



# Abbott

Memorial Presbyterian Church

April 14, 2024

The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 5: 20–21

**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.*

*Para todos los que están espiritualmente agotados y anhelan descanso; para todos los que buscan consuelo; para todos los que luchan batallas y desean victoria; para todos los que pecan y necesitan un Salvador; para todos los que son extraños y quieren comunidad; para todos los que tienen hambre y sed de justicia; y para todos los que quieren venir, la Iglesia Abbott abre ampliamente sus puertas y les ofrece bienvenida en el Nombre de nuestro Rey Jesús Cristo.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**HOW CAN I SERVE THE LORD AT ABBOTT?**

**Prayerfully consider where you can serve the Lord here at Abbott.**

**Sign-up sheets are in the narthex** to serve on a specific Sunday(s). We will begin posting the next week’s servers in the bulletin and weekly emails. These are important ways to serve our Lord and the body here. Questions? Please contact Debbie or Pastor Chris.

- **Special Prayer Team** (*pray with individuals right after the service*)
- **Preparing Communion** (*prepare trays before the service*)
- **Greeter** (*greet individuals in the narthex before the service*)
- **Sunday School Assistant** (*for children - helpers and assistants in training*)

**We Care Bags-** Please consider purchasing some of the items listed below and place in the We Care Box in the foyer to serve those need in our community. Canned food items w/ pop top opener, peanut butter, ramen noodles in a cup, granola bars, tooth brush and paste, bar of soap, hand sanitizer, winter hat, socks, gloves. You can leave items in the kitchen or in the box in narthex.

**Driver to help pick up grad students in the Harbor East-Fells Point area.** If you can help with picking up students in this area of the city for worship around 10:15 AM on Sunday mornings please contact Pastor Chris. We are trying to serve this area where many international students live.

**Salaam Center Tutoring Needs:** Our ministry partners a block away from Abbott have a tutoring program twice a month on Saturdays fro 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. (next date is 1/27) and are in need of tutors and transportation helpers as they minister to recent refugees from the Middle East. If you are interesting in serving, please contact Yoonah by email at [volunteersalaam@gmail.com](mailto:volunteersalaam@gmail.com).

---

**The tear-off portion of the bulletin** can be put in the offering plate with prayer request to let us know how we may serve you, or just to let us that you were here.

## GREETING AND GOD'S WELCOME

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

People: **And also with you.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

## PRAYER FOR THE LORD'S PRESENCE

**RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Please stand if you are able) Psalm 138:1-8*

Leader: I give thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

People: **I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.**

Leader: On the day I called, you answered me; my strength of soul you increased.

People: **All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth, and they shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.**

Leader: For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he knows from afar. Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand delivers me.

Together: **The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

## SONG OF PRAISE

*Lord I Need You*

**Lord, I come, I confess**

**Bowing here I find my rest**

**Without You I fall apart**

**You're the One that guides my heart**

*(continued)*

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You  
Every hour I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness  
Oh God, how I need You

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more  
Where grace is found is where You are  
And where You are, Lord, I am free  
Holiness is Christ in me

So teach my song to rise to You  
When temptation comes my way  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You  
Jesus, You're my hope and stay

You're my one defense, my righteousness  
Oh God, how I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness  
Oh God, how I need You

#### SCRIPTURE MEDITATION

*Matthew 11:28-30*

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

#### SONG OF PRAISE

*Come Thou Fount*

Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise,  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
Sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
Mount of God's unchanging love.

*(continued)*

Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
Hither by thy help I'm come;  
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wand'ring from the fold of God:  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
Interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be;  
Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
Bind my wand'ring heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for thy courts above.

#### PASTORAL PRAYER and 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.

#### SONG OF PREPARATION

*His Mercy is More*

Chorus: Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.  
Stronger than darkness, new every morn.  
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?  
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore.  
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

*(continued)*

[Chorus]

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?  
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.  
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

[Chorus]

What riches of kindness He lavished on us!  
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost.  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.  
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

[Chorus]

## 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).*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### SCRIPTURE FOR THE SERMON

*Genesis 20:1-18 (p.17 in pew Bible)*

**20** From there Abraham journeyed toward the territory of the Negeb and lived between Kadesh and Shur; and he sojourned in Gerar. <sup>2</sup> And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah. <sup>3</sup> But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him, "Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man's wife." <sup>4</sup> Now Abimelech had not approached her. So he said, "Lord, will you kill an innocent people? <sup>5</sup> Did he not himself say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she herself said, 'He is my brother.'" In the integrity of my heart and the *(continued)*

innocence of my hands I have done this.” 6 Then God said to him in the dream, “Yes, I know that you have done this in the integrity of your heart, and it was I who kept you from sinning against me. Therefore I did not let you touch her. 7 Now then, return the man's wife, for he is a prophet, so that he will pray for you, and you shall live. But if you do not return her, know that you shall surely die, you and all who are yours.”

