we might bear witness to your love and mercy.

*SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

*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.**

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	Jeremiah 31:31-34	OT p. 735
The Word of the Lord ... Thanks be to God.		

PSALM ANTHEM	Create in Me (Ps 51: 10-12)	Henry Gerike
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free spirit.		

SCRIPTURE READING	John 12:20-33	NT p. 106
The Word of the Lord ... Thanks be to God.		

SERMON	<i>The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson</i>	
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*HYMN 738	O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee	MARYTON
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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32–33

The life, death, resurrection,
and promised coming of Jesus Christ
has set the pattern for the church's mission.
His human life involves the church
in the common life of all people.
His service to men and women
commits the church
to work for every form of human well-being.
His suffering makes the church sensitive
to all human suffering
so that it sees the face of Christ
in the faces of persons in every kind of need.
His crucifixion discloses to the church
God's judgment on the inhumanity
that marks human relations,
and the awful consequences
of the church's own complicity in injustice.
In the power of the risen Christ
and the hope of his coming,
the church sees the promise
of God's renewal of human life in society
and of God's victory over all wrong.
The church follows this pattern
in the form of its life
and in the method of its action.
So to live and serve
is to confess Christ as Lord.

HYMN 851

Come, Bring Your Burdens to God

WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO

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

I'm Going Up A-Yonder

Hawkins/arr. Read

If anybody asks where I'm going, where I'm going soon,
so if you want to know, where I'm going, where I'm going real soon:
I'm going up a yonder, I'm going up a yonder,
I'm going up a yonder to be with my Lord.

If I can take the pain, the heartache that I brings,
There's comfort that in knowing I'll soon be home.
I'm going up a yonder, I'm going up a yonder,
I'm going up a yonder to be with my Lord.

As God gives me grace, I'll run this race,
And soon I'll see my Savior face to face.
I'm going up a yonder, I'm going up a yonder,
I'm going up a yonder to be with my Lord.

*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 543

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

GREEN TYLER

This hymn is a 21st century adaptation of a Celtic prayer style known as a lorica (Latin for "armor" or "breastplate") and is based on an example traditionally attributed to St. Patrick.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude in C major BWV 545

Johann Sebastian Bach

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson

Liturgist: Ralph McDevitt

Children's Message: Ruth Sall

Chancel Choir: John Sall, director

Organ: Erik Meyer

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

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, Peter S. Johnson, Carmina Gagliardi (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), David Cardwell (brother of Bob Cardwell), Thubi Kolobe (friend of Thembeke Mason), Barbara Burke (friend of Jeff Bates), Donald Wolf, Linda Doyle, Carol Ann Vogel.

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.

We share prayers of joy and thanksgiving with Ed & Kathy Messina at the recent birth of their first grandchild, Mariana Catherine Messina, daughter of Michael and Tiffany Messina.

Thanks for the memories... We are very happy to announce that we are moving to Florida! We have been at APC for over thirty years and will miss the friendships and the love that has been shown to us from the beginning. We are excited about the future and confident that God's love and grace, along with your prayers will sustain us on life's new journey. Please keep in touch.

Our new address: Libby and Tom Boggs
21 Royal Palm Way
Boca Raton, FL. 33432
boggshome5@gmail.com

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: sniesenthompson@apcusa.org

Web Site: www.apcusa.org

Sudie Niesen Thompson, M.Div., M.Th., Pastor/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

ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN LIFE

March 17, 2024

10:00 AM				
AGE/GRADE	ROOM	TEACHER	TOPIC	Pick Up
Birth— 2 year olds	110-112	Childcare	Childcare	110-112
Preschool	221	Sue Parsons	Palm Sunday Story	221
K—2nd Grades	Kitchen	Darcy Linten	Cooking	Parish Hall
3rd—5th Grades	Richard Treat Room (71)	Ruth Sall	Art \ Lenten Stoles	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

Suzin Weber will be leading a class on the book of Hebrews.

