



When today we long for God to act, to put the world to rights, we must remind ourselves that he has already done so, and that what we are now awaiting is the full outworking of those events. We wait with patience, not like people in a dark room wondering if anyone will ever come with a lighted candle, but like people in early morning who know that the sun has arisen and are now waiting for the full brightness of midday. – N.T. Wright

THANK YOU for JOINING US

We are made to worship together, but we find ourselves living in a particular and unprecedented moment that has not touched American lives in generations. The good news is that while we are made to worship God together, we do not need to be in a particular place to meet with God. So I hope you have gathered together with your housemates, family, and maybe a couple others. God is present with us at all times, and He delights to meet with you today regardless of where you are or how many people you are with. We seek to offer this service as an encouragement to you amid these difficult times. We look forward to worshiping together again, breaking bread and giving hugs to one another. You are missed.

As an encouragement to others, please take a picture of your home gathering, post it to social media with the hashtag #abbottchurchathome and tag us on Instagram @abbottchurchbaltimore

QUOTES for REFLECTION

The Scripture's gospel is shallow enough for babes to wade in and never drown and yet deep enough for scholars to swim in and never touch bottom. -Jerome

What an unspeakable comfort it is to know that in the midst of man's mischief, in the midst of his scheming and bad speculations, his shaping and misshaping, his activism and his failures, there is still another stream of events flowing silently on, that God is letting his seeds grow and achieving his ends. -Helmut Thielicke

You can access children's bulletins at the following address:
www.childrensbulletins.com/Covid19-childrens-activites-for-churches

ORDER OF WORSHIP
THE SEASON OF EASTER

The fullness of the resurrection requires more than a day to unpack. The Easter season is a fifty-day celebration that ends on Pentecost Sunday (the Greek word *pentekoste* means “fiftieth”). The Easter season is a time to let the implications of the resurrection sink in deeper, inviting us to realign our worldview and conform our living to the reality that we have been raised with Christ to new life. Easter is full of joy and the laughter of love—the grave is empty, love has won, Christ is risen! Give yourself over to the experience of that joy—take in the absolute wonder of God’s purposeful plan of salvation. - Philip Reinders

Thank you for joining our livestream this morning. Please send prayer requests to the pastor by text message 410.299.6929

WELCOME TO ABBOTT CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.
2 **Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**
then they said among the nations,
“The Lord has done great things for them.”
3 The Lord has done great things for us;
we are glad.
4 **Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like streams in the Negeb!**
5 Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!
6 **He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.**

SILENT PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN

May the Peoples Praise You

**You have called us out of darkest night into Your glorious light
That we may sing the wonders of the risen Christ
May our every breath retell the grace that broke into our strife
With boundless love and deepest joy with endless life**

*May the peoples praise You, let the nations be glad
All Your blessing comes that we may praise
May praise the Name of Jesus*

**All the earth is Yours and all within each harvest is Your own
And from Your hand we give to You to make Christ known
May the seeds of mercy grow in us for those who have not heard
May songs of praise build lives of grace to spread Your Word.**

**This our holy privilege to declare Your praises and Your name
To every nation, tribe and tongue, Your church proclaims.**

**Holy, holy is the Lord Almighty
Worthy, worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy, holy is the Lord Almighty
All creation praise Your glorious Name**

*May the Peoples Praise You words & music Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, David Zimmer,
Stuart Townend, Ed Cash. © 2016 Getty Music Publishing (BMI) , Alletrop Music (BMI) and
Townend Songs (PRS)*

CONFESSION OF SIN

**Father of mercy, we come to you heavy-laden, burdened by the
weight of sin and wearied by the brokenness of our world. Turn us
from trusting in our own wisdom, forgive and free us, and grant us a
childlike faith in you.**

(Please confess your sins silently to the Lord)

WORDS OF COMFORT & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

May Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given you a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, 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

Build Your Kingdom Here

**Come set Your rule and reign in our hearts again
Increase in us we pray, unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now
We are Your Church
And we need Your power in us**

**We seek Your kingdom first, we hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives for You're our joy and prize
To see the captive hearts released
The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for Heaven's cause
We are Your church
And we pray revive this earth**

**Build Your kingdom here, let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand, heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire, win this people back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here, we pray**

**Unleash Your kingdom's power, reaching the near and far
No force of hell can stop Your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this
Awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ
We are Your church
We are the hope on earth**

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

Beautiful Things

All this pain - I wonder if I'll ever find my way
I wonder if my life could really change, at all
All this earth - Could all that is lost ever be found?
Could a garden come out from this ground, at all?

You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of the dust
You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of us

All around, Hope is springing up from this old ground
Out of chaos life is being found, in you

You make me new,
You are making me new
You make me new,
You are making me new

Songwriters: Lisa Gungor / Michael Gungor
Beautiful Things Lyrics © Capitol Christian Music Group

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth: I believe in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead; the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

Liturgy of the Hours

With ev'ry morning I will kneel to pray,
To be a blessing in this coming day
In ev'rything I say and ev'rything I do, to wholly honor you.

At noon remind me through this day to give
My full attention to the ones I'm with,
Be mindful of those things around and those within,
and fully enter in.

Teach me the wisdom of remembering,
And give me the wisdom to forget.
Lead me, Oh, teach me to live each day for you.

And in the evening as my thoughts retell
This passing day let me remember well;
So that no bitterness takes root within my soul,
help me to let them go.

And in the night-time may my mind be free
To truly rest and be refreshed in sleep;
And by releasing every worry, every strain, be free to start again.

