

6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty  
hand of God, so that he may exalt you in good time.  
7 Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for  
you.

*1 Peter 5:6-7*



## Abington Presbyterian Church

May 17, 2026

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Seventh Sunday of Easter

## Centering Prayer

God of Heaven and Earth,  
Creator of our world  
and everything in it,  
yet as close to us  
as our own breath—  
holy is your name.

In you we live and move  
and have our being.

Send your Spirit  
to move among us  
as we worship,  
opening our eyes  
to your presence,  
opening our ears  
to your word.

We pray in the name  
of your Son,  
in whose death  
and resurrection  
we find life. Amen.

The people **gather** in re-  
sponse to God's call to wor-  
ship our Creator with  
thanksgiving and praise.

The whole congregation  
joins together in speaking  
(or singing) the text in **bold**  
print. At the asterisk (\*)  
please stand in body or rise  
in spirit. Purple *Glory to God*  
hymnals are located in the  
pew racks. Please join in  
singing!

Hearing Assistance Devices  
are available in the Narthex  
(at the back of the Sanctu-  
ary). Please see an Usher for  
Assistance.

Children's Worship Bags are  
available at each entrance to  
the Sanctuary.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Seventh Sunday of Easter

### GATHERING

PRELUDE

*Prelude in E-flat Major*

Johann C.H. Rinck

WELCOME AND LIVING OUR FAITH

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

O people, praise our God—  
the Artist of creation,  
the Lord of heaven and earth.

**We worship our Maker with resounding praise!**

In God we live and move and have our being;  
it is the Lord who gives us life and breath.

**God has kept us among the living  
and not let our feet slip.**

God formed all people to seek the Lord;  
indeed, our Creator is never far away.

**Bless the Lord, who is faithful to us!**

\*HYMN NO. 231 *Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers*

SUO GAN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God,  
in baptism you claim us as beloved children  
and set us apart as witnesses to your love.  
At times we forget  
we bear the mark of your grace  
and act as if you have no claim on our lives.  
You call us to the risky work of justice and peace,  
but we default to what is comfortable and safe.  
You call us to ministries of generosity and compassion,  
but we make little room in our busy lives  
for gestures of mercy  
beyond moments of spontaneous kindness.  
Wash us again with your grace  
and transform us by your Word,  
that we might proclaim your good news  
in word and deed.**

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

CHORAL RESPONSE      *I Sing Because I'm Happy*      C. Gabriel

arr. K Paden, adapt. Rollo Dilworth

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

A setting of the refrain text found at Hymn No. 661 *His Eye is On the Sparrow*.

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

### WORD & SACRAMENT

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE      Ruth Sall

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM      Lucy Brooke Pompilii  
child of Amanda & Joseph Pompilii

PRESENTATION      Ed Wikoff

PROMISES OF COMMITMENT

*To the parents:*

Amanda and Joseph,  
do you desire Lucy to be baptized?

Relying on God's grace,  
do you promise to live the Christian faith  
and to teach that faith to your child?

Do you renounce all evil and powers in the world  
which defy God's righteousness and love?

Do you intend to be Christ's faithful disciples,  
discerning his word and showing his love,  
to your life's end?

*To the sponsors:*

Will you, by your prayers and witness,  
help Lucy to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ?

The congregation is invited to share signs of Christ's peace, such as a handshake, with one another.

Baptism is the sign and seal of our incorporation into Jesus Christ. In the waters of baptism, God claims us as beloved children and calls us to participate in Christ's ministry of love, justice, and peace. Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we become members of Christ's body, the church, and are welcomed into the family of faith.

As the baptismal affirmation of the early church, the *Apostles' Creed* is still regularly used when celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism.

*To the children of the church:*

Do you promise to be a friend to Lucy?

If she gets lost, do you promise to show her the way?

If she falls down, will you help her get back up?

Will you share with her the stories of Jesus?

*To the congregation:*

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ,  
promise to guide and nurture Lucy  
by word and deed,  
with love and prayer,  
encouraging her to know and follow Christ  
and to be a faithful member of his church?

**We do.**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*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 OVER THE WATER

THE BAPTISM

SONG OF WELCOME      *Welcome, Child of God*      ARHYDYNOS

**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.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION      Shirley Keiter

SCRIPTURE READING      Acts 17:16-34      New Testament, p. 137

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON “A Witness to the World: Paul” The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson

\*HYMN NO. 686      *God of Our Life*      SANDON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

Following the Sacrament of Baptism, children (through Grade 5) may follow their teachers to Sunday School or remain in worship.

Where the **word** is read and proclaimed, we believe Jesus Christ the living Word is present by the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, the proclamation of the word through the reading and interpretation of Scripture is central to our worship.

In gratitude for the grace we have received, we respond with **thanksgiving** and offer our lives to God.

Your presence and participation in worship is an expression of self-offering. If you've not already done so, please sign the red Friendship Pad, located at the end of the pew on the center aisle, then pass it along the row. If you prefer an electronic form or are worshipping with us via livestream, you may follow the link to the online Friendship Pad using the QR Code below.



We are grateful for gifts of time, talent and treasure. If you prefer to give a financial gift online, you may use the QR code below.



### Permissions & Copyrights

Today's Centering Prayer is adapted from a prayer published at re-worship.blogspot.com.