Coming Soon: The future is now. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is here. But how do *you* feel about it? Pick one response: Not on your life; Yes, please; or Yes, but. This month's article, *Faith, Hope, Love, and AI* looks at these responses and how they relate to different stories and different Christian virtues. Join us for a lively discussion on April 7th at 8:45 am in the Parlor. Use this link or QR code to access the article and questions. Printed copies will be available in the Parlor.

<https://tinyurl.com/4p8pkr9n>



On Sunday, 3/24 (Palm Sunday), we will gather in the Parish Hall from 11:15-12:15 for a welcome reception for Pastor Sudie Elisabeth Niesen Thompson who began as Head of Staff at APC on March 11.

We look forward to seeing you there as we celebrate Pastor Sudie's arrival at APC!

Thanks to all who spent time on the Talent Show! Today there is no youth programming to allow all to catch up on schoolwork and family time.



SCHEDULE CHANGE FOR YOUTH FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 24

In place of youth group, we will be going to Gemma Services to play with kids there.

The schedule following the 10 a.m. service will be:

Chapel Choir /Bells - 11:30-12:45 p.m.

Lunch 12:45-1:15 p.m.

Youth Group service to Gemma Services 1:15-3:30 p.m.

First \$100 payments are overdue for Massanetta and Montreat. Please pay by check or cash to Justin Feil or Ruth Sall, or pay through the online giving portal.

APC GIVING

	YTD 2/29/24	YTD 2/29/23	Annual 2024 Budget
Revenue	\$151,519	\$143,789	\$657,000
Disbursements	\$111,974	\$100,758	\$762,500
(Deficit)/Surplus	\$39,545	\$43,031	(\$105,500)

Troop 1 thanks APC for supporting the Pancake Breakfast that was held on Feb. 4.

Boy Scouts thrive on service. Your smiles, encouragement, and compliments that day help the scouts feel a sense of purpose and strengthen their drive to contribute to their community.

Troop 1 also thanks you for your generous donations! Because of your donations, scouts can look forward to participating more frequently on camping trips and having the resources to advance their ranks and earn merit badges.

A special shout out to John Dean for donning an apron and helping us flip those pancakes!

Troop 1 is inclusive and always welcomes kids (10+yrs old) who are interested and would like to check out the troop. If you'd like to learn more :

Troop 1 meets on Mondays, 7:15-8:30pm in the Rec Room by the children's playground.

Contact or speak with Allen Tsung, Jesse Freeman, and Mariam Freeman.

Email mariambirouti@gmail.com for more information.





Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self Development of People – all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to organizing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Mission Council is partnering with the Presbyterian Church USA in support of this world-wide fund raising effort. We hope you will consider joining us in this crucial time of need. The program runs from February 14th through March 31st. There are offering envelopes in the pews for your consideration.

Easter Donations 2024

Easter provides an opportunity to make donations to beautify the Sanctuary and the worship services in memory or honor of a loved one. Your donations help provide palms for Palm Sunday, Easter lilies and special music to enhance our worship services on Easter morning.

To make a gift in this way please fill out the form provided below and return to the church office with your donation no later than March 24, 2024 for inclusion in the bulletin. Or donate online at <https://apcusa.org/give/donate/>. Please indicate your donation only in the box for “Special Offering” and add a note on page 2 “Easter Donation In Memory of _____” OR “Easter Donation in Honor of _____”.

Thank you in advance for your continued generosity in the life and work of APC.

Yes! I/we would like to remember/honor our loved one(s) with a gift to APC.

Your Name: _____

Address: _____ APC Envelope # _____

Your Name as printed in the bulletin: _____

In Memory of: _____ In Honor of: _____

Enclosed please find: \$ _____ Check: _____ Cash: _____

at Music
Abington presents

ANNUAL MEMORIAL CONCERT

A GERMAN REQUIEM

JOHANNES BRAHMS

4:00 p.m. Sunday, March 17, 2024

Abington Symphony Orchestra and Oratorio Choir

John Sall, director

Ruth Ideen, soprano

Mark Moliterno, bass

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

CELEBRATE OLDER ADULT SUNDAY WITH US

April 7 is Older Adult Sunday. During the 10 a. m. service, the Committee for Older Adult Ministry will honor all members of the church who have been with us for 50 years or more.

