

APOLLO UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

**Third Sunday of Lent
Communion Sunday**

March 3, 2024

11:00 a.m.

We Gather in God's Name

PRELUDE "At the Rising of the Sun" D. Paxton

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Carol Kopnicky

(Written by Rev. Dr. Bruce Reyes-Chow in "Everything Good About God is True")

Leader: What does the church do when we gather?

People: **Woven together in moments momentary and lingering . . .**

Leader: to worship God,

People: **to know what it is to belong,**

Leader: to celebrate the jubilation of life,

People: **to grieve when life is loss,**

Leader: to lament and to confess,

People: **to forgive and to be forgiven,**

Leader: to worship, to pray, to march, to nap,

People: **to argue, to ponder, to weep, to laugh.**

Leader: to discern the mind of Christ and the will of God,

People: **to love the other as the world would not want us to love ourselves,**

Leader: to affirm and proclaim that we belong to one another,

People: **and in turn we belong to God.**

***HYMN #681** "This is the Day the Lord Hath Made"

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION:** God of righteousness, we confess that have not kept your commandments. We bow down before idols, declaring our allegiance to other powers and principalities. We take your name in vain, using it to justify our own prejudices and opinions. We do not make

adequate time to rest and remember your goodness, nor to revel in the delight of family and friends. We look the other way in the face of violence and oppression, misogyny and unjust practices. Our dishonesty and greed get the better of us. Yet you gave us commandments not for condemnation, but so that we might live in justice and joy. Purify us by your righteousness and enfold us in your grace. Sanctify our intentions and actions, that our lives may begin to reflect your Beloved Community. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***GLORIA PATRI #581**

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

We Listen to God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

LESSON FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 19 OT p. 498

MOMENT OF WORD AND WONDER

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD "Surprising Wisdom"

***HYMN #223** "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

We Respond to God's Word

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

Offertory "Communion Thoughts" B. Barrett

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Gratitude for God's Abundance**

HOLY COMMUNION

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer p. 35
Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer following Communion (unison)
Holy God, we give you thanks that you have claimed us as your own and nourished us in this meal as members of Christ's body. By the work of your Spirit within us give us the grace to glorify you as one, living body in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Go Forth to Serve

*HYMN #702 "Christ Be Beside Me"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Oh Christ, Our King, Creator Lord" arr. R.

Sensmeier

*Please stand in body or spirit

A special welcome to our visitors. If you are seeking Christ, we trust you will find Him; if you are sorrowing, we pray you will receive comfort; if you are troubled in spirit, we pray you will gain the blessings of peace; if you are discouraged, we pray you will find hope in our Lord. If you are seeking a spiritual home, we invite you to consider uniting with us.

Wrapping our community in God's love, one person at a time.

We believe that we are all ministers supported by:

Rev. Niki Atkinson – Office Hours Wed. & Fri. 9:30-4:00

Please call for appointments.

E-mail pastor@aupc.comcastbiz.net

Amy Shupe, Organist; Joel Varga, Assistant Organist

Zach Bush, Trumpeter Sam Mullooly, Trombonist

Linda Truffa, Office Administrator

Dan Tomlinson, Custodian

Church Address: 401 First Street, Apollo, Pennsylvania 15613

Church Phone: 724-478-4807 Fax: 724-478-2708

Website: www.apollopresby.org E-mail office@aupc.comcastbiz.net

Office Hours: Monday through Friday – 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM

TODAY'S ACOLYTE: CARSON COULTER



The Pass at Faiddo, St Gotthard

By Joseph Mallord William Turner, 19th century, Watercolor, point of brush, scratching out, over traces of pencil, The Morgan Library & Museum, New York.

‘Mountains’, John Ruskin wrote, ‘have always possessed the power, first, of exciting religious enthusiasm; secondly, of purifying religious faith.’ Like the vastness of the heavens and the firmament invoked in Psalm 19, the sublimity and aloofness of mountains inspire awe and respect...Like ‘the heavens’ in Psalm 19, they seem to be ‘telling the glory of God.’ (written by Arnika Groenewald-Schmidt.)

