

# **APOLLO UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)**

**First Sunday in Lent**

**February 18, 2024**

**11:00 a.m.**

## **We Gather in God's Name**

**PRELUDE**

**"Faith, the Victory"**

Scott

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Becky Kane

*(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 #634 "To God Be the Glory"**

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Gracious God, as we begin this Lenten wilderness journey with Jesus, we confess our neglect of you and our faith. We make idols of nation, money and power. We build walls instead of better relationships. We fail to follow Jesus to the poor, the destitute, the stranger. Empty us this Lent, Holy**

**God. Guide us in our faith so we can leave this wilderness season in right relationship with you. Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*GLORIA PATRI #581**

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

## **We Listen to God's Word**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Genesis 9:8-17 OT p. 44**

**MOMENT OF WORD AND WONDER**

**PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD "A Good Conscience"**

**\*HYMN #618 "O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High"**

**\*APOSTLES' CREED p. 35**

## **We Respond to God's Word**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER P. 35**

**OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

**Offertory "Refiner's Fire" Doerksen**

**\*Doxology #606**

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

## **We Go Forth to Serve**

**\*HYMN #166 "Lord, Who Throughout These 40 Days"**

**\*BENEDICTION**

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

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

**TODAY'S ACOLYTE: AVERY ZUKAS**



"Reminder"

by Mike Moyers, 2012

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57154>

Rainbows are happy things. Their beauty fills us with wonder. They inspire our dreams and hopes for a brighter future. This was my third attempt to paint a rainbow. An earlier attempt was to put my own spin on the quintessential “happy” rainbow. It turned out very nice, and would go great in any child’s room or Sunday school class. But happy rainbows didn’t seem to satisfy me. They didn’t seem consistent with the context of the story. The story of Noah is one of great sorrow, loss and healing. I wanted to paint Noah’s rainbow—a sign of remembrance.

We assume the rainbow is meant to be a reminder for us alone. But the story repeatedly says that the covenant was established between God and humanity and ALL living creatures of every kind. It also proclaims that when the rainbow appears, GOD remembers the covenant as well. We see a rainbow and remember a story with a promise. God sees a rainbow and remembers an event and a bond with all creation—even to creatures who could never ponder the depth of such a sign.

So, I tried to paint God’s covenantal sign. The sign that appears after the storm—transforming chaos into peace and fear into hope. A loving reminder for God and all of God’s creatures on this earth. Our rainbow.

## WEEKLY PRAYER CONCERNS

Household: Josh, Amber, Miranda & Riley Gartley  
Ron, Candy & Sean George  
Faith Friend: Bob Reed  
Our Church: Ministry Team  
Church(s): Harmony United and Clymer Churches  
Moderator: Marty Cartmell  
Presbytery: Lake Erie (Synod of The Trinity)  
Denomination: Russian Orthodox Church  
Nation: Guyana - Georgetown

**IMMEDIATE** *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, **Mike Mollick, Jackie, Roberta, Tina, Melissa, Sue, Brenna Knox.***

**CONTINUING** *Nancy Hubbard, Jim G.☺, Marlene, Donnie Riggle, accident victims, Noreen, Jim, Eddie, 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, **Memories of Jacob, family of Richard Young, family of Betty Cooper, PW donations to Emergency Fund & Food 4 Kids, Adam and Cate, Larry, Dave, Robin, Henry.***

**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

## FEBRUARY 18, 2024 CHURCH FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY Worship & Youth Sunday School **11:00 AM**  
MONDAY **Youth Group** **6:30 PM**

WEDNESDAY Prayer Shawl Knitters **10:00 AM**  
**AUPC will host 1<sup>st</sup> Community** **12:00 PM**  
**Lenten Service & Luncheon**

SUNDAY Worship & Youth Sunday School **11:00 AM**

Are you interested in what it means to become an official member of Apollo United Presbyterian Church? Come and join Pastor Niki and some of our church members to learn more **ON A DATE TO BE**

**PLANNED FOR AFTER EASTER.** We'll meet for about an hour and a half; lunch is provided and childcare is available by request. Those who decide to become members will be received officially during worship on a future Sunday. Please contact the church office to sign up; contact Pastor Niki with any questions.

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

**SUNDAY MORNING COUNTERS, OPENERS & CLOSERS**  
**February 18 ~ Amy Zukas and Derek Hilty**

**2024 GIVING ENVELOPES, ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY, CAN BE FOUND IN THE VESTIBULE.** (If you have a church mail box, your giving envelopes can be found there.)

**ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS are in the vestibule. Please pick up your statement to save the church the expense of mailing.** (If you have a church mail box, your statement can be found there)







