

³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jeremiah 31:33



Abington Presbyterian Church

March 21, 2021

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

Fifth Sunday in Lent

ORDER OF WORSHIP
5th Sunday in Lent March 21, 2021

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, we lift up our hearts to you. We lift them up as we express to you what is on our hearts. We lift them up so you can mend our hearts and repurpose them so that they will beat in concert with your own heart. Amen.

PRELUDE

Improvisation on WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

Erik Meyer

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Even in these uncertain times,

God fulfills the promise of the new covenant.

Wherever we are, wherever we worship, at home, and in every sacred space,

God meets us and enables us to live out faith, hope, and love.

We present the totality of our being as we enter this time of worship.

God touches us and shapes us to carry forward the ministry of the good news.

*** HYMN 63**

The Lord Is God

AZMON

CALL TO CONFESSION

When our hearts resist God's initiatives, the Spirit does not give up on us. Now is a time to let God's grace into our hearts so we can be the covenant people we are called to be.

HYMN 415

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

verse 1

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;

Jesus ready stand to save you, full of pity, love, and power.

I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms.

In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You are the Heart which seeks ours, God of the new covenant, yet we turn away from you time and again. We have obsessively focused on our own anxieties instead of putting our trust in your provision. Our hopes have been narrow and self-centered. We have been unfaithful in thought, word, and deed. Forgive our shortcomings. Make us your people who reflect the qualities of your heart.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

With God's gift of a new heart and new spirit, restored and renewed, we can celebrate God's goodness and love –

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

* RESPONSE

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Hymn #582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

* THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Greet one another with the sign of peace.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

WORD

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 5:5-10

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Written on our Hearts

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

ORDINATION/INSTALLATION OF DEACONS AND RULING ELDERS

* HYMN 692 Spirit, Open My Heart WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE Postlude on AZMON *David M. Cherwien*

[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

Choir: Kathy Messina

Organist: Erik Meyer

Children's Message: Ruth Sall

Ushers today are: Doug Callantine and Ian Beck

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In need of special prayers this week: Len Browna, Michael Kemp, Laura Lockhart, Sylvia Weed (mother of Kathryn Jablokow), Barbara LaNore (sister of Lynda Smyth), Sylvia Jolly, MM Harris, Herb Harris, Gary Lynch (son of Doug Lynch), Chris Popescu (aunt of Joanne Bates), Marty Bell (cousin of Alice Price), Elizabeth Cole (granddaughter of Nancy Webb Cole), Doris Boerner, Helen Porter (mother of Joe Porter), Janet Wells (mother of Gwen Bihn), Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Linda Maisenhelder, 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., Susan Arnhold (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Kris and Erik Reidenbach (friends of Sally Adams), Pat Slimmer (friend of Anne and Ray Rife), David Fryer (husband of Rabbi Shoshana Tornberg, friend of APC), Meredith Ellisor, (cousin of Craig Nicholson), Mark Meissner (son of Judy Meissner), Pamela Brockington (mother of Desiree' Trammell).

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 Sarah Caldwell-Berry, as they mourn the recent death of her mother, Janet Lynn Hudson Caldwell.

The Lord Is God

63

1 The Lord is God, the Lord a - lone! Give hon - or, thanks, and praise
2 With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and might,
3 At night or day, at home, a - way, to - geth - er and a - part,
4 The Lord is God, the Lord a - lone! Give hon - or, thanks, and praise

to God, the mak - er of all things and giv - er of our days.
O peo - ple, love the Lord your God, the source of truth and light.
O chil - dren, take these ho - ly words and keep them in your heart.
to God, the mak - er of all things and giv - er of our days.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The Lord Is God'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the final four lines. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with clear note values and rests.

This hymn paraphrases the *Shema* (Deuteronomy 6:4–9), an ancient and central affirmation of Jewish monotheistic faith that observant Jews still recite twice a day. Jesus knew it well and called it the first and great commandment (Matthew 22:38/Mark 12:28–29/Luke 10:26–28).

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MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839
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AZMON
CM

692 Spirit, Open My Heart

Refrain Capo 3: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A7)
F B^b F B^b C7



Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of

(Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7) (Bm) (D/A) (Em)
Dm F/C B^b C7 Dm F/C Gm



liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing

(D) (G) (Em7) (D) (G) (D)
F B^b Gm7 F B^b F *Fine*



and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

(D) (G) (D) (G)
F B^b F B^b



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

(A7) (Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7)
C7 Dm F/C B^b C7



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
sis - ter, broth - er. In the wel - come of

(Bm) (Em7) (D) (G2) (G)
Dm Gm7 F B^b2 B^b
to Refrain



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
Christ, may we wel - come one an - oth - er.

The pace and diversity of modern life often hinder us from remaining vulnerable to our emotions and to the humanness of other people. This prayerful text to be open to such joys and pains draws on Ezekiel 11:19 and 36:26 in stanza one and echoes Jeremiah 31:33 in stanza two.