

¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Titus 2:14



Abington Presbyterian Church

August 23, 2020

10:00 A.M. Celebration Worship

12th Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF WORSHIP
12th Sunday after Pentecost August 16, 2020

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*

Mighty God, your saving grace is revealed in unexpected times and places. Come into our routines and penetrate our bland expectations. Fill us with your hope and joy so we can respond to the ramifications of the gospel. Amen.

PRELUDE Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele, BWV 654 J.S. Bach
(Based on Hymn 514 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness)

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus is our good news, the One who brings God's salvation and joy.

In steadfast love and faithfulness, God has done marvelous things.

When there seemed to be little reason for hope, God raised Jesus from the dead.

Christ is alive and at work among us, filling us with passion for service.

It is time to recognize the reasons for gratitude around and within us.

In a spirit of worship, we celebrate that God engages us through using the divine gifts placed in our care.

* HYMN 248 Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! HYMN TO JOY

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, your Son and our Savior Jesus Christ came into the world to give us hope for today, tomorrow, and the future. However, we have allowed ourselves to become entrapped in cynicism. Our hearts have grown smaller with a focus on ourselves. We have given power to the lie that we cannot make much of a difference. We have neglected efforts to show love, forgiveness, and compassion. We have settled for the status quo where injustice holds sway. Fill us with your joy and passion to share in expressions of your good news. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Through God's self-giving, we are redeemed from all iniquity.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Alleluia!

* RESPONSE Glory Be To the Father Hymn 581

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.

WORD

God's Word is read and its message is proclaimed in scripture, music and interpretation.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

Bible OT Pg. 638

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Titus 2:11-15

Bible NT Pg. 215

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

A Vibrant Faith: Zelos

The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

VOLUNTARY

Choral

Joseph Jongen

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From A Declaration of Faith

God has not taken his people out of the world, but has sent them into the world to worship him there and serve all humankind. We worship God in the world by standing before the Lord in behalf of all people. Our cries for help and our songs of praise are never for ourselves alone. Worship is no retreat from the world; it is part of our mission. We serve humankind by discerning what God is doing in the world and joining him in his work. We risk disagreement and error when we try to say what God is doing here and now. But we find guidance in God's deeds in the past and his promises for the future, as they are witnessed to in Scripture. We affirm that the Lord is at work, especially in events and movements that free people by the gospel and advance justice, compassion and peace.

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 & 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

* HYMN 310

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

ST. THOMAS

* BENEDICTION

* THE PEACE OF CHRIST *Greet one another with the sign of peace.*
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

* POSTLUDE *Toccata from Suite, Op. 5* *Maurice Duruflé*

[service hymns and some announcements follow]

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

Liturgists: The Rev. Aaron Twitchell and The Rev. Dr. Jade King Bass

Children's Message: Ruth Sall

Organist: Sean Burns

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"Glory Be to the Father" words from traditional liturgical text. Music (GLORIA PATRI -Greateorex) by Henry W. Greateorex, 1851. Public Domain.

"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" words by Timothy Dwight, 1800. Music (ST. THOMAS) from The Universal Psalmist, 1763 adapt. Aaron Williams, 1770. Public Domain

In need of special prayers this week: Lynne Waite, Ned Leiby, Linda Gustafson, Len Browna, Roy Castor, Michael Kemp, Frankie Ryan (friend of Cindi Willis), Laura Lockhart, Sylvia Weed (mother of Kathryn Jablokow), Lauren Frazer (sister of Jeanne Hyczko), Sophia Southerling (friend of Amy Baker), Barbara LaNore (sister of Lynda Smyth), Bruce D. Meissner (son of Judy and Bud Meissner), Sylvia Jolly, MM Harris, Herb Harris, Debbie Garrettmeyer (niece of Marlyn Whyte), Gary Lynch (son of Doug Lynch), Wayne Wilkerson (father of Amy Baker), Chris Popescu (aunt of Joanne Bates), Herb Ewald (husband of Lynda Ewald), Marty Bell (cousin of Alice Price), Elizabeth Cole (granddaughter of Nancy Webb Cole), Doris Boerner, Victor V. Johnson (brother of Pete Johnson), Helen Porter (mother of Joe Porter), Janet Wells (mother of Gwen Bihn), Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Linda Maisenhelder, Pat Slimmer and Rosie (friends of Anne and Ray Rife), Marian Kupper, Christine Kim (wife of Stephen Kim), Will Pompilli (son of Teresa Pompilli), Phyllis Frazier, Nick Cupo, Sr.

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.

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! 248

1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.

