

So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it.

*Colossians 3:12-13 The Message*

## 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*

**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 Julius and/or George.

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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)



## 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)

*Micah 6:7&8*

He has told you, O man, what is good;  
**and what does the Lord require of you**  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
**and to walk humbly with your God?**

The voice of the Lord cries to the city—  
**and it is sound wisdom to fear your name.**

### SILENT PREPARATION

## OPENING HYMN

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

O for a thousand tongues to sing My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of his grace.

My gracious Master and my God, Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad, The honors of thy Name.

Jesus, the Name that charms our fears, That bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'Tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of reigning sin, He sets the pris'ner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean, His blood availed for me.

He speaks and, listening to his voice, New life the dead receive;  
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice; The humble poor believe

## CONFESSION OF SIN (in unison)

God our Father, we lift ourselves up, we presume upon your gifts,  
and we sin against you. We are not worthy to be called your children.  
In humility, we turn again to you. Have mercy upon us, bring us back to  
yourself as those who once were dead but now have life through  
Christ our Lord.

*(Please confess your sins silently to the Lord)*

## WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression  
of the remnant of his inheritance?

You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.

You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot  
and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea. (from Micah 7:18-19)

All: **Amen**

## SONG OF PRAISE

*Compassion Hymn*

There is an everlasting kindness  
You lavished on us  
When the Radiance of heaven Came to rescue the lost;  
You called the sheep without a shepherd  
To leave their distress  
For your streams of forgiveness  
And the shade of Your rest.

And with compassion for the hurting,  
You reached out Your hand  
As the lame ran to meet You  
And the dead breathed again;  
You saw behind the eyes of sorrow  
And shared in our tears,  
Heard the sigh of the weary,  
Let the children draw near.

## CHORUS

What boundless love, What fathomless grace  
You have shown us, O God of compassion!  
Each day we live  
An offering of praise  
As we show to the world Your compassion.

We stood beneath the cross of Calvary  
And gazed on Your face  
At the thorns of oppression  
And the wounds of disgrace,  
For surely You have borne our suffering  
And carried our grief  
As You pardoned the scoffer  
And showed grace to the thief.

Keith & Kristyn Getty & Stuart Townend,  
©2008 Thankyou Music CCLI 1442252

# EXTENDING GOD'S WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS and GREETING

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

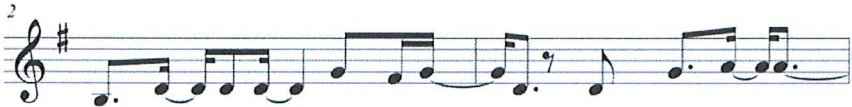
All: And also with you.

## SONG OF PRAISE

Micah 6:8



1. You could feed \_\_\_\_\_ the whole world \_\_\_\_\_ with  
2. O for - get not the wi - dow \_\_\_\_\_ the



crumbs of old bread, spread the good \_\_\_\_\_ news through dreams and stones.  
or -phan and slave. God re - mem - ber the help - less to -



\_\_\_\_\_ day. With a breath of \_\_\_\_\_ the wind You could  
Call on Your child - ren \_\_\_\_\_ re -



raise up \_\_\_\_\_ the dead, but you ask \_\_\_\_\_ us \_\_\_\_\_ to  
pair - ing \_\_\_\_\_ the breach. There's no place \_\_\_\_\_ Your mer - cy can't



go. Help us love mer - cy \_\_\_\_\_ Help us do just - ly \_\_\_\_\_ Help us walk  
reach.



humb - ly \_\_\_\_\_ with You God. Lord, You have shown us \_\_\_\_\_ what is \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ good and what You re - quire of \_\_\_\_\_ us. \_\_\_\_\_

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself and became the servant of all.  
Cast now our gaze upon your cross, that we would be in awe of it's  
glory, and all our pride and selfishness would fade.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All Lord, hear our prayer.**

