



Abbott

Memorial Presbyterian Church

April 21, 2024

“The Word of God is like a lion. You don’t
have to defend a lion. All you
have to do is let the lion loose,
and the lion will defend itself.”

—Charles Spurgeon—

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.

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 113

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord!

People: **² Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and forevermore! ³ From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised!**

Leader: ⁴ The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens!

People: **⁵ Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high, ⁶ who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?**

Leader: ⁷ He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, ⁸ to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people.

Together: **⁹ He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the Lord!**

SONG OF PRAISE

10,000 Reasons

Chorus (English):

Bless the Lord, O my soul

O my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before

O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning

It's time to sing Your song again

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me

Let me be singing when the evening comes

(continued)

Chorus (Spanish):

**Que todo lo que soy, alabe al Señor, Con todo mi
corazón,
de tu grande amor
Cantaré
Tu nombre alabaré**

**You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find**

[Chorus - English]

**And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore**

[Chorus - Spanish]

[Chorus - English]

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION

Romans 4: 18-25

“In hope he (Abraham) believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.”¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰ No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.”²³ But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵ who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.”

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.

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.

(continued)

In my Father's house
There's a place for me.
I'm a child of God, yes, I am.

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

There is a Hope

There is a hope that burns within my heart,
That gives me strength for every passing day;
A glimpse of glory now revealed in meagre part,
Yet drives all doubt away:
I stand in Christ, with sins forgiven;
And Christ in me, the hope of heaven!
My highest calling and my deepest joy,
To make His will my home.

There is a hope that lifts my weary head,
A consolation strong against despair,
That when the world has plunged me in its deepest pit,
I find the Savior there!
Through present sufferings, future's fear,
He whispers 'courage' in my ear.
For I am safe in everlasting arms,
And they will lead me home.

There is a hope that stands the test of time,
That lifts my eyes beyond the beckoning grave,
To see the matchless beauty of a day divine
When I behold His face!

**When sufferings cease and sorrows die,
And every longing satisfied.
Then joy unspeakable will flood my soul,
For I am truly home.**

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.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE SERMON

Genesis 21:1-7 (p.18 in pew Bible)

21 The Lord visited Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did to Sarah as he had promised. ² And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³ Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. ⁴ And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. ⁵ Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. ⁶ And Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me." ⁷ And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Chris Garriott

Promise Fulfilled

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

Hebrews 3:12-13

Together: Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³ But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. (Silently confess your sins.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Psalm 32:1, 5

"Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered....I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin."

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

SONG OF RESPONSE

Graves into Gardens

Verse 1

**I searched the world, but it couldn't fill me
Man's empty praise, and treasures that fade are never enough**

Verse 2

**Then You came along and put me back together
And every desire is now satisfied, here in Your love**

(continued)

**Chorus: Oh there's nothing better than You, there's nothing
better than You
Lord there's nothing, nothing is better than You**

Verse 3

**I'm not afraid to show You my weakness
My failures and flaws, Lord You've seen them all, and You still
call me friend**

Verse 4

**'Cause the God of the mountain is the God of the valley
There's not a place Your mercy and grace won't find me again**

[Chorus 2x]

Bridge 1 (2x)

**You turn mourning to dancing, You give beauty for ashes
You turn shame into glory, You're the only one who can**

Bridge 2

**You turn graves into gardens, You turn bones into armies
You turn seas into highways, You're the only one who can
You're the only one who can.**

[Chorus 2x]

Bridge 1

Bridge 2

You're the only one who can.

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

<p><i>10,000 Reasons</i> words and music by Matt Redman & Jonas Myrin ©2011 Thankyou Music, Said And Done Music , sixsteps, Music SHOUT! Publishing CCLI#1442252</p>	<p><i>Who You Say I Am</i> by Ben Fielding and Reuben Morgan ©2017 Hillsong Music Publishing CCLI#1442252</p>
<p><i>There is a Hope</i> words and music by Mark Edwards & Stuart Townend ©2007 Thankyou Music ccli# 14442252</p>	<p><i>Graves into Gardens</i> words & music Brandon Lake, Chris Brown, Steven Furtick, and Tiffany Hammer © 2019 Maverick City Publishing Worldwide, Bethel Music Publishing CCLI#1442252</p>

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

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) the trach was removed; please pray for comfort, speech, and to be able to swallow food
- 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 the monthly deacons offering (the first Sunday of each month).

CHANGE IN ONLINE GIVING: Abbott's online giving is no longer through easyTithe. It is through Fluid Pay, which has lower fees and will save the church money. You can set up recurring gifts or send a one-time gift to Abbott through Fluid Pay at abbottchurch.org/giving and designate if your gift is for the General Fund, Deacons Fund, or Ministry Renewal (which especially is raising money for a Youth Minister). Thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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.**

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 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.

***** SEE THE INSIDE COVER FOR WAYS TO SERVE THE LORD AT ABBOTT! *****

**Use This Space for Prayer
Requests, Ideas and Concerns**

(Please tear off and place in the offering plate)

**CONGREGATION AND
COMMUNITY CARE:**

Chris Garriott

PASTOR

Julius Fischer Jr. - Elder

MINISTER OF MUSIC

George Lenning - Elder

CLERK OF SESSION

Online Offering

abbottchurch.org/giving

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Welcome to Abbott.

We're glad we worshiped
with you today!

April 21, 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:

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410-276-6207

PASTOR

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