"Welcome Child of God" words by Anne Ylvisaker, ©2010 Anne Ylvisaker. Administered by Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-729335. All rights reserved.

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

## THANKSGIVING

### OFFERING

OFFERTORY                      *Meditation on Beautiful Savior*                      Cathy Moglebust  
Celebration Ringers: Lois Leong, director

\*DOXOLOGY                      *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*                      LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Now all the vault of heav'n resounds  
in praise of love that still abounds:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!  
Repeat their song of glory here:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### SENDING

\*HYMN NO. 485                      *We Know That Christ Is Raised*                      ENGELBERG

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE                      *Toccata in F Major, BuxWV 157*                      Dieterich Buxtehude

## TODAY AT ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- 8:00 a.m.**     **Simple Gifts Worship Service** in the Sanctuary
- 8:45 a.m.**     **Adult Forum: "I am the light of the world" from John 8**  
in the Parlor
- 9:50 a.m.**     **Nursery Care** for infants and toddlers in Room 110  
**Preschool Sunday School** in Room 112
- 10:00 a.m.**     **Celebration Worship Service** in the Sanctuary
- Following the Children's Message (approx. 10:20 a.m.)**  
**Sunday School for Kindergarten—5th** in the Youth Lounge
- 11:00 a.m.**     **Deacons Fancy Fellowship** in the Parish Hall  
**Mission Council Cooking for Face-to-Face** in the Kitchen  
**Circle of Trust—Group 3** in the Chapel
- 3:00 p.m.**     **Interfaith Multicultural Celebration of the Arts 250**  
at Salem Baptist Church
- 4:00 p.m.**     **Youth Fellowship** in the Youth Lounge
- 5:30 p.m.**     **Youth Dinner** in the Parish Hall
- 6:00 p.m.**     **Chapel Choir** in the Choir Room
- 

### We rejoice with ...

Brianna and Matthew Beck, who were married yesterday. The flowers in the sanctuary are a gift from Matt and Brianna, given to the glory of God and in celebration of their marriage.

Suzin Weber upon completing the exams required for ordination as a Minister of Word & Sacrament in the PCUSA.

### PRAYER LIST

**In need of ongoing prayers:** Bernadette Barnhurst (mother of Marie Barnhurst), Olive Biggs, Carol Boles (mother of Christine Sacco), Kierstin Blomquist (cousin of Chuck Twining), Walter Boutcher, Rick Bruce, John Connelly (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Corrigan Family (APNS family), Robin Cupo, Linda Doyle, Heather Ferretti (Daughter of Trish Miller), John Frazier, Phyllis Frazier, Carmina Gagliardi (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Wayne Gibbons, Jr., Lindsay Harbold (APNS parent), Joanne Hawkson (mother of Nick Cupo), Hirst Family (APNS family), Ted Hyczko, Diane Johnson, Stephen Krewson, Emil Kupper, Laura Lafferty, Family of Katie Link (APNS parent), Holland Lutzow (APNS student), Clinton Mench (APNS parent), Joan Meyers, Gail Mignogna, Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Will Pompilli (son of Teresa Pompilli), Sharon Robson (friend of Kimberly Browne), Ed Sacco, Lisa Seufert, Valerie Steigerwalt (niece of Marlyn Whyte), Jackie Thurlow, Eugenia Velazquez (Iris Long's mother), Shirley Waters, Barbara Weber, The Weir Family, Cindi Willis, Callum Wright (friend of Barbara-Ann Schwartz, APNS teacher).

### Stay connected with our community of faith!

You Tube:

@AbingtonPresbyterianChurch4784

Facebook:

@Abington Presbyterian Church-APC (Public Group)  
@Abington Presbyterian Church Youth Fellowship (Private Group)

To read about all the exciting things happening at Abington Presbyterian Church, **please pick up a copy of "Abington Presbyterian Life" from an Usher or subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter.** To be added to the distribution list for the E-Blast, please call the church office or email Susan Schied: [sschied@apcusa.org](mailto:sschied@apcusa.org)

Our community of faith strives to live by the words of the Apostle Paul: *Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep* (Romans 12:15). As you pray throughout the week, we invite you to lift up the names of those who have requested prayer. Our church family would also like to rejoice with you if you are celebrating the arrival of a child, grandchild or great-grandchild; marking an important milestone; or have another joy to share.

To add a name to the Prayer List or share a joy, please call the church office or email Susan Schied: [sschied@apcusa.org](mailto:sschied@apcusa.org)

## ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

### PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. Sudie E. Niesen Thompson, M.Div., Th.M. Pastor/Head of Staff  
The Rev. Judith A. Dwyer, M.A., M. Div. Parish Associate

### MUSIC STAFF

John Sall, M.M. Director of Music Ministries  
Ruth Sall, B.M. Children & Youth Choir Director  
Lois Leong, M.M. Organist & Director of Handbells

### EDUCATION STAFF

Ruth Sall, B.M. Director of Christian Education  
Justin Feil Youth Fellowship Coordinator  
The Rev. Ashley Rossi, M.Div. Youth Fellowship Coordinator

### SUPPORT STAFF

Fred Cipriano Facilities Manager  
Susan Schied Secretary  
Jackie Thurlow Bookkeeper



### Abington Presbyterian Church | Founded 1714

1082 Old York Road, Abington, PA, 19001  
215.887.4530 • [apcusa.org](http://apcusa.org)

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.