



148 Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord, from the
heavens,
praise him in the heights!
² Praise him, all his angels,
praise him, all his host!

Psalm 148:1-2



¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which you were indeed called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:15-17

Abington Presbyterian Church

December 26, 2021
10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship
First Sunday of Christmas

ORDER OF WORSHIP
1st Sunday of Christmas December 26, 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*

We give thank to you, O God, for your kind provisions. Your love has culminated in the coming of the Savior, which we celebrate with worship and joy. Be with us even still as we move through the Christmas season, keeping us safe, and lifting our spirits. Amen.

PRELUDE 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime *John Ferguson*
Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light *Charles Callahan*

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Like the people who found hope in a manger,
Christmas Spirit, Holy Spirit, rest on us!
Like Magi traveling to see a new star,
Christmas Spirit, Holy Spirit, reveal to us!
Great, witness-bearing Spirit
Rest on us as you did on Simeon.
Illuminating, light-bringing Spirit
Reveal to us as you did to Anna!

*** HYMN 140** Once In Royal David's City IRBY

*** 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.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 148
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*** HYMN 143** Angels From the Realms of Glory REGENT SQUARE

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:41-52

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Lost and Found"

The Rev. Aaron Twitchell

* HYMN 132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe that God has come to us as a little child,
making our weakness his strength,
securing our salvation by becoming one of us,
blessing us with a steadfast savior,
filling our hearts with joy to be shared with one another.**

**We believe that God has birthed righteousness and justice into the world,
giving us a law that will be written upon our hearts,
making the cause of the oppressed the highest priority,
declaring an everlasting reign of peace,
defeating the power of pain and suffering.**

**We believe that God calls us to participate in this reality of love,
inviting us to proclaim Christ's resurrection at the Table,
transforming us as disciples to go out into the world,
sending us forth to announce his kingdom of peace and comfort,
challenging us to see everyone as nothing less than beloved children.**

This we believe.

This we preach.

This we seek to embody in word and deed. Rev. Stephen Fearing

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 134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

JS Bach

[*some announcements follow*]

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: The Rev. Aaron Twitchell

Liturgist: The Rev. Dr. Jade King Bass

Organ: Katherine Reier

In need of special prayers this week: MM Harris, Herb Harris, Doris Boerner, Ira Greenbaum (nephew of Marlyn Whyte), Helen Porter (mother of Joe Porter), Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Linda Maisenhelder, Christine Kim (wife of Stephen Kim), Will Pompilli (son of Teresa Pompilli), Wayne Gibbons, Jr., Susan Arnhold (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Judy Meissner, Barb Kelly, Susan Johnson, John and Phyllis Frazier, Robin Cupo, Laura Lafferty, Emil Kupper, Joanne Lieb (friend of Ian & Amy Beck), Erma Yerkes, Linda Doyle, Shirley Keiter, Tim McCabe (friend of Marlyn Whyte), the Family and Friends of Marilou Cassidy, Joseph May, LaToya Coles.

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.

Abington Presbyterian Church celebrates God's infinite love and believes all people are equal in the eyes of God. We welcome all to worship and serve with us. We seek to work together to oppose intolerance, racism, and injustice that threaten the unity of humankind.