



**Bethlehem was God with us,
Calvary was God for us, and
Pentecost is God in us.**

— Robert Baer

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 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*

NEED PRAYER? 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 (443) 722-2525 and/or George (804) 931-6323.

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

REFLECT ON GOD'S WORD

"Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name. I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever." Psalm 86:11,12

"Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me." John 6:57

Responsive Call to Worship

Psalm 104

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty,

People: **covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent.**

Leader: He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters; he makes the clouds his chariot; he rides on the wings of the wind;

People: **he makes his messengers winds, his ministers a flaming fire.**

Leader: He set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be moved.

People: **Man goes out to his work and to his labor until the evening.**

Leader: O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

People: **May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works,**

All: **I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

OPENING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress

**A mighty fortress is our God,
A bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood
Of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
Doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great;
And armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.**

(continued)

Did we in our own strength confide,
Our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side,
The Man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he,
The Lord of Hosts His name,
From age to age the same,
And he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,
Should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim,
We tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure,
For lo! his doom is sure;
One little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly powers,
No thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
Through him who with us sideth;
Let goods and kindred go,
This mortal life also;
The body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still;
His kingdom is for ever.

SONG 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

(continued)

Come, set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now
We are Your church
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
We pray: revive this earth

Chorus: 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 kingdoms 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.

[Chorus]

CONFESSION OF SIN (in unison)

Almighty God, to know you is the fulfillment of our deepest longings. Yet, foolishly we have sought our satisfaction elsewhere. Our idols leave us empty and wanting. We have failed to love you with our whole heart, soul, and mind. We have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us our sins for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. Give us a faith that purifies our hearts, overcomes the world, works by love, fastens us to you, and always clings to the cross.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

(Silent reflection for personal confession.)

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Micah 7:18-19

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

All: **Amen.**

GREETING & GOD'S WELCOME AND WORKINGS AT ABBOTT

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

People: **And also with you.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

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.

SONG OF WORSHIP

Holy Spirit Living Breath of God

Holy Spirit, living Breath of God, breathe new life into my willing soul.

Bring the presence of the risen Lord to renew my heart and make me whole.

Cause Your Word to come alive in me; give me faith for what I cannot see;

Give me passion for Your purity. Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within; may Your joy be seen in all I do—

Love enough to cover ev'ry sin in each thought and deed and attitude,

Kindness to the greatest and the least, gentleness that sows the path of peace.

Turn my striving into works of grace. Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth, giving life to all that God has made,

Show Your power once again on earth; cause Your church to hunger for Your ways.

Let the fragrance of our prayers arise. Lead us on the road of sacrifice

That in unity the face of Christ will be clear for all the world to see.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SCRIPTURE FOR THE SERMON

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. **2** And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. **3** And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. **4** And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. **6** And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. **7** And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? **8** And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? **9** Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10** Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, **11** both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." **12** And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" **13** But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. **15** For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. **16** But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

17 "And in the last days it shall be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams;
18 even on my male servants and female servants
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

19 And I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;
20 the sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.
21 And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of
the Lord shall be saved.'

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Craig Garriott

The Day has Arrived

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

SONG OF COMMITMENT

O Church Arise

**O church, arise and put your armor on;
Hear the call of Christ our captain;
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold whose battle cry is "Love!"
Reaching out to those in darkness.**

(continued)

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole
We will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on ev'ry side,
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died—
An inheritance of nations.

Come, see the cross where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This vict'ry march continues till the day
Ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in ev'ry stride,
Give us grace for ev'ry hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When, with Christ, we stand in glory.

What is one thought from the sermon today that you can take with you and ask the Lord to help you apply it to your life?

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.

