



Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

- Hebrews 12:1-3

Welcome!

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, Abbott Church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Weekly Greeter

This week - Jared Pfeifer

Next week (3/22) - Phyllis Warren

Children's Ministry

Children are welcome to join us for worship. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." We have childcare available downstairs for your children ages 0-2 during church. Children ages 3-7 will be dismissed for Children's Worship during our worship time.

There are **Children's Bulletins** in the narthex. These bulletins closely follow the sermon passage or theme for the week and are made available for older children who remain upstairs during the sermon.

CHILDCARE MINISTRY

Volunteers for today:

BABIES AND TODDLERS

Jeanette & Steve Beaudry

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (3-7)

K. Bibo, H. Fischer

Volunteers for next week (3/22):

BABIES AND TODDLERS

Alex & Katie Blair

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (3-7)

S. Pfeifer, L. Rode



**Please remember to quiet all cell phones during worship.
There is an automated external defibrillator (AED) available in the narthex.**

The Christian Year

Christian-year spirituality is nothing less than the calling to enter by faith into the incarnation, the life and ministry, the death and resurrection of Jesus. God's saving action is not only presented to us through the practice of the Christian year, it also takes up residence within us and transforms us by the saving and healing presence of Christ in our lives. As we enter the saving events of Jesus, he shapes us by the pattern of his own living and dying so that our living and dying in this world is a living and dying in him.

-Robert Webber

LENT

From the church's earliest days, Lent was a time of preparation for Easter. The Resurrection of Christ was celebrated not only each week on Sunday, the Lord's Day, but also in a special festival of the Resurrection. As we look forward to the Resurrection, Lent is traditionally focused on repentance. Speaking biblically, to repent means to make a change in our attitudes, words, and lifestyles. The Christian life in its totality is a life of repentance. Beginning when we first commit our lives to Christ, and continuing throughout our lives, we are more and more turning away from sin and self-centeredness and more and more turning to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to experience true freedom and rest.

WELCOME TO ABBOTT CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

2 Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

3 Know that the Lord, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

5 For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

SILENT PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN OF PRAISE

We are God's People

We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,
Born of His Spirit, established by His Word;
Our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in Him we stand:
O let us live transparently and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.

We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord,
For we have known it, the love of God outpoured;
Now let us learn how to return the gift of love once given:
O let us share each joy and care,
And live with a zeal that pleases Heaven.

We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,
Called to obey Him, now risen from the dead;
He wills us be a family, Diverse yet truly one:
O let us give our gifts to God, And so shall his work on earth be done.

We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,
Formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace;
We die alone, for on its own Each ember loses fire:
Yet joined in one the flame burns on
To give warmth and light, and to inspire.

Words by Bryan Jeffrey Leach

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CONFESSION OF SIN

Lord God, we sin against you and one another. We worry and do not give thanks. We allow ugliness and corruption to fill our minds. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation.

(Please confess your sins silently to the Lord)

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT & DECLARATION OF PARDON

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be shaken, forgive you your sins, strengthen you to do God's will, and give you the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **AMEN**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Hymn of the Church

**O Church of Christ, invincible,
The people of the Lord,
Empowered by the Spirit's breath
And nourished by his word.
His covenant of grace will be
Our portion evermore,
For He who called us will not change,
Our help and our reward.**

**O chosen people called by grace,
The sons of Abraham,
Who walk by faith and things unseen,
And on His promise stand,
That every nation of the earth
Will hear about this love
That causes broken hearts to heal
And pays our debts with blood.**

(continued)

O Church of Christ in sorrow now, (continued)

**Where evil lies in wait;
When trials and persecutions come
This light will never fade.
For though the hordes of hell may rage,
Their power will not endure;
Our times are in the Father's hand,
Our anchor is secure.**

**O Church of Christ, upon that day
When all are gathered in,
When every tear is wiped away
With every trace of sin;
Where justice, truth and beauty shine,
And death is passed away,
Where God and man will dwell as one
For all eternity.**

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Words: Clara T. Williams, 1875

Music: Karl Digerness, 1997

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EXTENDING GOD'S WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS and GREETING

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor

**Christ the sure and steady anchor,
In the fury of the storm;
When the winds of doubt blow through me,
And my sails have all been torn.
In the suffering, in the sorrow,
When my sinking hopes are few;**

I will hold fast to the anchor,
It will never be removed. (continued)
Christ the sure and steady anchor,
While the tempest rages on;
When temptation claims the battle,
And it seems the night has won.
Deeper still then goes the anchor,
Though I justly stand accused;
I will hold fast to the anchor,
It shall never be removed.