8 So Abimelech rose early in the morning and called all his servants and told them all these things. And the men were very much afraid. 9 Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, “What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done.” 10 And Abimelech said to Abraham, “What did you see, that you did this thing?” 11 Abraham said, “I did it because I thought, ‘There is no fear of God at all in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife.’ 12 Besides, she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father though not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife. 13 And when God caused me to wander from my father's house, I said to her, ‘This is the kindness you must do me: at every place to which we come, say of me, “He is my brother.”’”

14 Then Abimelech took sheep and oxen, and male servants and female servants, and gave them to Abraham, and returned Sarah his wife to him. 15 And Abimelech said, “Behold, my land is before you; dwell where it pleases you.” 16 To Sarah he said, “Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver. It is a sign of your innocence in the eyes of all who are with you, and before everyone you are vindicated.” 17 Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they bore children. 18 For the Lord had closed all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Two Steps Forward, Three Steps Backward

**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.*

**CONFESSION OF SIN**

*1 John 1: 9, 10*

**Together: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.** (Silently confess your sins.)

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

*Psalm 103:11,12*

"For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us."

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS**

**SONG OF RESPONSE**

*The Beauty of the Heart of Christ*

**May my life carry the heart of Christ  
Lord in all I say, all that I do  
Selfless love lowly in sacrifice  
Laying down my pride, nothing to prove**

*(continued)*



**Chorus: Now that I have seen  
Now that I have tasted  
Of your mercy and your love divine  
May my life be full,  
Full of one thing only  
Just the beauty of the heart of Christ  
Just the beauty of the heart of Christ**

**For the least of these, even my enemies  
Who am I to dare, dare to withhold  
What I've received, forgiveness and grace so free  
Let your fire in me never grow cold**

**[Chorus]**

**Bridge (4x): Oh what a privilege  
Oh what an honor it is  
No greater joy than this  
To carry your heart  
Carry your heart**

**[Chorus 2x]**

**Just the beauty of the heart of Christ**

## **BENEDICTION**

*Those who desire special prayer may come to the front left of the chapel.  
after the service.*



## 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 with Ethiopia
- Jason and Liz Polk with MTW in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Bert and Nancy Williams with MTW in Uganda
- Br^ce & P@t with MTW in a sensitive area
- Jacob Jasin with RUF-I at Johns Hopkins University
- Trip Beans with RUF at University of Maryland Baltimore County
- Ryan Bratt with RUF at University of Maryland College Park
- Abbott Center for the Arts

---

**May 3rd (Friday) - Sandra McCracken Concert, 7:00 p.m.** at \_\_\_\_\_  
Reformed Presbyterian Church of Bowie. Sandra will sing songs from her Dove Award winning album, *Light in the Canyon*, and her latest collaborative project, *Paper Horses*. Tickets are \$20 each. **Please tell Donna Rockstroh today if you want to go, as tickets will be ordered this week.**

<i>Lord I Need You</i> by Daniel Carson, Matt Maher, Christy Nockels, and Jesse Reeves ©2011 Sweater Weather Music, Valley Of Songs Music, and Thankyou Music CCLI#1442252	<i>Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing</i> words: Robert Robinson; adapted by Margaret Clarkson music: Traditional American melody; John Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, 1813
<i>His Mercy is More</i> words & music Matt Boswell, Matt Papa ©2016 Messenger Hymns, Love Your Enemies Publishing CCLI#1442252	<i>The Beauty of the Heart of Christ</i> words & music Mitch Wong, Tim Timmons ©2023 Anchor Hymns CCLI# 144225