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
- Abbott Center for the Arts
- We Care Ministry
- Mountain View Bible Camp

Build Your Kingdom Here,
Words and music by Rend
Collective,
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*Holy Spirit, Living Breath of
God,* Keith Getty & Stuart
Townend
© 2005 Thankyou Music
CCLI#14442252

O Church Arise words and music
Keith Getty & Stuart Townend
© 2005 Thankyou Music
CCLI#1442252

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:

- Julius and George, for strength, stamina and rest as they continue to give extra time and support to our congregation for more than a year and a half
- Craig, Stan, and Ben as they minister to us through this season of change
- Family of Marlene Wyczalek as they grieve her loss
- Carole McQuay as she grieves the loss of her husband Dave McQuay
- Full participation in the BALM congregational church assessment survey
- The future pastor of Abbott church; our Lord knows who he is
- Our Music Together program as we open registration in the fall; it has been a year and a half since we have been able to offer this program.
- Family members and friends who are not walking with Christ
- Raj Mohan caring for his wife with dementia; granddaughter, mental health
- Raj Mohan's daughter, Sumintra
- Lydia Frasca, chemotherapy and radiation treatment
- Tom Lubin caring for his wife Jackie
- Mike Brooks, son of Earl and Betty Brooks, fighting a rare cancer
- Rob Armel (Tracey Brown's husband) recovery from surgery; chemotherapy
- David Klecan recovering from surgery
- Karen Nines, upcoming surgery in September
- Rose Shrader (Angela Fischer's sister), cancer, chemotherapy
- Patty Mifsud (friend of George Lenning) cancer, intense chemotherapy
- Ongoing health concerns for the following members and friends:
Larry Halterman, Milly Flynn, Gene & Diane Shaw, Jackie Lubin, Phyllis Brown, Dawn Brewer, Brent Schepleng, Clint Neuder, Brenda Neuder, Robin & Toni (Billie Mitchell's granddaughters), Narouz family (especially Vicky), Don & Lorraine Sapp, David Files
- Those in our military, police, and fire departments
- Leaders of our City, State, and Nation

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Congregational Survey — Surveys have been emailed to most former and current members and attendees. If you have not received one, please email the church at abbottchurchoffice@gmail.com to make sure that we have your correct email address on file. If you don't have an email address, call George (804) 931-6323, Julius (443) 722-2525 or Debbie (443) 992-1658 and a paper copy will be provided. This is an important phase of our church's progress in moving forward and finding a new pastor. These are individual surveys, not family surveys. It would be greatly appreciated if each person would complete a survey this week.

Mission Mid-Week Prayer Meeting — Every Wednesday on Zoom from 12:00 - 12:30 p.m. You can find the link on the Abbott FaceBook Group or email abbottchurchoffice@gmail.com for the link to be emailed to you, or to submit a prayer request. You can sign on any time during the half-hour.

Adult Sunday School — Classes are meeting at 9:45 a.m. to pray for the church body and the future of the church.

Bible study — Every Thursday at 11:00 a.m. in Room 8. All are welcome! We are studying the book of Joshua, which will take us to the beginning of October. We close with a time of prayer, concluding around noon.

Community Group — Thursday evenings, weather permitting, in "Abbott Park" on Highland Ave and Bank St. You don't have to live in the neighborhood to come. You can play with the kids (or watch the kids play), talk, and enjoy each other's company. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, snacks, food from home or carry-out to enjoy. We start gathering around 6:30 and leave when we feel like it.

Leadership Meetings — Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in Room 8. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Save the Date - Saturday, October 2nd! Our second "Party in the Park" on Highland Avenue and Bank Street will be from 3:30 - 6:30 p.m. Please pray as we plan this event with food, music, games for kids, and mingling with each other and our neighbors. Hansoo Jin's church will loan us their "bouncy house" again, which was a big hit with the children!

Welcome to Abbott.

We're glad we worshiped with you today!

September 12, 2021

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

Contacts

CHURCH OFFICE:
abbottchurchoffice@gmail.com
410-276-6207

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.

OFFICE ADMIN:
Debbie Halterman
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SEXTON:
Clint Neuder

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