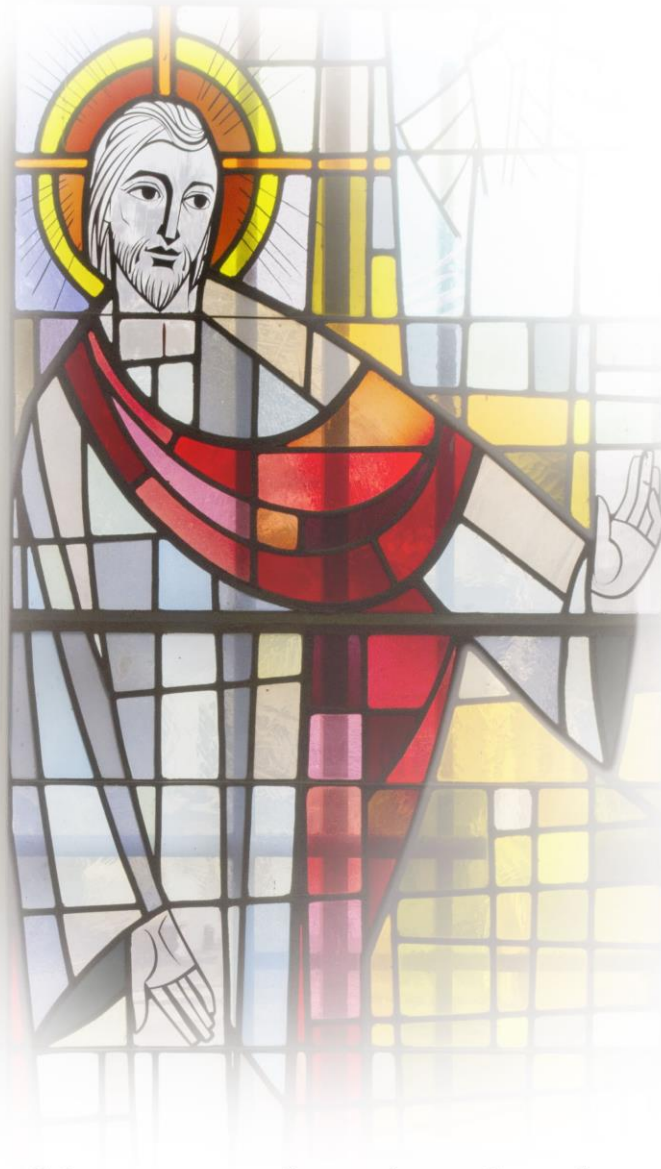


⁶ But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷ Then all those bridesmaids^a got up and trimmed their lamps.

Matthew 25:6-7



Abington Presbyterian Church

November 8, 2020

10:00 A.M. Celebration Worship

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF WORSHIP
23rd Sunday after Pentecost November 8, 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

Touch our hearts this day, O God, so this time of worship would reach into the center of our being. Touch our nation that it might find healing and direction going forward. Equip us with oil for our lamps, that we might be instruments of your justice and peace. Amen.

PRELUDE

Air & Minuet

Henry Purcell

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather to worship our God:

not only with those whose hearts overflow with joy, but with those who long to offer their deepest sorrows.

We gather to follow Jesus:

not only with praise and prayers, but with lives of service and peace.

We gather to be filled with the Spirit's presence:

not only as we are equipped for our time of waiting, but to be of active support for those who are eager for justice and hope in their lives.

*** HYMN 305**

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

DARWALL'S 148TH

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you created us for life together. We confess that we have turned from your will. We have not loved one another as you commanded. We have been quick to claim our own rights and careless of the rights of others. We have taken much and given little. Forgive our disobedience, O God, and strengthen us in love, so that we may serve you as a faithful people, and live together in your joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's grace leads to our renewal defined by resurrection hope –

All who are in Christ will rise again to new life. We have been forgiven and are being restored!

* 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

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:1-13

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Oil of Service

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 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 547 Go, My Children, with My Blessing AR HYD Y NOS

* 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 Rondeau *Henry Purcell*

[service hymns and some announcements follow]

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

Liturgists: The Rev. Aaron Twitchell and Ahtoi Gibbons

Children's Message: Ruth Sall

Choir: Ian and Julia Waite

Special Music: Strings of the Abington Symphony Orchestra

Permissions: "Air & Minuet" from *Abdelazer Suite* by Henry Purcell (1695). Public Domain

"Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!" words by Brian Dill, 1988. Text © 1989 Brian Dill reprinted by permission with Glory to God. All rights reserved. Music (DARWALL'S 148TH) by John Darwall, 1770. Public Domain.

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

"Go, My Children, with My Blessing" words by Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983. Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-729335. All rights reserved. Music (AR HYD Y NOS) Welsh melody. Public Domain.

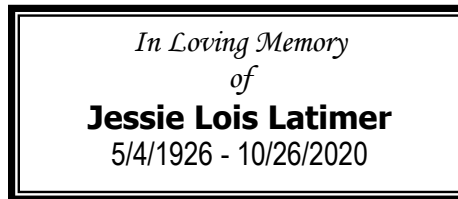
"Rondeau" from *Abdelazer Suite* by Henry Purcell (1695). Public Domain

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., John & Carolyn Burrell (parents of Janet Gildner), Susan Arnhold (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Kris and Erik Reidenbach (friends of Sally Adams), Linda Doyle.

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 Jessie Lois Latimer, as they mourn her recent death.

Thanks to Sandra and Jim Holt for the special flower arrangement for this season.



305 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

1 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
 2 Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns su - preme,
 3 Let cour - age be our friend; let wis - dom be our guide,
 4 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the a - ges long!
 em - power - ing us to catch the vi - sion, dream the dream!
 as we in mis - sion mag - ni - fy the Cru - ci - fied!
 For Christ the Lord has tri - umphed o'er the a - ges long!

In bold ac - cord, come cel - e - brate the jour - ney now and praise the Lord!

This text was the winner in a hymn competition sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Bicentennial Committee for the 1988–1989 observance, which had the theme “Celebrate the Journey.” The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) is appropriately celebratory.

Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547

1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.

Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.

In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort

ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22-27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.