

APOLLO UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 10, 2024

11:00 a.m.

We Gather in God's Name

PRELUDE "Song of Sweetness" F. Mendelssohn

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION One Great Hour of Sharing Candy George

*CALL TO WORSHIP Kathy Wilson

(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 #624 "I Greet Thee Who My Sure Redeemer Art"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Holy God, giver of all that is good, we rejoice that you are the source of all that is. The breath of life is a gift from your generous hand. The food we eat is grown in the world you sustain. The community that supports us is called into being by your saving

activity. Everything we have is a gift from you. Why, then, do we complain as though the manna, raining down from heaven for us even now, is not enough? Why do we worry that your well of living water will someday run dry? It is surely our sin that causes us live as though we do not trust your goodness. Forgive us, we pray. Teach us again to put all our trust in your promises that never fail. Remind us that we are always in your loving care. Fill us with grace, so that our lives might show forth the fullness of your love for all people...

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(Hebrews 10:16-18)*

Leader: "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord:

People: **"I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,"**

Leader: and he adds,

People: **'I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.'**

Leader: Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin."

People: **Believe the promise of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*GLORIA PATRI #581

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

We Listen to God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE LESSON Ephesians 2:1-10 NT p. 192

MOMENT OF WORD AND WONDER

GOSPLE LESSON John 3:14-21 NT p. 94
SERMON "Alive Together with Christ"

*HYMN #816 "If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee"

*Affirmation of Faith (adapted from The Confession of 1967) insert

JOYS AND CONCERNS

BIRTHDAYS

We Respond to God's Word

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

Offertory "Still, Still With Thee" F. Mendelssohn

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Gratitude for God's Abundance

We Go Forth to Serve

*HYMN #346 "For the Healing of the Nations"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary" arr. D. Schack

*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 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: MARIANA SHURINA



"Christ Our Light"
Holy Rosary Priory
Bushey, UK

"...those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God." John 3:21

"In his commentary on Genesis, 'De Genesi ad Litteram,' Augustine reflected on the meaning of the words 'Fiat lux' ("And light was made") and brought into the theological tradition a perennial interest in the theology of light and of vision. Augustine notes that light was the first creature made out of 'nothing.' As the 'first incarnation' of God's Word, light is the supreme example of God's beauty or form. Moreover, since light is incorporeal, it is the most spiritual of all 'creatures.' And since light is not only incorporeal but also visible, it is the ultimate mediator between the visible and the invisible, the material and the immaterial."

WEEKLY PRAYER CONCERNS

Household: Kathy Heller
Lynn Hemke and Rod Crawford
Faith Friend: Grace Simpson
Our Church: Staff
Church(s): Black Lick and Homer City United Churches
Moderator: Tim Monroe
Presbytery: Philadelphia (Synod of The Trinity)
Denomination: African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
Nation: Suriname - Paramaribo

IMMEDIATE *Chelsea, Nancy Campitella, Cathy, family of Dorothy Hancock, Eddie, Scott and Nancy Hubbard, Marge Bernat, Matt, Soup donations ☺, patient with kidney disease, Carol Kopnický ☺, 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 Riggle, 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 10, 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
	Admin Team	6:00 PM
	Mission Team	6:00 PM
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	Crafters	9:00 AM
	Prayer Shawl Knitters	10:00 AM
	First Lutheran Apollo	12:00 PM
	Lenten Service & Luncheon	
<u>THURSDAY</u>	Ministry Team	9:30 AM
<u>SUNDAY</u>	Worship & Youth Sunday School	11:00 AM

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>

SUNDAY MORNING COUNTERS, OPENERS & CLOSERS

March 10 ~ Derek Hilty and Carol Kopnický

March 17 ~ Carol Kopnický and

March 24 ~ Shelly Hilty and

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.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leader: Having sung God's praise, having confessed our sin and been assured of God's pardon, having heard God's word, let us respond by affirming the faith of the church. What do you believe?

People: God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways. It is called the sacrifice of a lamb, a shepherd's life given for his sheep, atonement by a priest; again it is ransom of a slave, payment of debt, vicarious satisfaction of a legal penalty, and victory over the powers of evil. These are expressions of a truth which remains beyond the reach of all theory in the depths of God's love for humankind. They reveal the gravity, cost, and sure achievement of God's reconciling work.

**TODAY IS THE DEADLINE FOR
ORDERING EASTER FLOWERS.**
Order forms are in the vestibule.

COMING UP!

PALM SUNDAY with Children's Choir ~ March 24 ~ 11 AM

**MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE with COMMUNION
7:00 PM @ AUPC**

EASTER SUNDAY ~ March 31 ~ OGHS Offering

