

7 For God did not give us a spirit of  
cowardice, but rather a spirit of power  
and of love and of self-discipline.

*2 Timothy 1:7*



## **Abington Presbyterian Church**

October 25, 2020

10:00 A.M. Celebration Worship

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Stewardship Pledge Sunday

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**Stewardship Pledge Sunday October 25, 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*

O God, at a time when we are nervous to step out with bold faith, inspire us with the model of Christ's self-giving love. Enable us to attend to your word, guide us by your Spirit, and fill us with enthusiasm as we seek to express in our own lives your grand vision for wholeness and peace. Amen.

**PRELUDE**

O Mortal, Lament Your Sinfulness

*JS Bach*

**LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us lift up our hearts to the Living God, who embraces us as beloved children.

**We wait on our Maker, trusting God's kindness, and seeking to know God's ways.**

Let us raise our spiritual practices and hopes according to the power of our risen Lord.

**We are renewed in Jesus Christ, in service to God's reign of good news.**

Let us be attuned to the presence and gifts of the Holy Spirit who leads us.

**We are given a spirit of power, love, and self-discipline so we can fully participate in needed ministry today.**

**\* HYMN 280**

Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**O God, who by your Spirit can rekindle the embers of faith, purge us of our sins and shape us as willing servants of your love. We admit that we have been guilty of pushing you to life's periphery. We are interested in our own agenda more than yours. We tend to rely on you primarily when our own efforts come up empty. Remake us in your image of righteousness. Make us into true visionaries as we offer our gifts to be used for holy purposes.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

We are saved by God's grace, not by our works. But what we do testifies to God's redeeming love.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and can become advocates of the gospel.**

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

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Timothy 1:3-9a

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

A Spirit Rising

*The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill*

\* 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.

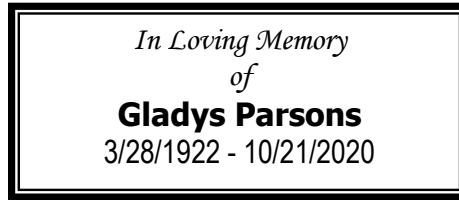
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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



**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.

**Sympathy and prayers** for the family of Gladys Parsons, as they mourn her recent death.



## 280 Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us

1 Come, O Spir - it, dwell a - mong us; come with  
 2 We would raise our al - le - lu - ias for the  
 3 Come, O Spir - it, dwell a - mong us; give us

Pen - te - cos - tal power; give the church a  
 grace of yes - ter - years; for to - mor - row's  
 words of fire and flame. Help our fee - ble

strong - er vi - sion; help us face each cru - cial hour.  
 un - known path - way, hear, O Lord, our hum - ble prayers.  
 lips to praise you, glo - ri - fy your ho - ly name.

Built up - on a firm foun - da - tion, Je - sus Christ, the  
 In the church - 's pil - grim jour - ney you have led us  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One: what

This 20th-century text was written by a Presbyterian layperson and poet, who in her later years became interested in writing hymns for the seasons of the church year and prepared a collection of them for her congregation. It pairs effectively with this sturdy Welsh tune.

# 315 In the Midst of New Dimensions

1 In the midst of new di - men - sions, in the face of  
 2 Through the flood of starv - ing peo - ple, war - ring fac - tions,  
 3 As we stand, a world di - vid - ed by our own self -  
 4 We are man and we are wom - an, all per - sua - sions,  
 5 Should the threats of dire pre - dic - tions cause us to with -

chang - ing ways, who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples  
 and de - spair, who will lift the ol - ive branch - es?  
 seek - ing schemes, grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage,  
 old and young, each a gift in your cre - a - tion,  
 draw in pain, may your blaz - ing phoe - nix spir - it

*Refrain*

wan - dering in their sep - arate ways?  
 Who will light the flame of care?  
 might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams. God of rain - bow, fi - ery pil - lar,  
 each a love song to be sung.  
 res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

lead - ing where the ea - gles soar, we your peo - ple, ours the jour - ney

In this simultaneously-created text and tune, the author-composer was seeking to incorporate imagery from both Native American and Hebrew spiritual traditions. Also included is the mythical phoenix, which