

“For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”
Isaiah 9:6 (NRSV)

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**Worship Live online
on APC’s Facebook page at
www.Facebook.com/AbseconPresby**

The 2020 Christmas Eve Service at 6 p.m. on Thursday will be a musical extravaganza for you to sing along and listen to three talented soloists. While we will all miss the church’s traditional candlelight service, where we gather together and have a live nativity, this service is intended to give you something that you can replay on Christmas Day, sing along and maybe even play as background music with a host of meaningful scripture.

On Sunday, Dec. 27, the Presbyterian Church (USA) office of the General Assembly has provided a service featuring Lessons and Carols with professional singers and musicians, and a sermon by Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II, who is the Stated Clerk of the PC(USA), a co-leader of our denomination. The format of the service is to use the Carols or Hymns to illuminate and explain the scriptures, along with or in addition to a sermon. Please take the time to meditate on the scriptures read, from the Old and New Testaments, all of which point to the fundamental meaning of Christmas, that God came down to share in our humanity, born a lowly child in a manger.

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If you or someone you know from church is sick or hospitalized, please notify the office at 609/641-3759 so Pastor Drew can reach out to you.

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Please Keep These Requests in Prayer

For your wisdom where we gather, protection from the virus and consolation as we grieve change.

For those with COVID, those mourning loved ones lost, and those working on medical answers to end this pandemic.

For peace, cooperation, and integrity in our political process.

For the lonely and isolated, the angry and afraid, especially those struggling with mental illness.

For the marginalized who are excluded based on their wealth, race, gender or other biases, both personal and institutional.

For the hungry, thirsty, homeless, naked, sick and imprisoned.

For these the individuals and families in acute need right now who are connected to your church in Absecon:

Marge Loeb & her caregiver Betty, Rob Perry, Dan Hughes, Anne Emerson, Family of Bob Hayden, Louise Speitel, Matt Gillis and Family, Judy Stebbins, Stan Weir, JoAnne Morgan, Robin McBrearty, Christopher Green, Diane Ford, Dorie Keener, Patti, Jim & Devon Morris, Bob Gillis, Kavonna & Essence, Teresa, John King

Continued prayers always for:

Darryl, Kristen and Quentin, Gail and Bubba Driscoll, Dirk Williamson, Jim Price, Donna Hughes, Rita Abelson, Bill Tilley, Elaine Risley, Frances Weir, Louise Speitel, Emilia Carboy, Irene Smith, Aiden & Wendy Licolli, Kathy Boyte, Minerva Stadlmeir, Jean Delesantro, Jerry Hoenes, Betsy Cunius, Marjorie McGuigan, Rich & Rob, Doris Steele, Essie Newell, Joyce Pfeiffer, Don & Lucy Croneberger, Marie C. & Carmen DeVece, Olga Davies, Carol Thomas, Jim Mong, Edith Budd, Carol DeLaurentis, Ellen Plum, Mildred Felsberg, Virginia Loeb, Lisa Mazza

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“No pandemic can turn off the light of Christmas” (Pope Francis, Dec. 2020)

As we close this year of turmoil, confusion, sadness and distress, let us remember that Light still shines. May we feel the Grace of God revealed to us and share that Light with others.

Wishing you a joyous and blessed Christmas. ~ Gay

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Thinking of you with Warm Wishes

for a

Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In the Spirit of Christmas,

Betsy Cunius

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Copies of The Upper Room devotionals for Jan/Feb will be available beginning Monday, Dec. 21. Call or email the office to arrange your pick-up or delivery.

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Stewardship Responses Needed

The Stewardship Campaign letters were sent out recently with a prayer pledge, a talent bank form, and a financial pledge card. Will you please commit to five more minutes of prayer each day for the future of this church? Will you share your talents and areas you would like to serve? Will you let us know what you hope to give in the coming year. **You are the church and your commitment is vital to our future as a church.**

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Lifetouch Church Photography has permanently stopped operations.

As a courtesy, the mobile app will be available through June 30, 2021.

If you want to continue to access the APC mobile directory on your mobile devices, you can download it as a pdf file using the web address on the inside back cover of your paper copy. From the family view section of the mobile directory, click the download button.

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Other Ways to Join Worship

Do you or someone you know struggle with using Facebook for Sunday services? Facebook is ideal because we can interact with each other, but if you or someone you know does not have an account, you can still see the services live and throughout the week via our Web site: www.AbseconPresby.org

If you or someone you know is not connected to the Internet at all, we will mail the bulletin and sermon out midweek. Call the office to add a name and address for the mailing.

And every Monday, afternoon the previous Sunday's sermon will be available by phone to listen day or night at your convenience by calling this number: (609) 212-0313.

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Wednesday Morning Prayer

Throughout these months of being socially distant, this Morning Prayer Ministry has continued to meet via Zoom to lift up the names of all who are affiliated with the church and the specific prayer requests that you send in.

If you have a request for prayer or would like someone who you love to be included in prayer, please call the church or send an email to PrayerAPC@gmail.com.

If you would like to join the prayer group go to <https://bit.ly/PrayerAPC> at 8:30 a.m. on **Wednesday** mornings.

Wednesday Zoom

Every week Pastor Drew checks in with the congregation through Zoom, a free program for your smart phone, tablet or computer. Usually, around 10 to 15 individuals stop in to chat with each other about what's going on in our lives and in the church. If you would like to join in, please call the office for the link, which is protected with a password to ensure that you are safe.

Pastors of the Absecon-Galloway Ecumenical Community offer a weekly Facebook prayer group Thursdays at Noon. All are welcome to sign into Facebook and use the link below to meet with our local pastors in prayer. This works the same as our online worship.

<https://www.facebook.com/YourChurchesTogether/>

What can I give?

The church is one body with many parts. Each of us has something different to offer in terms of time, talent and treasure.

Please consider giving your time by calling and checking in on fellow church members, including friends, but also those you do not talk to regularly.

Please consider giving your talent, by considering ways your skills may help to alleviate the strain put on us all by this pandemic.

Please consider giving your treasure by mailing in your tithes and your offerings. Mail your checks to:

Absecon Presbyterian Church
208 New Jersey Avenue
Absecon, NJ 08201

You can also give your gift online at:
www.AbseconPresby.org/give

All gifts made Online are safe and secure through the Presbyterian Foundation. At this time, gifts to the General Fund and Benevolence are what is most needed.

Giving deposited December 18:

General

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Loose | |
| Envelopes Undesignated | \$910.89 |
| Envelopes Designated | \$1,385.00 |
| On-line Undesignated | |
| On-line Designated | |
| Per Capita | |
| Initial | |
| Energy | \$290.00 |
| General Total | \$2,585.89 |

Benevolence

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Loose | |
| Envelopes Undesignated | \$104.70 |
| Envelopes Designated | |
| On-line Undesignated | |
| On-line Designated | |
| Magi Gift | \$50.00 |
| Sister Jean's | |
| Benevolence Total | \$154.70 |

Capital Expenditures

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|------------------------|----------|
| Loose | |
| Envelopes Undesignated | \$31.41 |
| Envelopes Designated | \$350.00 |
| On-line Undesignated | |
| On-line Designated | |
| Winter Fund Raiser | |

Cemetery

Capital Total

\$381.41

Combined Total

\$3,122.00

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Please know that we love each and every one of you, and you continue to be in our prayers.

Stay safe –
Follow Official Guidelines –
and Know You Are Loved!