WEEKLY PRAYER CONCERNS

Household: Josh, Amber, Hunter, Gunner & Harper Hanus
Mary Harbison
Faith Friend: Pat Sharrar
Our Church: Administration Team
Church(s): Elderton Church
Pastor Angel DeLaCruz Rwanda Partner: Rubona
Presbytery: Northumberland (Synod of The Trinity)
Denomination: African Methodist Episcopal Church
Nation Peru - Lima

IMMEDIATE Nancy Campitella, Cathy, family of Dorothy Hancock, Eddie, Scott and Nancy Hubbard, Marge Bernat, Matt, Soup donations ☺, patient with kidney disease, Carol Kopnicki ☺, Sidney Jones family, Kim Altmire, Linda Gould, Ann Cloonan, Dwayne S. traveling mercies & also for Stephanie's brother, **Jim Crawford, Charlie Kukalis family, Florence Truffa family.**

CONTINUING Mike Mollick, Jackie, Roberta, Tina, Melissa, Sue, Brenna Knox, Jim G.☺, Marlene, Donnie Riggie, accident victims, Noreen, Jim, David Watkins family, Kim Liska, Fred Crawford, Magill Family, **William Hileman family, Frank Crawford family, Barb Jones family, Larry Johnson family, Children's play ☺, Christie, family of Bob Rae, all who have lost loved ones, Michael Gerheim family.**

ONGOING Gary Harkcom, Donna Fry, Matt Summerhill, Bill & Linda Crabtree, Frank Kovak, Josh Hanus, Shannon Pruss, Mary Harbison, LaRue Mumaw, Chris Hilker, Carol Gallagher, Linda Gould, Snedecor family, Alan Shockey, Bonnie Machak, Lani Knox, Nick Arnoldy, Benjamin Mumaw, Sean George.

MINISTRY All those affected by the Coronavirus and those working in the health care field, first responders, research, and government. Food 4 Kids, AUPC Deacon's Emergency Fund, Support for our church, EPR Mugombwa; Victims of violence and natural disasters; President Joe Biden, our country, other world leaders, our church and its leaders, the war & military personnel, wounded military at home and in hospitals, terrorist victims, Kiskiminetas' Rwanda Partnership

The new Church Directory will be here soon. There is no cost to members and regular attendees who are listed in the directory but, there

is still time for you to make a donation to defray the church's cost.

March 3, 2024 CHURCH FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>SUNDAY</u>	Worship & Youth Sunday School	11:00 AM
<u>MONDAY</u>	Youth Group	6:00 PM
<u>TUESDAY</u>	Lenten Study	10:00 AM
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	Prayer Shawl Knitters	10:00 AM
	New Life Baptist	12:00 PM
	Lenten Service & Luncheon	
<u>FRIDAY</u>	Kids Krafts	6:30 PM
<u>SUNDAY</u>	Worship & Youth Sunday School	11:00 AM

SPRING FORWARD IS SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH!!

Dear Congregation,

As you may have noticed, our church family has a lot of children coming to worship with their families. We're so glad that our AUPC family is growing and we want to make sure our kids have some great things to read while they're here! Children's books (especially ones about our faith) have come a long way in recent years and we would love to update some of our shelves in the nursery and children's classrooms. Below is an Amazon Registry Link where you can find many books that we are hoping to use in updating our collection. The books will ship directly to the church, where they can also be nameplated in honor or memory of someone you love. (Please note this in an email to Pastor Niki or the church office!) Thank you so much for your generosity and love of our youngest members of our church family! <https://shorturl.at/grCEJ>

ATTENTION LAY READERS: Mike Mollick says he is now available as a fill-in reader whenever anyone needs a

substitute. When the current rotation is complete, Mike will be added back in. *Thanks, Mike!*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of human life: social and cultural, economic and political, scientific and technological, individual and corporate. It includes our natural environment as exploited and despoiled by sin. God wills that God's purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ, and all evil be banished from God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption.

With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

SUNDAY MORNING COUNTERS, OPENERS CLOSERS

March 3 ~ Scott Hollabaugh and Derek Hilty

March 10 ~ Derek Hilty and Carol Kopnicky

March 17 ~ Carol Kopnicky and

March 24 ~ Shelly Hilty and

