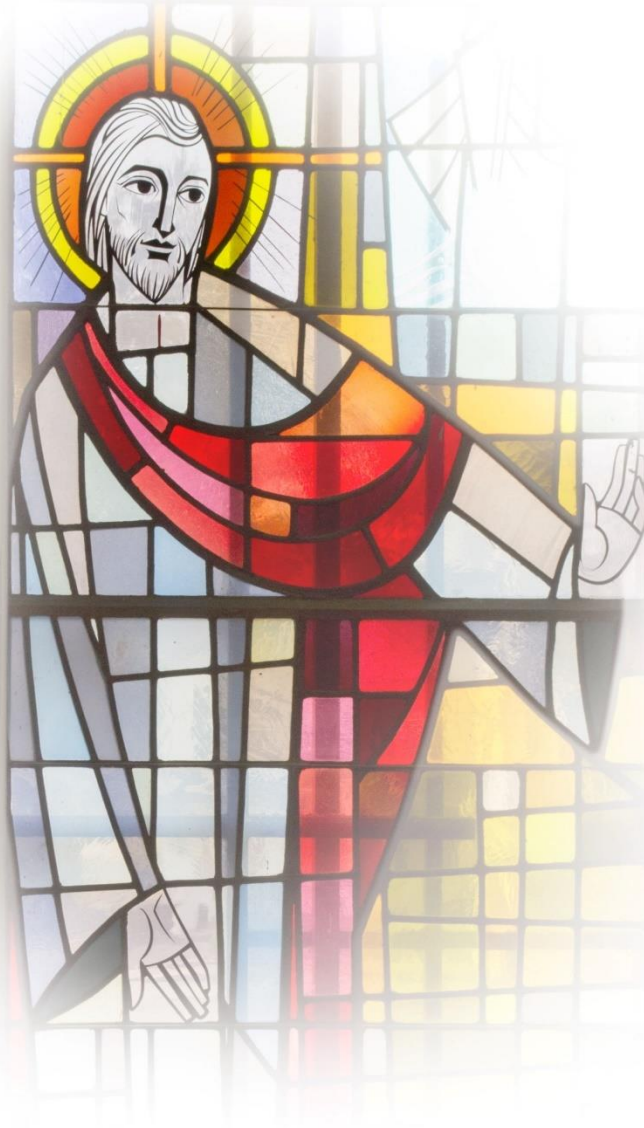


2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3



Abington Presbyterian Church

October 18, 2020

10:00 A.M. Celebration Worship

20th Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF WORSHIP
20th Sunday after Pentecost October 18, 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

Gracious God, I've tried so many things to re-center myself. Please help me to focus anew on the stories of your unending presence in our lives. Even in the midst of all that is going on, I know in my head that you will never leave us. But I need to feel it in my heart, too. Hopefully, by coming to worship I will open myself up to your Spirit. Amen.

PRELUDE

When in the Hour of Deepest Need

JS Bach

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Jeff Bates

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

As we open our hearts in worship to the Lord, sanctify our lives, O Spirit.

Set apart this time to be holy and pleasing unto you.

Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Justify our hearts that we might stand blameless before you, O King.

Accept our worship as a living sacrifice, as we emulate the obedience of Christ.

Mighty God, Father and Mother, gather us under your wings of protection.

Lead us to live courageously. Call us to defend the poor. Inspire us to faith in action.

*** HYMN 666**

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, your laws are simple and straightforward: love You, love ourselves, love our neighbors, and love the earth. But we complicate things. Because of our pride we scorn your love. Because of our stubbornness we hate ourselves. Because of our greed we injure our neighbors. And because of our ignorance we destroy the earth. Your anger is justified and yet you continually shield us from your wrath. Forgive us, O God. Bring healing to us and make us whole so that we might turn our hearts toward you and open our hearts toward one another.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As far as the east is from the west, that's how far God has removed our transgressions from us.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

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 45:1-7

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 22:15-22

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

MAD, GLAD, SAD, & AFRAID

The Rev. Aaron Twitchell

* 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 & 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 436 God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us O QUANTA QUALIA

* 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 If You But Trust in God to Guide You *J.S. Bach*

[service hymns and some announcements follow]

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Aaron Twitchell

Liturgists: The Rev. Dr. Jade King Bass, Eliza Feil, Christian Feil

Choir: Bill and Alice Price

Organ: Katherine Reier

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"Now Thank We All Our God" words by Martin Rinkart, c. 1636; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.

Music (NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT) by Johann Crüger, 1647; harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840. Public Domain.

"God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us" words by John J. Moment, 1933. alt. Music (O QUANTA QUALIA) from Paris Antiphoner, 1681; harm. La Feillée's Méthode du plain-chant, 1808. Public Domain


In need of special prayers this week: 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, Marian Kupper, Christine Kim (wife of Stephen Kim), Will Pompilli (son of Teresa Pompilli), Phyllis Frazier, Nick Cupo, Sr., Joanne Hawkins (mother of Nick Cupo), Wayne Gibbons, Jr.

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.

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright 666



1 O Splen - dor of God's glo - ry bright, from light e -
 2 Come, Ho - ly Sun of heaven - ly love, rain down your
 3 O joy - ful be the pass - ing day with thoughts as
 4 O Lord, with each re - turn - ing morn, your im - age



ter - nal bring - ing light; O Light of Light, light's
 ra - diance from a - bove, and to our in - ward
 clear as morn - ing's ray, with faith like noon - tide
 to our heart is born; O may we ev - er



liv - ing spring, true Day, all days il - lu - min - ing:
 hearts con - vey the Ho - ly Spir - it's cloud - less ray.
 shin - ing bright, our souls un - shad - owed by the night.
 clear - ly view our Sav - ior and our God in you.

This morning hymn is based on a Latin text attributed to a 4th-century bishop. It weaves various images of Christ as Light with light-based descriptions of each day's passing. It is set to a dance-like tune from at least the 15th century that enhances the energy in the text.

God of Compassion, in Mercy 436

Befriend Us

1 God of com - pas - sion, in mer - cy be - friend us,
 2 Though we are lost, you have sought us and found us,
 3 How shall we stray, with your hand to di - rect us,

giv - er of grace for our needs all - a - vail - ing.
 stilled our rude hearts with your word of con - sol - ing.
 you who the stars in their cours - es are guid - ing?

Wis - dom and strength for each day ev - er send us,
 Wrap now your peace, like a man - tle, a - round us,
 What shall we fear, with your power to pro - tect us,

pa - tience un - tir - ing and cour - age un - fail - ing.
 guard - ing our thoughts and our pas - sions con - trol - ling.
 we who walk forth in your great - ness con - fid - ing?

By ending with questions rather than simple affirmations, this text conveys a strong sense of faith in God's presence and guidance without ignoring how much of the future remains unknown. The confidence of the