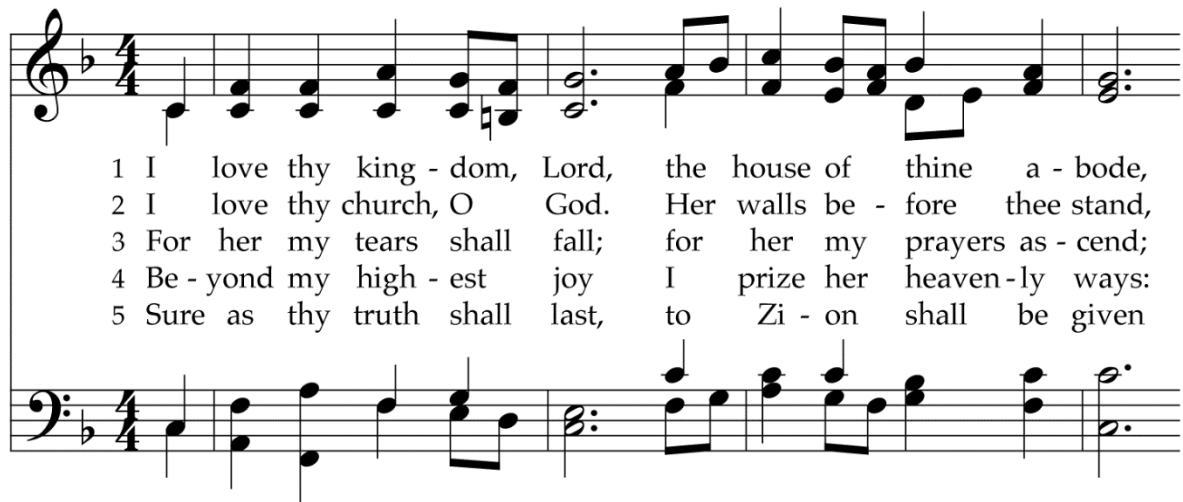
Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.

In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"

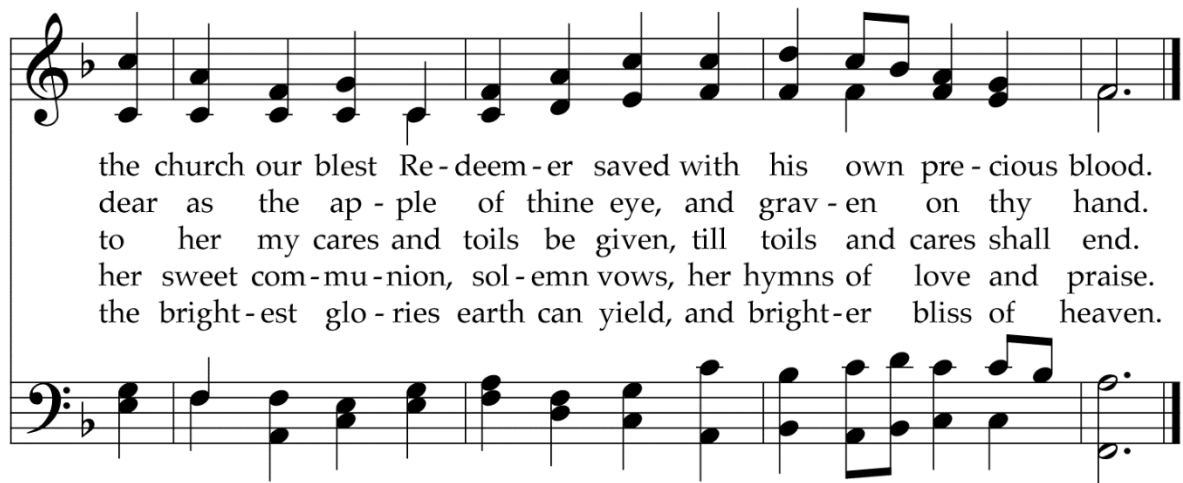
Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

In commenting on this late 20th-century text, the author has stressed his intention to affirm the social implications of an Easter faith: "Christian peace and justice action finds its wellspring, not in moral zeal or guilty conscience, but in the resurrection."

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord 310



1 I love thy king - dom, Lord, the house of thine a - bode,
2 I love thy church, O God. Her walls be - fore thee stand,
3 For her my tears shall fall; for her my prayers as - cend;
4 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize her heaven - ly ways:
5 Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zi - on shall be given



the church our blest Re - deem - er saved with his own pre - cious blood.
dear as the ap - ple of thine eye, and grav - en on thy hand.
to her my cares and toils be given, till toils and cares shall end.
her sweet com - mu - nion, sol - emn vows, her hymns of love and praise.
the bright - est glo - ries earth can yield, and bright - er bliss of heaven.

One of the oldest American hymn texts in continuous use, this paraphrase of Psalm 137 was created by a president of Yale University while compiling a popular revision of Watts's *Psalms of David*. The arranger of the tune was the clerk of a Presbyterian church in London.

TEXT: Timothy Dwight, 1800
MUSIC: *The Universal Psalmist*, 1763; adapt. Aaron Williams, 1770

ST. THOMAS
SM