

**APOLLO UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)**

3rd Sunday in Lent  
March 8, 2026 11:00 a.m.

**We Gather in God's Name**

PRELUDE "In the Garden" arr. C. Tornquist

WORDS of WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS and BIRTHDAYS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We gather in the shadow of the cross.

**All: We come with honest hearts.**

One: When the world feels heavy and hope feels distant—

**All: We come seeking the God who hears our cry.**

One: Even when we feel abandoned—

**All: God does not abandon us.**

One: Let us worship the One who meets us in suffering,

**All: And holds us fast in love.**

**\* HYMN #401 "Here In This Place"**

CALL TO CONFESSION Joyce Wildi

**\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

Merciful God, we confess that we do not like to sit with suffering. We turn away from pain—our own and others'. We rush toward easy answers and quick fixes. When you seem silent, we doubt your presence.

When prayers go unanswered, we question your love. When life feels unfair, we lose heart. Forgive us for the ways we abandon you before remembering that you never abandon us. Meet us in our fear. Hold us in our doubt.

Teach us to trust the love poured into our hearts through Jesus Christ. Amen.

**\* DECLARATION OF PARDON**

**\*GLORIA PATRI #581**

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**We Listen to God's Word**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE LESSON Romans 5:1-11 CEB NT p. 160

MOMENT OF WORD AND WONDER

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 15:27-34 CEB NT p. 54

PREACHING OF THE WORD "Abandonment" Rev. Kobs

**We Respond to God's Word**

**\* HYMN #779 "How Long, O God Will My Prayers Be in Vain?"**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – APOSTLE'S CREED P. 35

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" F. C. Maker

**\*Doxology #606**

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

Generous God, All that we have comes from you. Breath in our lungs. Food on our tables. Friendship in our lives. Grace we did not earn. Even at the cross—where love looked like loss—your abundance was at work, reconciling the world to yourself. Receive these gifts we return to you. Multiply them and use them in ways we cannot imagine. And remind us, again and again, that your love is never scarce, your mercy never exhausted, your grace never withheld. We give thanks for your abundant life, made known to us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## We Go Forth to Serve

\* HYMN #218 “Ah, Holy Jesus”

\* CHARGE & BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Are Ye Able”

L. F. Pugh

- *Please stand in body or spirit*

*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 Tues. & Wed. 9:30-4:00

Please call for appointments.

E-mail [pastor@aupc.comcastbiz.net](mailto:pastor@aupc.comcastbiz.net)

Amy Shupe, Organist; Joel Varga, Assistant Organist

Zach Bush, Trumpeter Sam Mullooly, Trombonist

Linda Truffa, Office Administrator

Jerrilyn Mollick, Custodian

Church Address: 401 First Street, Apollo, Pennsylvania 15613

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

Website: [www.apollopresby.org](http://www.apollopresby.org) E-mail [office@aupc.comcastbiz.net](mailto:office@aupc.comcastbiz.net)

Office Hours: Monday through Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Today's Acolyte ~ *Avery Zukas*



**“Abandonment”**

“My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?”

Mark 15:27-34

## WEEKLY PRAYER CONCERNS

Household: Amy Shupe & Walt Smail  
Lilly Shupe  
Faith Friends: Nancy Reynolds  
Our Church: Pastor Niki  
The Churches of the Kiskiminetas Presbytery  
Presbytery: New Brunswick (Synod of Northeast)  
Denomination: International Evangelical Church  
Nation: Bhutan – Thimphu

**IMMEDIATE** Anne Cloonan, Scott Hubbard, The family of Carl Zukas, Sr., Jeff Kirkman home, Cathy, Chris Martin, Adam, Cate & baby Rosalind ☺, Mel Sylvis, Doris Ann 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Nancy Campitella, Rodger, **Shirley Coy, Cate Liska, SueEllen,**

**CONTINUING** Joanie, Laurie, family of Larry W., Liam, Kathy Wilson ☺, Grant, Thanks Kaminski, Gizzler & Hollabaugh's for shoveling, David Rose, Mary K., Amanda C, Dreana, Diane Chavara, Nancy Reynolds 99 years young!, Dorothy, Carol, Dave, Sue Ellen & Nick, , Shannan, **Sara Burke, Jim, Carol, Niki's Dave, Ben & Ashley, Dommy, Missy ☺, Joyce Wildi's Marshall ☺.**

### **ONGOING**

Nora, Eric Ribar, Missy, Katie, Eddie, Donnie Riggle, Gary Harkcom, Bill & Linda Crabtree, Frank Kovak, Josh Hanus, Shannon Pruss, 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, flu, and RSV 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 Donald Trump, 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