Christ the sure and steady anchor,
Through the floods of unbelief;
Hopeless somehow, O my soul, now,
Lift your eyes to Calvary.
This my ballast of assurance,
See his love forever proved.
I will hold fast to the anchor,
It will never be removed.

Christ the sure and steady anchor,
As we face the wave of death;
When these trials give way to glory,
As we draw our final breath.
We will cross that great horizon,
Clouds behind and life secure;
And the calm will be the better,
For the storms that we endure.

Christ the sure of our salvation,
Ever faithful, ever true!
We will hold fast to the anchor,
It shall never be removed.

Children ages 3-7 may be dismissed for Children's Worship

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer

Father of mercy and love, grow us up together, that we might be of one mind and one love, gentle toward one another and full of thanks. And may joy in the Lord overflow in us. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Jesus Christ, our Savior, Lord of all nations: guide those with power and in authority. Fill their minds with what is true and just, to know what is honorable and commendable. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Holy Spirit, our Comforter, grant us peace: draw near to all who suffer; deliver them from worry. Guard the vulnerable and those who struggle. Lift their supplications before the Father. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

And for what else should we pray?

Members of the congregation may add their own intercessions at this time, ending with, For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Now gathering our prayers into one, let us pray boldly as our Savior has taught us:

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 and ever. Amen.

13 And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers. 14 For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea. For you suffered the same things from your own countrymen as they did from the Jews, 15 who killed both the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out, and displease God and oppose all mankind 16 by hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles that they might be saved—so as always to fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them at last!

17 But since we were torn away from you, brothers, for a short time, in person not in heart, we endeavored the more eagerly and with great desire to see you face to face, 18 because we wanted to come to you—I, Paul, again and again—but Satan hindered us. 19 For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? 20 For you are our glory and joy.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Jacob Jasin

"A Fruitful Church, An Attractive Congregation"

OFFERING

The offering is a way for members and friends of Abbott Church to support the church's mission and ministry. If you are our guest today, please feel under no compulsion to give. If you would like to give online, you may do so at www.abbottchurch.org/giving

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Communion, also called the Lord's Supper, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all baptized followers of Jesus Christ to participate. If you are not a follower of Jesus or are not prepared to share in the meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his people, the church.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

1. Oh how good it is, when the fam - ily of
 2. Oh how good it is on this jour - ney
 3. Oh how good it is to em - brace His com -

4

God share, dwells to - geth - er in Spir - it, in
 mand to re - joice with the hap - py and
 to pre - fer one a - noth - er, for -

7

faith and un - i - ty. Where the bonds of peace, of ac -
 weep with those who mourn. For the weak find strength, the af -
 give as He for - gives. When we live as one, we all

11

cept - ance and love, are the fruit of His pre - sence here a -
 flict - ed find grace, when we of - fer the bless - ing of be -
 share in the love of the Son with the Fa - ther and the

15

Chorus

mong - us.
 long - ing. So with one voice we'll sing - to the
 Spi - rit

20

Lord and with one heart we'll - live - out His

24

Word. Till the - whole - world sees the Re deem er has

28

come, for - He dwells in the - pre sence of His peo - ple.

SILENT PRAYERS FOR REFLECTION

Prayer for those searching

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weak and sinful, but through you I am loved and accepted. I thank you for taking my place in death, in order to offer me forgiveness and renewal. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and my Lord. Amen.

Prayer for those struggling with sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and faithfully follow you in life. Amen.

Prayer of commitment to God's people

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the steps necessary to be one with your people and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Prayer of thanksgiving

Lord, you have put gladness in our hearts; you have satisfied our hunger with good things. In giving all, you have not withheld from us your own dear Son. How can we withhold anything from you, our Lord and our God? Renew us day by day with the gift of your Spirit, that we may give ourselves completely to your service and walk with joy in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

PRAYER for the SICK - if you would like the elders to pray with you or a family member for healing, please contact the pastor to schedule a time to meet.

