

¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

James 3:17-18



Abington Presbyterian Church

September 22, 2024

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

18th Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF WORSHIP
18th Sunday after Pentecost
ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
September 22, 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 our Lord Jesus Christ,
may you open in us the Spirit of wisdom,
reveal in us the knowledge of that which is Divine,
open our eyes to enlighten our hearts,
make known the hope to which we are being called,
hold fast the greatest of all our riches – that we are your saints
and be assured that the immeasurable greatness of his power is ours.
We praise your holy name with joy and thanksgiving.
With you all things are possible. Amen.*

PRELUDE from *A Triptych of Fugues #2* Slowly, expressively

Gerald Near

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

When the world around is strange and unpredictable,

we come here and find sanctuary. We enter to worship.

Worship God and find unity with the whole church.

When neighbors and friends struggle to find a way forward, and we feel helpless,

we come here and find sanctuary. We enter *into* worship.

Worship God and find unity with the whole church.

When we are in need of prayer and peace,

we come here and find sanctuary. We enter into worship.

Worship God and find unity with the whole church.

When we feel joyous and are ready to celebrate each sacred moment,

we come here and find sanctuary. We come and worship.

We come here to find you, God of the Living—

to celebrate and praise all we have received.

We come ready to worship and find unity with the whole church.

*HYMN 246

Christ is Alive!

TRURO

(* - Indicates all who are able may stand)

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, Source of All Life, Lord of Mercy and Grace—
hear our prayer.**

We come before you in need of healing:

**the healing of our bodies and souls,
the healing of our relationships,
the healing of our pride and fear and apathy.**

We know that with you, nothing is impossible,

In you is our restoration and hope.

**We pray that you will heal us and heal our world,
so that we will be freed to serve**

**and love
and dream
and be,**

as Christ calls us.

As we move into deeper communion with one another.

Amen.

*SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE HYMN 581

Glory Be To the Father

GLORY PATRI

**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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 54

OT p. 522

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

NT p. 230

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

ANTHEM

Humble Service

L.L. Fleming

Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need.
Who upon the cross forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed.
We, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart;
Consecrating to your purpose every gift which you impart.

Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.

What wondrous love is this, O my soul.

As you Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,

That Christ should lay aside his crown for my soul.

By your Spirit send your power to our word to make it whole.

As we worship grant us vision, till your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.

Lord, who love in humble service healed the sick and freed the soul.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 9:30-38

NT p. 45

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

SERMON

Tia McCoun

*HYMN 23

God You Spin the Whirling Planets

PLEADING SAVIOR

*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.**

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 **Whoever Would Be Great Among You** *Ronald A. Nelson*
The Chapel Choir sings a setting of scripture (Mark 10:43-45) which echoes Jesus' explanation of servant leadership from today's Gospel reading in the succeeding chapter.

Whoever would be great among you, must become your servant,
and whoever would be first among you, must be a slave of all.
For the Son of Man came not to be served,
came not to be served, but to serve.
And to give his life, to give his life
As a ransom for many.

OFFERTORY

*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 435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Postlude on St. Dunstan's

Near

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: Tia McCoun
Intercessor: The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson
Liturgist: Tiffany Clark
Children's Message: Ruth Sall
Chancel Choir: John Sall
Chapel Choir: Ruth Sall and John Sall, co-directors
Guest Substitute Organist: Thomas Faracco

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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, Valerie Steigerwalt (niece of Marlyn Whyte), John Connelly (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Mary Ann Wherry, 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), Ruta DeLong, Marilyn Ming (sister of Carolyn Ming), Eugenia Velazquez (Iris Long's mother), The Weir Family.

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.

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

ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN LIFE

September 22, 2024

10:00 AM				
AGE/GRADE	ROOM	TEACHER	TOPIC	Pick Up
Birth– 2 year olds	110-112	Childcare	Childcare	110-112
Preschool	221		Creation– fish & birds	221
K–5th Grades	Youth Lounge	Suzanne Madden	Hannah & Samuel—Games	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).


Nursery

Family Communion Class

A class for all children in K-7th grades and their families to experience and explore the meaning and welcome of the Lord’s Table. We will bake bread, make wine, find symbols of Communion in the Sanctuary, and much more.

TODAY
3:00 – 4:30pm
Parlor

Questions- contact Mrs. Sall at rsall@apcusa.org



Theology on Tap - 7:30pm on Wednesday, September 25th

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. This month we will continue the Learning How to See podcast series. Please listen to the following podcast and be prepared to share your reflections and questions!

Podcast: Learning How to See with Brian McLaren

Season 3 Episode 7 (7/1/22) – Christianity as a Road We Make By Walking (58 min)



Want to RSVP or Get More Info?

Contact Nick Allgyer at nta107@gmail.com

A Service of Witness to the Resurrection celebrating the life of Dorothy Graham will be held at Abington Presbyterian Church on **Friday, September 27 at 11:00 a.m.**

Relatives and friends may greet the family beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary or at a lunch reception following the service in Parish Hall.



Deacon's Blood Drive - Our next blood drive will be held on September 28th from 8a.m. - 1p.m. in Parish Hall.

Here is the link to sign up: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=Abington%20Presbyterian%20Church>

Also, folks who come to donate will receive a \$15 e-gift card: rblood.org/fall.



Calling all chefs & servers!

Saturday September 28th

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



The Presbytery of Philadelphia and the
Session of Abington Presbyterian Church
invite you to celebrate the installation of

The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson

as Designated Pastor
Sunday, September 29, 2024
at 3:00 p.m.

