



How can we move towards becoming people through whom 'resurrection' happens to others? How can we celebrate the party of God's love in such a way as to welcome not only the younger brothers who have come back from the dead, but also the older brothers who thought there was nothing wrong with them? - N.T. Wright

## To those joining us on line today...THANK YOU!

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 worshipping 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

**Abbott Church** is partnering with the Baltimore City Health Department to provide the community with **FREE COVID-19 TESTING**. Testing will be offered on Wednesday, October 7th and Friday, October 9th from 9:00 am until noon on the church parking lot. This is a "shine only" event. No registration required.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we will not be having our traditional community **Thanksgiving celebration** this year. However, at this time, we are making plans to do carry out meals on Thanksgiving Day. Taking every possible precaution, we will NOT be accepting any food donations this year, but we are asking for financial donations to cover all of the costs we anticipate in preparing and serving the meal. We will also be limiting the number of volunteers. If you are interested in participating in any way, please indicate on a tear-off form, or see Jerry & Ann Pfeifer for more information.

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

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### WELCOME TO ABBOTT CHURCH

#### CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

*Psalm 36:5-9*

5 Your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens,  
your faithfulness to the skies.

6 **Your righteousness is like the highest mountains,  
your justice like the great deep.  
You, Lord, preserve both people and animals.**

7 How priceless is your unfailing love, O God!  
People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

8 **They feast on the abundance of your house;  
you give them drink from your river of delights.**

9 **For with you is the fountain of life;  
in your light we see light.**

#### SILENT PREPARATION

**OPENING HYMN**

*Come, People of the Risen King*

**Come, people of the Risen King,  
Who delight to bring Him praise;  
Come all and tune your hearts to sing  
To the Morning Star of grace.  
From the shifting shadows of the earth  
We will lift our eyes to Him,  
Where steady arms of mercy reach  
To gather children in.**

**Rejoice, Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!  
One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!**

**Come, those whose joy is morning sun,  
And those weeping through the night;  
Come, those who tell of battles won,  
And those struggling in the fight.  
For His perfect love will never change,  
And His mercies never cease,  
But follow us through all our days  
With the certain hope of peace.**

**Rejoice, Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!  
One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!**

**Come, young and old from every land -  
Men and women of the faith;  
Come, those with full or empty hands -  
Find the riches of His grace.  
Over all the world, His people sing -  
Shore to shore we hear them call  
The Truth that cries through every age:  
"Our God is all in all!"**

**Rejoice, Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!  
One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!**

Words and Music by Keith and Kristyn Getty & Stuart Townend, 2008

**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**

**Community of Christ, who make the cross your own,  
live out your creed and risk your life for God alone:  
the God who wears your face, to whom all worlds belong,  
whose children are of every race and every song.**

**Community of Christ, look past the Church's door  
and see the refugee, the hungry, and the poor.  
Take hands with the oppressed, the jobless in your street,  
take towel and water, that you wash your neighbor's feet.**

**Community of Christ, through whom the word must sound  
cry out for justice and for peace the whole world round:  
disarm the powers that war and all that can destroy,  
turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish into joy.**

**When menace melts away, so shall God's will be done,  
the climate of the world be peace and Christ its sun;  
our currency be love and kindness our law,  
our food and faith be shared as one for ever more.**

*Community of Christ words by Shirley Erena Murray  
©1992 Hope Publishing Company CCLI#1442252*

## **EXTENDING GOD'S WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS and GREETING**

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

All: **And also with you.**

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been  
Come, broken-hearted, let rescue begin  
Come find your mercy, O sinner, come kneel  
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal

So, lay down your burdens, lay down your shame  
All who are broken, lift up your face  
O wanderer, come home, you're not too far  
Lay down your hurt, lay down your heart, come as you are

There's hope for the hopeless and all those who've strayed  
Come sit at the table, come taste the grace  
There's rest for the weary, rest that endures  
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't cure

Come as you are, fall in His arms, come as you are

There's joy for the morning, O sinner, be still  
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal.

*Publishing: © 2014 sixsteps Music / worshiptogether.com Songs / Inot Music / 9T One Songs / Ariose Music (ASCAP) / Valley Of Songs Music (BMI)*

## **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. For this, O Lord, we pray:  
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*(continued)*

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.**

#### **SCRIPTURE FOR THE SERMON**

Luke 15:11-32

11 Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a



citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' 20 So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

25 "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 27 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

28 "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

31 "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

*"Vast, Unmeasured, Boundless, Free!"*

**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](http://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#432 Jesus, What a Friend for*

*Sinners*

**Jesus! What a friend for sinners!**  
**Jesus, lover of my soul;**  
**Friends may fail me, foes assail me,**  
**He, my savior, makes me whole.**

*Hallelujah! What a savior!*  
*Hallelujah! What a friend!*  
*Saving, helping, keeping, loving,*  
*He is with me to the end.*

**Jesus! What a strength in weakness!**  
**Let my hide myself in Him;**  
**Tempted, tried, and often failing,**  
**He, my strength, my victory wins.**

*(continued)*

*Hallelujah! What a savior!  
Hallelujah! What a friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,  
He is with me to the end.*

Jesus! What a help in sorrow!  
While the billow over me roll,  
Even when my heart is breaking,  
He, my Comfort, helps my soul.

*Hallelujah! What a savior!  
Hallelujah! What a friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,  
He is with me to the end.*

Jesus! I do now receive him,  
More than all in Him I find,  
He has granted me forgiveness,  
I am His and He is mine.

*Hallelujah! What a savior!  
Hallelujah! What a friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,  
He is with me to the end.*

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

*"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*
- *Shelly Armstrong, pancreatic cancer, on hospice care*

### **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

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT ABBOTT ONLINE

Today, 10/4	10:45 AM Morning Worship
Monday-Friday, every week	12:00 PM Prayer -Please send requests to the pastor or to <a href="mailto:abbottchurchoffice@gmail.com">abbottchurchoffice@gmail.com</a>

Beginning next Sunday, October 11th, we will again be offering a **Children's Church** program during the morning worship service. The 3rd floor is being set up to accommodate proper social distancing and we ask that children that want to participate please wear masks. If you have questions, please contact Ann Pfeifer.

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

Tuesdays at 5:45 PM	<b>Abbott Tutoring Center.</b> Please see Ann Pfeifer - we need tutors!
1st Wednesdays 7:00 PM	<b>Session Meeting @ Room 8</b> Next Meeting TBD
Thursdays at 11:00 AM	<b>Senior Community Group @ Room 8</b>
Thursdays at 6:30 PM	<b>Highlandtown Community Group @ Warren Home (Manse)</b>
4th Fridays at 6:30 PM (5th Fridays on conflict nights)	<b>Abbott Fellowship Night (FAA)</b>
1st & 2nd Saturday mornings 10 AM-12 PM	<b>We Care Center @ Room 7+8</b>
3rd Sundays after worship service	<b>Prayer Group @ Room 8</b>



## Welcome to Abbott.

We're glad we worshiped with you today!

October 4, 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

J. Paul Warren  
410-299-6929  
polowarren@gmail.com

### ASSISTANT TO THE PASTOR:

Jerry Pfeifer  
410-426-3628

### MINISTER OF MUSIC:

Julius Fischer Jr.  
443-722-2525  
julejr88@gmail.com

### OFFICE ADMIN:

Phyllis Warren  
abbottchurchoffice@gmail.com

### TREASURER:

Al Rode Jr.

### SEXTON:

Clint Neuder

### SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR:

Erin Robinson  
erobinson22@yahoo.com

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## Abbott Memorial Presbyterian Church

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

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