Almighty Father, you exalted your Son  
and gave him a name above every name.  
May all rulers and authorities learn from him,  
that the path to greatness is through humility,  
looking to the good of others more than their own.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All Lord, hear our prayer.**

Spirit of Christ, draw near to all who suffer  
and who are laid low by cares and worries.  
Grant them encouragement in Christ,  
to hold fast to the word of life,  
and know they do not labor in vain.  
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

Ruth 2

1. Now Naomi had a relative of her husband's, a worthy man of the clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. 2 And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor." And she said to her, "Go, my daughter." 3 So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech. 4 And behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem. And he said to the reapers, "The Lord be with you!" And they answered, "The Lord bless you." 5 Then Boaz said to his young man who was in charge of the reapers, "Whose young woman is this?" 6 And the servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, "She is the young Moabite woman, who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab. 7 She said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.' So she came, and she has continued from early morning until now, except for a short rest." [a] 8 Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Now, listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women. 9 Let your eyes be on the field that they are reaping, and go after them. Have I not charged the young men not to touch you? And when you are thirsty, go to the vessels and drink what the young men have drawn." 10 Then she fell on her face, bowing to the ground, and said to him, "Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?" 11 But Boaz answered her, "All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. 12 The Lord repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the Lord, the God of



Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!" 13 Then she said, "I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, though I am not one of your servants."

14 And at mealtime Boaz said to her, "Come here and eat some bread and dip your morsel in the wine." So she sat beside the reapers, and he passed to her roasted grain. And she ate until she was satisfied, and she had some left over. 15 When she rose to glean, Boaz instructed his young men, saying, "Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not reproach her. 16 And also pull out some from the bundles for her and leave it for her to glean, and do not rebuke her."

17 So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley. 18 And she took it up and went into the city. Her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned. She also brought out and gave her what food she had left over after being satisfied. 19 And her mother-in-law said to her, "Where did you glean today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who took notice of you." So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said, "The man's name with whom I worked today is Boaz." 20 And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "May he be blessed by the Lord, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!" Naomi also said to her, "The man is a close relative of ours, one of our redeemers."

21 And Ruth the Moabite said, "Besides, he said to me, 'You shall keep close by my young men until they have finished all my harvest.'" 22 And Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law, "It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, lest in another field you be assaulted." 23 So she kept close to the young women of Boaz, gleaning until the end of the barley and wheat harvests. And she lived with her mother-in-law.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Chris DeCamps

"Hesed Love"

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. You can mail your giving to the church or if you would like to give online, you may do so at [www.abbottchurch.org/giving](http://www.abbottchurch.org/giving)*

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,  
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*

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**BENEDICTION**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

**WE NEED YOU!** There are currently many areas of service and leadership that you may be able to fill. Some areas of need are immediate and can be done during this time of COVID and limited in person activities, others are more strategic and longer term. Ministries such as “We Care”, children’s ministry, social media, diaconal programs, teaching, and more all have needs. If you know of someone that you believe would make a good elder or deacon, we would encourage you to speak to that person and encourage them towards that ministry. Also speak to one of the elders about them and let us know so that we can follow up as well.

## 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*
- *Mike Brooks, son of Earl and Betty Brooks, fighting a rare cancer.*

### **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



## Welcome to Abbott.

We're glad we worshiped  
with you today!

March 7, 2021

NAME(S)

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ADDRESS

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CITY/STATE/ZIP

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PHONE

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EMAIL

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## 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

## Contacts

### CHURCH OFFICE:

abbottchurchoffice@gmail.com

### MINISTER OF MUSIC:

Julius Fischer Jr.

443-722-2525

julejr88@gmail.com

### Clerk of the Session

George Lenning

804-931-6323

### TREASURER:

Al Rode Jr.

### SEXTON:

Clint Neuder

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## Abbott Memorial Presbyterian Church

A congregation of the Presbyterian  
Church in America (PCA)

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