Currently, in the vestibule near the ramp door, there is a box just waiting for donations for our Emergency Food Pantry. You may donate as you wish or see Nancy Russo for a list of "most needed" items. She can also provide you with a list of what is normally stocked. **Thanks for your donations!**

## March 8, 2026 CHURCH FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>SUNDAY</u>	Sunday School	10:00 AM
	Worship-Welcome Rev. Erin Kobs	11:00 AM
<u>MONDAY</u>	Admin Team	7:00 PM
<u>TUESDAY</u>	Ministry Team	10:00 AM
	Mission Team	6:00 PM
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	Lenten Luncheon @ New Life Baptist	12:00 PM
	BELL CHOIR	6:00 PM
<u>FRIDAY</u>	Kids Krafts	6:30 PM
<u>SUNDAY</u>	Sunday School	10:00 AM



"Many thanks from the Admin Team to **Geoff Atkinson, Greg Carwile, and Shelly Hilty** for their help with sorting and organizing all of the items in our upstairs storage room. We now know what we have, and where things are. The storage room looks great!"

**HELP THE NEXT FAMILY ENJOY OUR  
PRAYGROUND! PLEASE TIDY-UP AFTER  
YOUR CHILDREN ATTEND THAT AREA.  
THANK YOU!**

*In the vestibule you will find:*  
**MARCH Newsletter**  
*Lenten Luncheon Schedules*  
*Lenten Opportunities*  
**LAST DAY: Easter Flower Order forms**

# Holy Week Meditation Stations

REFLECT UPON THE EVENTS OF  
JESUS' LAST WEEK THROUGH A  
SERIES OF PRAYERFUL  
EXPERIENCES, ALL AT YOUR  
OWN PACE.

**APOLLO UNITED  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
401 FIRST ST., APOLLO

SUN. 3/29 - 1PM-4PM  
MON. 3/30 - 9:30AM-4PM  
TUES. 3/31 - 9:30AM-7PM  
WED. 4/1 - 9:30AM-9PM  
THUR. 4/2 - 12PM-9PM



AUPC's Mission Team is looking to welcome those moving into our community and also welcoming new additions to local families. The Mission Team is looking for candidates to receive WELCOME/NEW BABY BASKETS based on the Welcome Wagon concept. If you are aware of families in either of these categories, please pass their info along to Pam McMunn at 724.664.8303.

## SUNDAY MORNING COUNTERS, OPENERS & CLOSERS

March 8 ~ Pam McMunn & Carl Zukas  
March 15 ~ Amy Shupe & Laura Uncapher  
March 22 ~ Glenna Kanish & Jessica Carwile  
March 29 ~ Scott Hollabaugh & \_\_\_\_\_



*Ready to Ring!  
AUPC Bell Choir  
will begin  
their practices on  
Wednesday, March 11  
at 6:00 PM. New members welcome.  
Contact Peggy Landon.*



This year, our tradition of purchasing Easter Flowers "In Memory of or In Honor of" a family member or special friend continues with beautiful flowers for the sanctuary, Your special someone will be remembered/honored in the Easter and Palm Sunday bulletins.

EASTER LILY \$14 EACH #ORDERED \_\_\_\_\_ \$PAID \_\_\_\_\_  
 HYACINTH \$9 EACH #ORDERED \_\_\_\_\_ \$PAID \_\_\_\_\_  
 ASSOR. TULIPS \$9 EACH #ORDERED \_\_\_\_\_ \$PAID \_\_\_\_\_  
 DAFFODIL \$9 EACH #ORDERED \_\_\_\_\_ \$PAID \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
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In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
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 \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline – Sunday, March 8 - Checks payable to AUPC**

# Lent Opportunities

apollopresby.org

Apollo United Presbyterian Church

401 First St., Apollo

				
ASH WEDNESDAY*	APOLLO COMMUNITY SPRING FLING	PALM SUNDAY	MAUNDY THURSDAY*	EASTER SUNDAY*
February 18 7:00 pm	Saturday, April 25 TBD	March 29 11:00 am	April 2 7:00pm	April 5 11:00 am
Joint worship w/Boiling Springs PC at BSPC	held at Owen's Grove Park	Service will be streamed youtube.com/ @apollopresby	Joint Worship with Boiling Springs PC	Service will be streamed youtube.com/ @apollopresby
*Communion will be served ALL are welcome	All are welcome to attend		*Communion will be served ALL are welcome	*Communion will be served ALL are welcome