Directions for accessing Periscope: Once the service begins, please visit twitter.com/abbottchurch from any computer or smartphone. Click on the link that says “abbottchurch is LIVE”

NEED PRAYER? We are beginning a daily noon prayer hour at the church each weekday. From 12:00 PM until 1:00 PM, Monday through Friday, someone will be available here at the church to pray with, and for, anyone in need of prayer. The time will also be focused on praying for the ministry of our church and for God's Spirit to be at work in our midst. If you would like to be part of this new prayer ministry, please let the pastor know.

It is good to welcome **Rev. Jacob Jasin** back to our pulpit this morning. Jacob is our Reformed University Fellowship International campus minister at Johns Hopkins University. Jacob grew up in Jakarta, Indonesia. In 1999, he earned his bachelor's degree in Foreign Languages and Literature at Tunghai University in Taichung, Taiwan. He then traveled to Louisiana to pursue his MBA at Southeastern Louisiana University. There, God revealed to him the need to reach international students with the gospel, and he has served in international campus ministry since. He graduated from Southeastern Louisiana University in 2001, and earned his master's degree in Christian Leadership from Liberty Theological Seminary in 2008. After nine years serving international campus ministry in Louisiana, Jacob worked for nine years as the Director of Briarwood International Outreach at Briarwood Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, Alabama. During his time there, he completed his M. Div. at Birmingham Theological Seminary. In his spare time, Jacob enjoys photography, hiking, and kayaking. Jacob and his wife, Pei, got married last October.

HE HEARS

“This is the assurance we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.” — 1 JOHN 5:14

Prayer tip: *The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth. Psalm 145:18*

Please pray for:

- Your church staff, officers and leaders
- Men and women of the military, police and fire departments
- Family members and friends who are not walking with Christ
- Ongoing health concerns for the following members and friends:
Larry Halterman, Milly Flynn, Gene and Diane Shaw, Phyllis Brown, Dawn Brewer, Brent Schepleng, Clint Neuder, Brenda Neuder, Robin and Toni (Billie Mitchell's granddaughters), Narouz family (especially Vicky), Don Sapp, Jackie Lubin
- *Raj Mohan's wife, dementia, and granddaughter, mental health issues*
- *Lydia Frasca, chemotherapy and radiation treatment*
- *David Files, pain management*
- *Nancy Steigler - cancer surgery, recovery and salvation*

MISSIONARIES AND MINISTRIES WHICH WE SUPPORT:

- Andy and Bev Warren with MTW in Ethiopia
- Jason and Liz Polk with MTW in Ethiopia
- Jessica Ringsmuth with MTW in Kenya
- Bert and Nancy Williams with MTW in Uganda
- Bruce and Pat with MTW in France
- Chris Garriott with RUF at the University of Maryland
- Jacob Jasin with RUF-I at Johns Hopkins University
- Mountain View Bible Camp — Abbott Center for the Arts
- Abbott Tutoring Center. — We Care Ministry

Prayer requests will be removed from list after 4 weeks unless updated

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ABBOTT

Today, 3/15

9:45 AM Sunday School

10:45 AM Morning Worship

COMMUNITY GROUPS & ONGOING EVENTS:

Tuesdays at 5:45 PM

Abbott Tutoring Center Please see Ann Pfeifer - we need tutors!

1st Wednesdays 7:00 PM

Session Meeting @ Room 7
Next Meeting 4/1

Thursdays at 11:00 AM

Senior Community Group
@ Room 8

Thursdays at 6:30 PM

Highlandtown Community Group @ Warren Home (Manse)

4th Fridays at 6:30 PM
(5th Fridays on conflict nights)

Abbott Fellowship Night (FAA)
Next Event 3/27

1st & 2nd Saturday mornings
10 AM-12 PM

We Care Center
@ Room 7+8

3rd Sundays after worship service

Prayer Group @ Room 8

Welcome to Abbott.

We're glad we worshiped with you today!

March 15, 2020

NAME(S)

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

How may we serve you?

(please check the appropriate box)

- I am a visitor
- I would like to find out about how to become a Christian
- I am interested in membership
(Abbott schedules classes regularly)
- I would like a call from the pastor
- I would like prayer
- I would like to join a community group
- My contact information has changed

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polowarren@gmail.com

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Abbott Memorial Presbyterian Church

A congregation of the
Presbyterian Church in America
(PCA)