



A person's most useful asset is
not the head full of knowledge,
but a heart full of love,
an ear ready to listen, and
a hand willing to give.

(Author unknown)

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 68

Leader: Sing to God, sing praise to his name, extol him who rides on the clouds – his name is the LORD – and rejoice before him.

People: **A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling.**

Leader: Praise be to the LORD, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens.

People: **Our God is a God who saves; from the sovereign comes escape from death.**

Leader: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth, sing praise to the LORD, to him who rides the ancient skies above, who thunders with mighty voice.

People: **Proclaim the power of God, whose majesty is over Israel, whose power is in the skies.**

All: **You are awesome, O God, in your sanctuary; the God of Israel gives power and strength to his people. Praise be to God!**

OPENING HYMN

This is My Father's World

**This is my Father's world,
And to my list'ning ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.**

(continued)

This is my Father's world,
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world,
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world:
The battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and heav'n be one.

SONG OF WORSHIP

Only a Holy God

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven
Who else could make every king bow down
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles
Only a Holy God

What other beauty demands such praises
What other splendor outshines the sun
What other majesty rules with justice
Only a Holy God

Chorus: Come and behold Him
 The One and the Only
 Cry out, sing holy
 Forever a Holy God
 Come and worship the Holy God

(continued)

What other glory consumes like fire
What other power can raise the dead
What other name remains undefeated
Only a Holy God

[Chorus]

Who else could rescue me from my failing
Who else would offer His only Son
Who else invites me to call Him Father
Only a Holy God
Only my Holy God!

[Chorus]

CONFESSION OF SIN (in unison)

LORD, you are the one and only Maker of heaven and earth. And you are our God! You lovingly created us to give you glory, honor and praise. But we have rebelled against you and against your revealed will. We have done things we should not have done and failed to do things that we should have done. Gracious LORD, hear our cries for pardon, mercy and forgiveness. We need your gracious word and your enabling power this day. Thank you for the full forgiveness which was secured at the cross. In Jesus' holy name. Amen.

(Silent reflection for personal confession.)

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Colossians 1:13-14

He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

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 PRAISE

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

**My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

**Chorus: On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
 All other ground is sinking sand.
 All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil.**

[Chorus]

(continued)

**His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.**

[Chorus]

**When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then be found in him;
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SCRIPTURE FOR THE SERMON

Acts 6:1-7

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. 2 And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables.

3 Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. 4 But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." 5 And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. 6 These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

7 And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

One Problem, Seven Solutions

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 ELEMENT****SONG OF COMMITMENT***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?**

(continued)

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 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.

BENEDICTION

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

This is My Father's World words
Maltbie D. Babcock music Franklin
L. Sheppard

Only a Holy God by Jonny
Robinson, Rich Thompson,
Dustin Smith
and Michael Farren ©2016
Farren Love And War
Publishing CCLI 1442252

*The Solid Rock words
Edward More music William
B. Bradbury*

*Streets of the City
words and music
Stuart Townend
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Hymnal Digital/
Modern Hymnal
Publishing
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." — I 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 give extra time and support to our congregation
- Craig, Stan, and Ben as they minister to us through this season of renewal
- The future pastor of Abbott church; our Lord knows who he is
- Family members and friends who are not walking with Christ
- Lorraine Sapp, recovery from Covid-19, and for family to stay well
- Raj Mohan caring for his wife with dementia; granddaughter, mental health
- 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) taking chemotherapy
- Karen Nines, hernia; surgery scheduled for September has been postponed
- 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:

Mid-Week Prayer Meeting — Every Wednesday on Zoom from noon to 12:30 p.m. 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 and off any time during the half-hour.

Abbott Discovery Class — Saturday, October 16th from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. for anyone who wants to learn more about the church or is considering church membership.

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

Bible study — Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. in Room 8. All are welcome! We are studying the book of Joshua and close with a time of prayer, concluding around noon.

Community Group — Thursday evenings, weather permitting, we gather informally in Abbott Park on Highland Ave and Bank St. You don't have to live in the neighborhood to come 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 p.m.

Leadership Meeting — This Wednesday, October 6th, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 8. All are welcome.

Fellowship luncheon — Next Sunday, October 10th — on the 3rd floor following the church service.

Welcome to Abbott.

We're glad we worshiped
with you today!

October 3, 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:

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410-276-6207

MINISTER OF MUSIC:

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