



The same God who suffers because of his immense love for his children is the God who is rich in goodness and mercy and who desires to reveal to his children the richness of his glory.

- Henri Nouwen

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*

Please send prayer requests to the pastor by text message 410.299.6929

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME TO ABBOTT CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

Psalm 146

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Put not your trust in princes,

in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

**When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;
on that very day his plans perish.**

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord his God,

**who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them,
who keeps faith forever;**

who executes justice for the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets the prisoners free;

the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

**The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous.**

The Lord watches over the sojourners;

he upholds the widow and the fatherless,

but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

**The Lord will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, to all generations.**

Praise the Lord!

SILENT PREPARATION

Abba Father, we approach Thee
In our Savior's precious name;
We, Thy children, here assembled,
Now Thy promised blessing claim;
From our sins His blood hath washed us,
'Tis through Him our souls draw nigh;
And Thy Spirit, too hath taught us,
"Abba Father," thus to cry.

Once as prodigals we wandered
In our folly far from Thee,
But Thy grace, o'er sin abounding,
Rescued us from misery;
Thou Thy prodigals hast pardoned,
Kissed us with a Father's love,
Spread the festive board, and called us,
E'er to dwell with Thee above

Clothed in garments of salvation,
At Thy table is our place,
We rejoice, and Thou rejoicest,
In the riches of Thy grace;
"It is meet," we hear Thee saying,
"We should merry and be glad,
I have found My once lost children,
Now they live who once were dead."

"Abba, Father!" all adore Thee,
All rejoice in Heav'n above,
While in us they learn the wonders
Of Thy wisdom, grace, and love;
Soon before Thy throne assembled,
All Thy children shall proclaim,
"Glory, everlasting glory,
Be to God and to the Lamb!"

CONFESSION OF SIN *(In unison)*

Father, we have run from your love.

**We have marred your image in us,
sinning against heaven and against you.**

**We are not worthy to be called your children. We turn to you again.
Have mercy on us, because we know you let go of heaven
to run and hold us in your arms.**

**We who were content eating dead husks
now look forward to the heavenly banquet through Christ our Lord.
Amen. (Please confess your sins silently to the Lord)**

WORDS OF COMFORT & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive you your sins and make you holy to serve him in the world, through
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **AMEN**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Come, All You Vagabonds

**Come, all you vagabonds, come all you 'don't belongs'
Winners and losers, come, people like me.
Come all you travelers, tired from the journey,
Come wait a while, stay a while, welcomed you'll be.**

**Come all you questioners, looking for answers,
And searching for reasons, and sense in it all;
Come all you fallen, and come all you broken,
Find strength for your body, and food for your soul.**

***Come to the feast, there is room at the table.
Come let us meet in this place.***

***With the King of all kindness, Who welcomes us in,
With the wonder of love, and the power of grace.***

The wonder of the love, and the power of grace. *(continued)*

*Come those who worry 'bout houses and money,
And all those who don't have a care in the world;
From every station and orientation,
The helpless, the hopeless, the young and the old.*

*Come all believers and dreamers and schemers,
And come all you restless, just searching for home;
Movers and shakers and givers and takers,
The happy, the sad and the lost and alone.*

*Come to the feast, there is room at the table.
Come let us meet in this place.*

*With the King of all kindness, Who welcomes us in,
With the wonder of love, and the power of grace.
The wonder of the love, and the power of grace.*

*Come self-sufficient with wearied ambition,
And come those who feel at the end of the road.
Fiery debaters and religion haters,
Accusers, abusers, the hurt and ignored.*

Stuart Townend, Mark Edwards & Phil Baggaley
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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.**

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer,
But this I know with all my heart,
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Words and Music by Stuart Townend, 1995

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.

Father, many times, human leaders of your church have become like the older brother in the parable. Protect us from pride and self-righteousness. May we always rejoice as the wayward come home and be ready to admit when we've strayed.

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lord, as we have run from you, we have not only marred your image in us but have wrought destruction on the world. Help us to repent of destructive dominion. Help us rejoice in the beauty of your world and be stewards of the corners of it we can change.

For this, O Lord, we pray:

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Father, you came to earth and partook of our sorrows. You know what it is like to depend on the goodwill of others for your daily survival. Please comfort those who are in need: of shelter, of food, of money, or those who are suffering from poverty of relationships. Let us see their need with new eyes and step into their lives as you did into ours.

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:

**All 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 now and forever. Amen.**

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him.

2 And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

11 And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. 12 And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. 13 Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living.

14 And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to [a] one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. 16 And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

17 "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! 18 I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' 20 And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. 21 And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22 But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. 23 And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

"That's Me!"

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

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

-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

TH#402 Amazing Grace

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now I'm found -
Was blind, but now I see**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home**

(continued)

And when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
A life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

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, 6/14	10:45 AM Morning Worship
Monday-Friday, 6/15-6/19	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	Abbott Tutoring Center. Please see Ann Pfeifer - we need tutors!
1st Wednesdays 7:00 PM	Session Meeting @ Room 8 Next Meeting TBD
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)
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!

September 20, 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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