Reception to Follow



Refreshing Mountain Camp Fall Youth Retreat Sept. 27-29, 2024

Who: 6th—12th grade youth
When: Friday 9/27 meet @ 6:00 p.m. @ APC
Sunday 9/29 return to APC @ 12:00 p.m.



Cost: \$100 per youth (Scholarships available)

What: High Ropes Course & Zip Line
Teambuilding Adventure
Movie, Campfire w S'mores, Worship, and Games!!!

Check out the website: www.refreshingmountain.com

Questions? Contact....
Justin Feil 215-512-4946 or justinfeil4@gmail.com
Or Ashley Rossi 215-870-7170
pastorash80@gmail.com



To register:
Fill out **APC Parental Consent Form** and
Refreshing Mountain Release Form
(available on the weekly email)

Return forms and \$100 payable to APC or online,
to the Church office or Justin Feil **by**
SUNDAY 9/22

All paperwork and payment for Refreshing Mountain is due Sunday, Sept. 22.
All participants need to sign the Refreshing Mountain waiver. This is separate from the
church waiver and is available online at this link:
<https://go.theflybook.com/manage/1R04BB#/lite>



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)

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!

Participation in Music Ministries at APC

There are ways for almost anyone and everyone to participate in music ministry at APC. If you have questions about any of these opportunities please contact listed leaders or John Sall, Director of Music Ministries:

jsall@apcusa.org

Choirs for All Ages

Cherub Choir (grade K-2) Wednesdays 4:15 - 4:55. Sing monthly. Director Ruth Sall (rsall@apcusa.org)

Carol Choir (grade 3-5) Wednesdays 5:00 - 6:00. Sing monthly plus some special Christmas program and musical. Director Ruth Sall (rsall@apcusa.org).

Chapel Choir (grade 6-12) Sundays 6:00 - 7:15. Sing 3x per month plus special programs and spring tour. Co-directors John Sall (jsall@apcusa.org) and Ruth Sall (rsall@apcusa.org)

Chancel Choir (adults) Thursdays 7:30 – 8:30. Weekly worship plus special concerts. Director John Sall (jsall@apcusa.org)

Oratorio Choir (community choir) Thursdays 8:30-9:30. Sing 2-3 special concerts and programs each year. Director John Sall (jsall@apcusa.org)

Handbell Choirs for All Ages

Joyful Bells (grade 3-5) Wednesdays 4:15 - 4:55 intro to ringing. Ring 2-3x in year. Interim Director John Sall (jsall@apcusa.org)

Festive Ringers (grade 6-12) Sundays 11:15 - 12:15. Ring 5-6x plus spring tour. Director Shirley Keiter (skeiter@apcusa.org)

Celebration Ringers (adults) Wednesdays 6:30-7:30. Ring 5-6x per year. Interim Directors Shirley Keiter (skeiter@apcusa.org) and John Sall (jsall@apcusa.org)

Instrumental Music

Abington Symphony Orchestra (high school youth and adults) Mondays 7:30-9:30. 4-5 concerts per year. Director John Sall (jsall@apcusa.org)

Worship accompanists and soloists (all ages and instruments) Anytime as coordinated together for worship in collaboration with Music Director John Sall (jsall@apcusa.org)




Music
at Abington presents


ELEVATION

ELEVATE VOCAL ARTS

Sunday, October 6, 2024, at 4:00 P.M.



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



Steps in faith have new meaning when you walk with others!
 Join us for **our next labyrinth walk on Wednesday, October 2 at 6:00 p.m.**

Bring a friend. Bring your own prayers for our community. Bring hope knowing that peace is every step. You can just show up but we hope you can let us know in advance so we can set up a chair or provide you with some light, healthy fare.

Contact Cindy Miller at crmiller56@gmail.com .



Calling All Bread Bakers On Sunday, October 6th we will observe World Communion Sunday and would love to offer loaves from all over the world during the service symbolizing our connectedness with Christians everywhere. And then we will break bread together, sharing our gifts with one another! Please text or call Kathy Messina (215-850-0994) to let her know if you can bake or bring a loaf or two to share representing a particular place in the world. This is a fun and interesting time of fellowship for all! Below is the link with bread recipes:

<https://apcusa.org/2024/09/18/world-communion-sunday-breads-and-more/>



APC QUIZZO!

Your APC Deacons cordially invite you to
QUIZZO - a TRIVIA game for young and old

FRIDAY OCTOBER 18TH 7:00PM

**entry requirement – desire to have FUN!!!
 Eight players per team - \$15 per person**

BYO snacks & beverages

Please email kevin3kelly@gmail.com
 to reserve a table for your team
OR if you're coming solo (we will pair you up!)

All proceeds will benefit Deacons' programs and outreach.



APC GIVING

	YTD 8/31/24	YTD 8/31/23	Annual 2024 Budget
Revenue	\$469,568	\$431,784	\$657,000
Disbursements	\$491,384	\$456,964	\$762,500
(Deficit)/Surplus	\$ (21,816)	(\$25,180)	(\$105,500)

APC is again hosting the Presbytery-wide Fall Fest on Saturday, October 26! This year's equipping event is entitled "Hope-filled Leadership for a Disruptive Season". As the entire APC campus will be utilized on this day, we are asking for volunteers to help welcome visitors from dozens of churches in the Presbytery of Philadelphia. Please sign to help as you are able using the Signup Genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0B44AEA82EA31-51473106-fall>

Also we encourage you to register for the event as well. As a volunteer, you will certainly have time to attend a few breakout sessions (and you will get an awesome t-shirt).

<https://presbyphl.org/fall-fest-2024-hope-filled-leadership-for-a-disruptive-season/>

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to email Bill Price at waprice59@gmail.com.



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!

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