A luncheon following the worship service will be held in the Parish Hall. All 50 year members as well as those who are 65 or older will be our guests.

After the luncheon, APC's Ruth Sall will perform a collection of Songs of Spring. Husband, John Sall, will accompany her on the piano.

Please RSVP to the church office - 215-887-4530 - by Tuesday, April 2, if you plan on attending. This will be a special day of worship and celebration. Save the date! Hope to see you April 7.





6th Annual WKM Golf Outing

(Benefiting, West Kensington Ministry, a faith community supporting the human potential of an inner-city community)



Monday, May 13, 2024
~ Five Ponds Golf Club ~

9:45 a.m. Shot-Gun Start
Best Ball / Scramble Format
(Sign-In starting at 8:45 AM)

Donation: \$180.00 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 - \$300
- Sponsor or Donate a Prize - \$400 or prize value
- Sponsor WKM logo Golf Balls - \$900
- Sponsor or Co-Sponsor Lunch - \$1500
- Sponsor or Co-Sponsor Reception - \$2500
- Sponsor or Co-Sponsor Beverage Cart - \$1000
- Sponsor or Co-Sponsor the Golf Outing - \$5000
- 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



More info? Contact: Chad Pilling – pillingcb@gmail.com

Help Fight Hunger!

Deacons Easter Food Basket Project



With your contributions and our service, the Deacons are delivering Easter Meal Baskets to 50 families this year!

If you are able and wish to contribute, donations are needed for our local community outreach! Consider options below:

- **Contribute funds towards the "food basket" expenses:** (anticipated cost per basket is \$70)
Please state "Deacons Food Basket" and your envelope # on your check, or use APC Website-Give Tab <https://apcusa.org/give/> or the Mobile App and put "Deacons Food Basket" in the "Notes" box.
- **Purchase food items for the baskets:** Some of the items needed for the baskets include:
 - **Boxed Items:** macaroni and cheese, spaghetti, stuffing, instant mashed potatoes, complete pancake mix, cereal, and packaged cookies
 - **Canned Items:** green beans, corn, baked beans, soup, & tuna fish
 - **Jar/Bottle Items:** peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce, and pancake syrup.
- **Help with deliveries on Saturday March 23rd:** Contact Tim Waite – kathyandtim.waite@comcast.net
We will be collecting items until Sunday, March 17, 2024
Food Donations may be placed in the "Food Pantry" bins outside of the church office.

Please contact the Deacons Coordinators with any questions!

Laurie Wikoff – lwikoff@comcast.net - 215-808-9683
Sheila Jackson – djlskj@gmail.com - 610-806-3313



American
Red Cross

APC Spring Blood Drive – March 23rd

Every two seconds, someone in the US needs blood, yet only 3% of the US population donates. Our Spring Blood Drive will be held on **March 23, 2024**.

For an appointment, please visit www.redcrossblood.org, Click on Donate Blood and Schedule an Appointment and enter sponsor code: *Abington Presbyterian Church*



American
Red Cross
Blood
Drive

Save a Life. Give Blood

3/24 Palm Sunday

8:00am Simple Gifts Worship Service
10:00am Celebration Worship Service

3/28 Maundy Thursday / Tenebrae

7:30pm Communion Service

3/29 Good Friday

1:00pm Good Friday Worship Service

3/31 Easter Day / The Resurrection of the Lord

7:30am Sunrise Service in the Memorial Garden
9:00am Celebration Worship Service
10:00am Easter Egg Hunt for grades K-6 & Fellowship
11:00am Celebration Worship Service



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



SCAN ME