

19 You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for your anger does not produce God's righteousness.

James 1:19–20



Abington Presbyterian Church

September 1, 2024

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

15th Sunday after Pentecost

ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

15th Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 1, 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*

*Boundless God,
help us to see the world differently—
not with our own limited vision
but with the gaze of love and justice.
Give us the foolishness to believe that we can change
what the world says is impossible;
and when we lose sight of the power of love to change the world
increase our faith. Amen.*
~ christianaid.org.uk

PRELUDE

Andante Sostenuto

Charles-Marie Widor

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

With what shall we come before the Lord?
Shall we bring burnt offerings or calves a year old?
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams?
Or ten thousand rivers of oil?
Mortals, God has shown us what is good.
What does the Lord require?
**To do justice,
and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with our God.**

***HYMN 12**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

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

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Lover of justice, Giver of mercy,
you call us to share our bread with the hungry
and to care for the orphan and the widow,
to welcome the stranger in our midst
and to satisfy the needs of those who suffer.**

Some of your commandments are easy to follow;
others require so much of us!
How can *we* break the chains of injustice?
When we consider the brokenness of our world,
it is easy to feel overwhelmed.
Forgive us when we lose heart
or use our sense of helplessness as an excuse.
Remind us, we pray, that you are at work in and through us
to bring about your reign.
Free us from fear and stir our hearts toward a greater generosity,
that we might advocate for justice,
practice kindness,
and—in all things—walk humbly with you.

*SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE HYMN 492 You Belong to Christ YOU BELONG TO CHRIST
 You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Micah 6:1-8 OT p. 866
 The Word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 18:1-8 NT p. 81
 The Word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

The Rev. Megan LeCluyse

*HYMN 769 For Everyone Born FOR EVERYONE BORN

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and
buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again
from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the
right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall
come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Tom Trenney

The offertory is a setting of Glory to God Hymn #450.

***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**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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.

Praise to you, O God, for all your works ...

... Therefore, with all creation we sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Thank you, O God, for sending us your Son ...

... Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us ...

... As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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.*

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

*HYMN 346

For the Healing of the Nations

ST. THOMAS (Wade)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Allegro giocoso (10 Improvisations)

C. Saint-Saens

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Megan LeCluyse

Liturgist: Tia McCoun

Children's Message: Ruth Sall

Special music: Ruth Sall, soprano; Lily Sall, violin; John Sall, piano

Organ: Wesley Parrot

Gluten free communion bread will be available in front of the lectern.

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

Permissions:

Music of this service is reprinted and streamed online with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-729335. All rights reserved.

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, 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, Amy Gould, Marlyn Whyte, Sharon Robson (friend of Kimberly Browne), Ernie Arnold, Carol Boles (mother of Christine Sacco), Carolyn Koch, Ruta DeLong, Vicente Castanada (friend of Bonnie H. Zetick)

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 Ralph & Tink McDevitt at the recent birth of their granddaughter Caroline Jean McCurdy. Caroline Jean was born on August 21, 2024, to Eliza Jane McDevitt and Nicholas Scott McCurdy.

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

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

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

Sunday School resumes September 15th!



Nursery Care is offered for children birth through toddler in the nursery and the toddler rooms (110 and 112).

To contribute to a *Thank You, Erik!* Purse, please make all donations before September 15. Anyone who gives online needs to use the “Special Gifts” line and complete the additional information needed which would be “Erik Meyer’s purse”.



Homecoming Sunday: Sept 8th (Following 10am Service)



Join us on Sunday, September 8th after the 10am worship service for our annual Homecoming party celebrating the start of the new program year!

There will be hot dogs, cotton candy, popcorn, snow cones, and fun fellowship for all ages. There will be a Moon Bounce and games with great prizes for kids. The new Pop-a-Shot will be available for shooting some hoops. Also back by popular demand, the Dunk Tank! We will be doing a Dunk Tank fundraiser with proceeds to benefit Face to Face. Cash or Venmo will be accepted.

All church councils, committees, interest groups, and music groups are invited to share their information at tables set up outside. **Please contact Zene Colt (Zene.Colt@gmail.com) if you need a table.**

Come with your sun hat and see what is happening at APC and enjoy a great time of food, fellowship and fun!

Music Ministries: Choirs for youth and adults begin this week, but most music ministries will start after our homecoming fair in the coming weeks of September. Watch for the full list next week and if you have interest or questions please let Director of Music, John Sall

(jsall@apcusa.org), know!





Scan the QR code for summer camp and 2023-2024 pictures on our troop website.



Are you interested in adventure, opportunities in leadership, camaraderie, and service to your community?

Come join Troop 1! We are a goals-oriented, accomplishment-focused Boys BSA Troop that meets in the APC Rec Room, located by the children's playground, on Mondays from 7:15-8:30pm (Boys must be 10 years old in 5th grade to join).

You want to enjoy the outdoors, but you're not sure how? Don't worry! No camping experience necessary. Troop leaders and fellow scouts will help you prepare for and support you during our camping trips! Our 2024-2025 opening events include Outdoor Rock Climbing and Intro to Whitewater Rafting! (must be a registered boy scout to participate)

Our first meeting on Sept 9th is a welcome back BBQ (7:15-8:30pm). Come check us out, ask us questions, and hang out with the scouts and other parents to learn more about the exciting activities and trips we have planned for the 2024-2025 school year.

All troop leaders have completed Youth Protection Training and attained all required clearances to work with youth per BSA policy.

Interested in learning more? Come find me (Mariam Freeman-Scoutmaster) or Allen Tsung and Jesse Freeman after service, or send your questions to email trooponeabington@gmail.com

Celebrating our "Pandemic Babies"

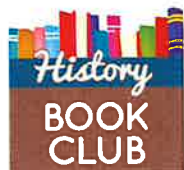
A beloved custom of this congregation is to celebrate the birth of a new baby by placing a rose on the chancel during worship. Unfortunately, with the move to virtual worship during the COVID-19 Pandemic, there are many children of the church whose births were not acknowledged with a rose. We joyfully returned to this practice earlier this year and would now like to include a belated celebration of our "pandemic babies" on September 15. If you welcomed a child, grandchild, or great-grandchild between March 2020 and March 2024, and would like that child's name listed in the bulletin to accompany our bouquet of roses, please email the following to Susan Schied at sschied@apcusa.org by Wednesday, September 11.

Child's Name
Parents' Names
Date of Birth

Families of the children born during the pandemic are invited to take a rose following worship on September 15.

The next Women's Gathering will be held on Thursday, September 19th at 5:30 p.m. at Longhorn Steakhouse located at 817 Old York Road, Jenkintown.

To RSVP or answer any questions, please contact Sheila Jackson at dljskj@gmail.com.



Our next book is ***West with the Night*** by Beryl Markham and will be discussed on Sept. 19th in the Parlor at 7 p.m.

Hi, Neighbor!

Hello, APC! Let's get to know our neighbors at church! Scan the QR code here to complete a brief form to get a name tag printed! We are encouraging everyone to wear name tags so we can greet and welcome one another!



Thank you!

APC GIVING

	YTD 7/31/24	YTD 7/31/23	Annual 2024 Budget
Revenue	\$423,589	\$374,945	\$657,000
Disbursements	\$420,779	\$378,758	\$762,500
(Deficit)/Surplus	\$ 2,810	(\$3,813)	(\$105,500)

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

