



"...what was not done because of the
slowness of the Christians was achieved
by the bitter opposition of God's enemies...
It is not simply that God uses his friends and
their efforts to advance His kingdom.
It is just as easy for God to use His enemies.
Nothing can alter God's purposes and often
He uses the works of Satan to accomplish them."

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 90

Leader: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

People: Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Leader: You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"

People: For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.

Leader: So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

People: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Leader: Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

All: Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!

OPENING HYMN

May the Peoples Praise You

**You have called us out of darkest night
Into Your glorious light
That we may sing the wonders of
The risen Christ
May our every breath retell the grace
That broke into our strife
With boundless love and deepest joy
With endless life**

(continued)

Chorus: May the peoples praise You
Let the nations be glad
All Your blessing comes
That we may praise
May praise the Name of Jesus

All the earth is Yours and all within
Each harvest is Your own
And from Your hand we give to You
To make Christ known
May the seeds of mercy grow in us
For those who have not heard
May songs of praise build lives of grace
To spread Your Word.

[Chorus]

This our holy privilege to declare
Your praises and Your name
To every nation, tribe and tongue,
Your church proclaims.

[Chorus]

Holy, holy is the Lord Almighty
Worthy, worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy, holy is the Lord Almighty
All creation praise Your glorious Name

[Chorus]

SONG OF PRAISE

Who You Say I Am

Who am I that the highest King would welcome me?
I was lost, but He brought me in
Oh His love for me
Oh His love for me.

(continued)

Who the Son sets free
Oh, is free indeed
I'm a child of God, yes, I am.

Free at last, He has ransomed me.
His grace runs deep.
While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me.
Yes, He died for me.

Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed.
I'm a child of God, yes, I am.
In my Father's house
There's a place for me.
I'm a child of God, yes, I am.

I am chosen, not forsaken,
I am who You say I am.
You are for me, not against me,
I am who You say I am.

I am chosen, not forsaken,
I am who You say I am.
You are for me, not against me,
I am who You say I am.
I am who You say I am.

Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed,
I'm a child of God, yes, I am.
In my Father's house
There's a place for me.
I'm a child of God, yes, I am.

Who the Son sets free
Oh, is free indeed
I'm a child of God, yes, I am.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Our Father and God, we confess our need for Your presence, guidance and grace. In the midst of life's uncertainties, we thank you for the certainty of Your unchanging love. We need your constant grace because we sin daily. We confess our stubborn wills, our selfish hearts and our disordered loves. You know the depths of our deceptions and distrust. Forgive us through the blood of Your Son, through whom we know Your steadfast love, mercies never ceasing and great faithfulness. Now Holy Spirit, embolden us afresh to seek Your Kingdom first for your glory and honor. In Christ Name, Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

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.

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

○ Church of Christ Invincible

O Church of Christ, invincible,
The people of the Lord,
Empowered by the Spirit's breath
And nourished by his word.
His covenant of grace will be
Our portion evermore,
For He who called us will not change,
Our help and our reward.

O chosen people called by grace,
The sons of Abraham,
Who walk by faith and things unseen,
And on His promise stand,
That every nation of the earth
Will hear of boundless love
That causes broken hearts to heal
And pays our debts with blood.

O Church of Christ in sorrow now,
Where evil lies in wait;
When trials and persecutions come
This light will never fade.
For though the hordes of hell may rage,
Their power will not endure;
Our times are in the Father's hand,
Our anchor is secure.

O Church of Christ, upon that day
When all are gathered in,
When every tear is wiped away
With every trace of sin;
Where justice, truth and beauty shine,
And death is passed away,
Where God and man will dwell as one
For all eternity.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SCRIPTURE FOR THE SERMON

Acts 8:1-8

And Saul approved of his execution.

And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. **2** Devout men buried Stephen and made great lamentation over him. **3** But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.

4 Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. **5** Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. **6** And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. **7** For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. **8** So there was much joy in that city.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Craig Garrison

Joy in the City

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 PRAISE

It is Well with My Soul

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,

It is well (it is well), with my soul (with my soul);
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed his own blood for my soul.

Estoy bien, (estoy bien,)
¡gloria_a Dios! (¡gloria_a Dios!)
Tengo paz en mi ser, ¡gloria_a Dios!

My sin--O the bliss of this glorious thought!--
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

It is well (it is well), with my soul (with my soul);
It is well, it is well with my soul.

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend;
"Even so"--it is well with my soul.

Estoy bien, (estoy bien,)
¡gloria_a Dios! (¡gloria_a Dios!)
Tengo paz en mi ser, ¡gloria_a Dios!

It is well (it is well), with my soul (with my soul);
It is well, it is well with my soul.

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

May the Peoples Praise You
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David Zimmer, Stuart
Townend, Ed Cash.
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Morgan
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*O Church of Christ
Invincible words & music
Matt Boswell & Stuart
Townend
© 2014 Modern Hymnal
Digital/Modern Hymnal
Publishing CCLI 1442252*

*It is Well with My Soul,
Author: Horatio Gates
Spafford (1873)*

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 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
- Angela Jones (Angela Fischer's mother), diabetes, other health concerns
- Rose Shrader (Angela Fischer's sister) cancer, chemotherapy
- 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
- 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 — Wednesdays on Zoom from 12-12:30 p.m. The link is on the Abbott FaceBook Group. You can also email abbottchurchoffice@gmail.com to submit a prayer request or for the link to be sent to you. You can sign on and off any time during the half-hour.

Adult Sunday School — Classes meet at 9:45 a.m.

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. Come enjoy the company! Some bring snacks or food from home; others enjoy nearby carry-out. We start gathering around 6:30 p.m.

Leadership Meetings — The first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Room 8. All are welcome to attend and share your ideas.

Fellowship Luncheon — The 1st Sunday of every month, following the church service.

Ordained deacons, non-ordained deacons assistants, & deaconesses are needed at Abbott. This is a mercy ministry that calls men and women of God to manage and disburse the deacons fund to those in need, oversee the Building-Maintenance Committee, and assist in serving communion. If you feel God's call to this ministry, let George or Julius know. If you are asked to serve in this capacity, please give it prayerful consideration.

Welcome to Abbott.

We're glad we worshiped with you today!

October 17, 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

abbottchurchoffice@gmail.com

SEXTON:

Clint Neuder

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