



A little boy had a part in the school
play that read, "It is I; be not afraid."
He came out on stage and said,
"It's me and I'm scared."

To those joining us in person and online today...THANK YOU!

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, Abbott Church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

(NOTE: Masks are required in the church in accordance with a health ordinance effective August 9, 2021 that reintroduced an indoor mask requirement for all Baltimore City residents and guests, regardless of vaccination status.)

While we are made to worship together, sometimes that is not possible for everyone. The good news is that we do not need to be in a particular place to meet with God. Those those of you who are not able to attend in person can join us on our YouTube channel. The worship service is streamed live every Sunday at 10:45 a.m. 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.

View or subscribe to our YouTube channel:

https://youtube.com/channel/UC-1TC7_CBWDdZi8gGPNsqXw

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

ADVENT

Advent is a season of hopeful expectation and preparation, as the Church anticipates the coming of Christ – both at his birth in Bethlehem many years ago, and at his future, final coming to judge the world at the end of time. During Advent, we prepare our hearts for the Lord, so that when he comes, he may find us watching and waiting.

GREETING & GOD'S WELCOME AND WORKINGS AT ABBOTT

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

People: **And also with you.**

CALL TO WORSHIP (read in unison)

Revelation 19:5-7

LEADER: Praise our God, all you His servants,
you who fear Him, small and great.

PEOPLE: **Hallelujah!**
For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.
Let us rejoice and exult and give Him the glory,
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
and His Bride has made herself ready

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - Litany of Hope

Leader: Why do we light the Advent candles?

All: The light reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world who comes into the darkness of our lives to bring newness, life and hope.

Leader: What is the meaning of the first lighted candle?

All: The first lighted candle is the candle of Hope. It draws attention to the anticipation of the coming of a Messiah that weaves its way like a golden thread through Old Testament history. As God's people were abused by power hungry kings, led astray by self-centered prophets, and lulled into apathy by half-hearted religious leaders, there arose a longing among some for God to raise up a new king who could show them how to be God's people. They yearned for a return of God's dynamic presence in their midst.

(Continued)

Leader: King Jesus has come, far exceeding the expectations of those who first longed for his coming. What are we still waiting for?

All: Our world is not yet fully redeemed. So, we again with expectation, with hope, await God's new work in history, the second Advent, in which He will again reveal Himself to the world. And we understand in a profound sense that the best, the highest of our expectations will fall far short of what our Lord's Second Advent will reveal!

OPENING HYMN

Oh Come All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels.

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest

Venid y adoremos, Venid y adoremos,
Venid y adoremos a Cristo Jesús.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Venid y adoremos, Venid y adoremos,
Venid y adoremos a Cristo Jesús.

SONG OF HOPE

Glory (Let There Be Peace)

One star burns in the darkness
Shines with a promise, Emmanuel
One child born in the stillness
Living within us, Emmanuel

Chorus: We're singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let there be peace
We're singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let it start in me

One voice speaks for the voiceless
Hope for the hopeless, Emmanuel
One love brings us together
Now and forever, Emmanuel

[Chorus]

Bridge: Do not be afraid, His love is strong
Enough to save us
Nothing stands in the way
His love is strong enough to lead us

Do not be afraid, His love is strong
Enough to save us
Nothing stands in the way
His love is strong enough to lead us

[Chorus]

CONFESSION OF SIN

Dear Heavenly Father, we lower our heads before you and we confess that we have too often forgotten that we are yours. Sometimes we carry on our lives as if there was no God and we fall short of being a credible witness to You. For these things we ask your forgiveness and we also ask for your strength. Give us clear minds and open hearts so we may witness to You in our world. Remind us to be who You would have us to be regardless of what we are doing or who we are with. Hold us to You and build our relationship with You and with those You have given us on earth. Amen. *(Silent reflection for personal confession)*

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Psalm 103:11-13

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

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

Come Light Our Hearts

**For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait
For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait
Truly our hope is in You
Truly our hope is in You**

**O Lord of life, our only hope
Your radiance shines
On all who look -- to You in the dark
Emmanuel come, come light our hearts**

(continued)

For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait
For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait
Truly our hope is in You
Truly our hope is in You

O Joy above all other loves
In you we find more than enough
We come as we are, O heal and restore
Come light our hearts

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SCRIPTURE FOR THE SERMON

Acts 18:1-11

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. **2** And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. And he went to see them, **3** and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. **4** And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks.

5 When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus. **6** And when they opposed and reviled him, he shook out his garments and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles." **7** And he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. His house was next door to the synagogue. **8** Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized. **9** And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, "Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, **10** for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people." **11** And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

“Do Not Be Afraid...I Am With You”

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 PRAYER

Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer.

There is no more for heaven now to give.

He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,

My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus;

For my life is wholly bound to His.

Oh how strange and divine, I can sing all is mine

Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken,

For by my side, the Savior He will stay.

I labour on in weakness and rejoicing

For in my need, His power is displayed.

(continued)

To this I hold, my shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley He will lead.
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven;
The future sure, the price it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,
And He was raised, to overthrow the grave.

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated.
Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh the chains are released, I can sing I am free
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath, I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home.
And day by day, I know He will renew me
Until I stand, with joy before the throne.

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus.
All the glory evermore to Him.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me.

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All the glory evermore to Him.
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Yet not I but through Christ in me.

Yet not I but through Christ in me.

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

Glory (Let There Be Peace) by Rachel Popadic, Chris Stevens, and Matt Maher
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Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me words and music Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson ©2018 Farren Love And War Publishing, Integrity's Alleluia! Music, CityAlight Music
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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
- 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
- Bereavement for the family of Bill Garrison
- 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
- Those in our military, police, and fire departments
- Leaders of our City, State, and Nation

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Birthday wishes — Today is Arlene Lenning's 90th birthday. Her children will hold an open house for her this Saturday, December 4th, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Room 8 for anyone who would like to come by to spend 5 minutes or two hours with Arlene. No presents, your presence is plenty!

Fellowship Luncheon — Our next luncheon will follow the worship service on December 12th. Come eat, fellowship, and learn about our Flourish Church Assessment and our next step in moving forward.

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 close with a time of prayer, concluding around noon.

Community Group — Thursday evenings, we gather informally either in Abbott Park on Highland Ave and Bank St. or inside the building as the weather is changing. We start gathering around 6:00 p.m.

Leadership Meeting — The next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 8th at 7:00 p.m. in Room 8. All are welcome to attend.

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.

We Care Center — Open the first two Saturdays of each month from 10:00 a.m. until noon to give food to the needy. Non-perishable food donations can be placed in the box in the vestibule.

Welcome to Abbott.

We're glad we worshiped
with you today!

November 28, 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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