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me and before;
Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in peace
and Christ in storm;
Christ in hearts of all who know me, Christ in friend and stranger all.

Mark Edwards & Stuart Townend
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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people as we cry out to you; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all of your creation; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, giver of life, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

(continued)

Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: Let the cry of those who grieve come to you, that they may find your mercy present with them in all their afflictions; and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them for the sake of him who suffered for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us also pray...

For a swift end to COVID-19.

For those infected and those who have been exposed; **grant them strength, healing, and protection.**

For their loved ones and caretakers; **grant them peace, comfort, and endurance.**

For those leading nations; **grant them sound minds, courage, and humility.**

For physicians, nurses, technicians, researchers, administrators, and all other healthcare employees around the world; **grant them strength by your life-giving Spirit, wisdom, and resources to do the work before them.**

For those who must work, despite the threat of sickness; **grant them protection and continued provision.**

For those who have become unemployed or underemployed during this pandemic; **grant them comfort, wisdom, and financial provision.**

For churches and their clergy; **grant them discernment and creativity to lead and minister in unprecedented circumstances.**

For parents and families; **grant them wisdom, patience and joy.**

For children; **grant them protection from fear.**

For those for whom home is not a safe haven; **grant them refuge.**

For those who are alone; **grant them a sense of your nearness and love.**

For all navigating decisions during this time of uncertainty and fear; **grant them your peace.** And for all the prayers we cannot voice because our language is insufficient or our ignorance too great; **Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.**

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live; grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; **through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.** 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.**

SCRIPTURE FOR THE SERMON

Luke 13:18-21

18 He said therefore, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it? 19 It is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his garden, and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches."

20 And again he said, "To what shall I compare the kingdom of God? 21 It is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, until it was all leavened."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Pastor Paul Warren

"A Sheltering Tree and a Nourishing Loaf"

OFFERING

Abbott Church depends on your generosity. It is important to realize that people's needs are only going to increase in the coming months. So will you help us come alongside others as we seek to minister with the good news of Jesus and meet people's needs? You can give online at www.abbottchurch.org/giving or by mailing a check to the church office at 3426 Bank St., Baltimore, MD 21224.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

-Let's take a moment to mourn the fact that our church body is not able to assemble together this Sunday.

-Pray that the Lord would work to enable us to return to a fuller communion with one another soon. (continued)

-Give thanks that though we do not celebrate the sacrament of communion together today we have true communion with Jesus and one another through the power of the Holy Spirit, who dwells in every believer giving us union with Christ and all his people.

-Ask God to grow into a deeper hunger and desire to commune with him and his people in this time of waiting and separation.

CLOSING HYMN

Streets of the City

**Lord, we stand in the shallows of all you have given,
Grateful for mercy yet hungry for more,
for the power of grace to go out from this place
to the ends of the earth.**

**We have praised You with passion and worshipped in wonder,
thrilled by Your Spirit and fed by Your word;
now to fully delight in the riches of Christ
we must go to the world.**

**For You live in the streets of the city,
You stand with the weak and the needy,
You walk with the homeless and hungry and poor.
And Your hands are the hands I am lifting,
Your voice is the life I am living;
Your love longs to meet them, but how will they know,
unless I am willing to go?**

**Lord, where are You hungry and where are You thirsty,
naked, imprisoned, with no one to care?
To give of our best to the poor and oppressed
is to give back to You.**

**So cause us to see with the eyes of the Savior,
Give us a heart that will love as you love;
courageous compassion in words and in action
brings hope to the world.**

**For You live in the streets of the city,
You stand with the weak and the needy,
You walk with the homeless and hungry and poor.
And Your hands are the hands I am lifting, *(continued)***

Your voice is the life I am living;
Your love longs to meet them, but how will they know?
That you live in the streets of the city,
You stand with the weak and the needy
You walk with the homeless and hungry and poor.
And your hands are the hands I am lifting,
Your voice is the life I am living,
Without us there's no other way they will know,
So send me, I'm ready to go.

Stuart Townend; Copyright © 2014 Modern Hymnal Digital/Modern Hymnal Publishing

POSTLUDE

God be with You Till We Meet Again

God be with you till we meet again,
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you,
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again,
'Neath His wings securely hide you,
Daily manna still provide you,
God be with you till we meet again.

*Till we meet, till we meet,
Till we meet at Jesus' feet;
Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.*

God be with you till we meet again,
When life's perils thick confound you,
Put His loving arms around you,
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again,
Keep love's banner floating o'er you,
Smite death's threatening wave before you,
God be with you till we meet again.

Sing to the Lord: Lillenas Publishing Co., Kansas City, MO, 1993

BENEDICTION

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 at 410.299.6929.

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? From 12:00 PM until 1:00 PM, Monday through Friday, someone will be available to pray 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. Please text prayer requests to the pastor, Julius and/or George.

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 ONLINE

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Today, 4/19 | 10:45 AM Morning Worship |
| Monday-Friday, 4/20-24 | 12:00 PM Prayer - Please send requests to the pastor or to abbottchurchoffice@gmail.com |

COMMUNITY GROUPS & ONGOING EVENTS: ALL ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

| | |
|--|---|
| Tuesdays at 5:45 PM (summer break) | Abbott Tutoring Center Please think about helping in the fall! |
| 1st Wednesdays 7:00 PM | Session Meeting @ Room 7 |
| 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 Meeting: 10/25 |
| 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!

April 19, 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

Staff Contacts

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