## 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

### **Please pray for:**

- Pastor Chris and the church leadership, for God to show us how to draw visitors and seekers to Abbott.
- Family members and friends who are not walking with Christ.
- Ongoing health concerns for these members and friends: Dawn Brewer, Larry Halterman, Phyllis Brown, Billie Mitchell, David Files.
- Cleo Garriott (Pastor Chris' mother), recovering from a stroke; she is progressing and was transferred from the hospital to a rehab center.
- Jackie Lubin with Parkinson's disease, for comfort and peace as she has returned home for in-home hospice care.
- Tom Lubin for strength, endurance, and peace as he cares for Jackie.
- Paula Polek (Joan Kelly's daughter), diagnosed with leukemia.
- Ed Allison (Debbie's brother-in-law) is home from the hospital with the temporary trach; please pray for comfort, speech (he's writing everything), and the ability to swallow food (that the feeding tube from his stomach will be temporary).
- Lorraine Sapp with poor vision, arthritis, anxiety, continued healing of wrist.
- Kathy Williams (Guy Williams' wife) with liver disease.
- Barb Huhn to regain her strength and return to us soon.
- Walter Karczmarek, for continued healing and strength, and for Dave as he cares for his father.
- Terry Looney, recovering from a blood clot in his lower leg.
- Jason Wockenfuss, for wisdom and patience in securing a new home.
- Violet Flynn with dementia, and for her children caring for her.
- Lydia Frasca, struggling with pain from stage 4 cancer.
- Lawrence Choate, for continued improvement, strength, and peace.
- Joann Choate, battling cancer; relief from hip pain.
- Carmen Ohlinger, Lawrence and Joann's granddaughter for safety; she is deployed in a carrier strike group in the Persian Gulf.
- Missionaries that we support, listed on page 14.
- Those in our military, police, and fire departments.
- Leaders in our community, City, State, and Nation.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

**Giving Envelopes** are on the table in the Narthex for weekly tithes and offerings, and for the monthly deacons offering (the first Sunday of each month).

**Upcoming Change in online giving: Abbott is in the process of changing our ONLINE-GIVING site to save the church money. Please note that in the next few weeks we will be sending a new link for those who give online. At this point you can continue to give through EASY TITHE.**

---

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**TODAY: Prayer & Chili**, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the manse. All are invited to eat, fellowship, and pray for one another, Abbott, Baltimore, and the Kingdom of God. Side dishes and desserts are welcome.

**April 19 & 20 - Spring Women's Conf.** — Fri 6:30-9pm, Sat 9:00-noon at Grace Reformed Pres. in Relay, MD; led by Julie Puckett, Women's Dir. at Chapelgate. Cost is \$40 for dinner on Fri, coffee & snacks on Sat, and a copy of Julie's book, Grace Enjoyed. If cost is a hardship, Abbott can help. Carpooling from Abbott will be available. **Please tell Debbie Halterman today if you want to go.**

**April 20 - Memorial Service for Karen Nines** - Saturday, 2pm in the sanctuary. This is a time to remember Karen and share the love of Jesus with her family.

**May 3 - Sandra McCracken Concert** - Fri. at 7pm. Tickets \$20. See page 14 for more information. **Please tell Donna Rockstroh today if you want to go.**

---

### WEEKLY EVENTS

**Women's Bible Class** Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in Room 7.

**Children's Sunday School** at 9:30 a.m.

- Pre-school and K in the church library with Jeanette Beaudry;
- Grades 1-6 in Room 8 with Ann Pfeifer.

**Wednesday Prayer Meeting via Zoom** from 12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. A link to the meeting is in the weekly email from Pastor Chris, or email [julius@abbottchurch.org](mailto:julius@abbottchurch.org) for a link or to submit prayer requests. You can join in at any time during the half hour.

**Thursday Bible study** - Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. in room 8, using Max Lucado's book, *They Walked with God: 40 Bible Characters who Inspire Us*. Consider joining this fun, growing group!

**Thursday Community Group**, around 6:30 p.m. in room 8. Come enjoy the fellowship or play in the gym. Bring snacks, food from home or carry-out. We close with prayer for our community and church.

**Friday AA Meetings** at 7 p.m. in Rooms 7 & 8. Meetings are led by Jim Younger, and last approximately one hour.



## Welcome to Abbott.

We're glad we worshiped  
with you today!

April 14, 2024

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

### PASTOR

Chris Garriott

301-448-9047

chris@abbottchurch.org

### MINISTER OF MUSIC:

Julius Fischer Jr.

443-722-2525

julius@abbottchurch.org

### CLERK OF THE SESSION:

George Lenning

804-931-6323

### TREASURER:

Jacob Files

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Debbie Halterman

abbottchurchoffice@gmail.com

---

## Abbott Memorial Presbyterian Church

A congregation of the Presbyterian  
Church in America (PCA)

3426 Bank Street

Baltimore, MD 21224

410-276-6207

abbottchurch.org