

Abiding Peace Lutheran Church

305-311 Route 46, Budd Lake, NJ 07828
973-691-9393 • www.abidingpeacechurch.org
Serena Rice, *pastor* • Benjamin Schroeder, *music director*



Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 28, 2026

10:00 a.m.

Welcome to Abiding Peace Lutheran Church!



Abiding Peace Lutheran Church makes Christ known by welcoming all people to a supportive and accepting place to grow in faith and community and to serve the Lord as people created by God, saved by Christ and nurtured by the Holy Spirit. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation, committed to the full inclusion and celebration of people of all sexualities, genders, and gender expressions, and to the work of racial equity.

In-person visitors are invited to share your contact information with the greeter, if you would like a follow up with the pastor. Thank you for blessing us with your presence. We welcome children to worship and we encourage their participation, including their wiggles and child voices. There is a seating area at the back of the sanctuary with room for little ones to crawl around. If desired, there is also a nursery room available, accompanied by parents or guardians.

Offering: The ministry of Abiding Peace is supported by the generous donations of our community. Please consider supporting our work through a variety of giving options, including donations through Venmo (search for @Abiding-Peace-BuddLake), through on-line bill pay with your bank, mailing your offering envelope to the church, or plate giving.

Holy Communion: We commune at the altar rail. Please collect an individual cup from the usher when you come forward, or come forward at the end for the common cup. We offer either wine or juice and gluten-free bread. If you are unable to come forward to receive communion, the usher can bring communion to you. You are also welcome to come forward with arms crossed for a blessing.

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WORDS FOR REFLECTION

Music uniquely nourishes the life of faith, as words of witness join with the power of song to pull us into truth. Today's worship gives us a chance to learn from each other as our siblings share the music that speaks to their hearts. From worship we are sent to witness to our hope and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome to the world.

PRELUDE

Voluntary E Minor (Op. 7 No. 7)

John Stanley

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME

Ben Schroeder

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

A Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C Amen.

A Together in community, let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

A Compassionate God,

C we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy, and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

A Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Creator, † Redeemer, and Sustainer, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C Amen.

HYMN REFLECTION

Maria Jerez

GATHERING HYMN

Precious Lord, Take My Hand ELW 773



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas a. Dorsey 1899-1993 Music: George N. Allen 1812-1877 adapt. Thomas A Dorsey. © 1938, 1966. Unichappell Music Inc. admin. Hal Leonard Corp.

A The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

HYMN REFLECTION

Aaron Hyndman

HYMN OF PRAISE

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross **ELW 803**



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674 - 1748. Music: Hamburg, Lowell Mason 1792 - 1872.

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

A Let us pray. O God,

C **you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 22:1–14

Abraham was prepared to obey God's command amid extreme contradiction: the child to be sacrificed is the very child through whom Abraham is to receive descendants. God acknowledged Abraham's obedient faith, and Abraham offered a ram in the place of his son Isaac.

L A reading from Genesis.

God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." God said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. And the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!"

And he said, "Here I am, my son." Isaac said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." And the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." [The angel] said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the

ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place “The Lord will provide,” as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

L The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 13

The Psalm will be read responsively, by verse.

- 1 How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
- 2 **How long shall I have perplexity in my mind, and grief in my heart, day after day?**
How long shall my enemy triumph over me?
- 3 Look upon me and answer me, O Lord my God;
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;
- 4 **lest my enemy say, “I have defeated you,”**
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.
- 5 But I trust in your unfailing love;
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.
- 6 **I will sing to the Lord,**
who has dealt with me richly.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 6:12–23

Sin is an enslaving power which motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin’s final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin’s slavery to live obediently under God’s grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.

L A reading from Romans.

Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of

unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as

you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand, if you are able.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 10:40–42

When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.

A The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter:

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the twelve,] “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous,

and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

A The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated. Silence for reflection follows.

SONG REFLECTION

Jon Cabral

All stand and sing the Hymn of the Day.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Stars

Jon Cabral, baritone

mf

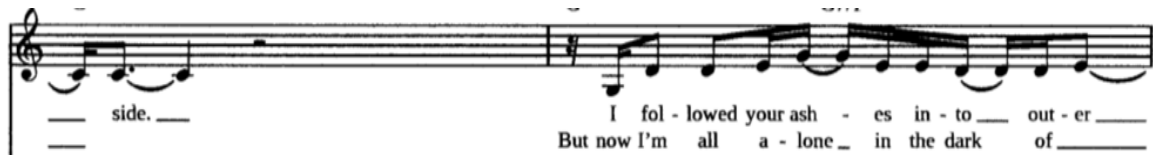
Verse:
Am Fmaj7

5 C

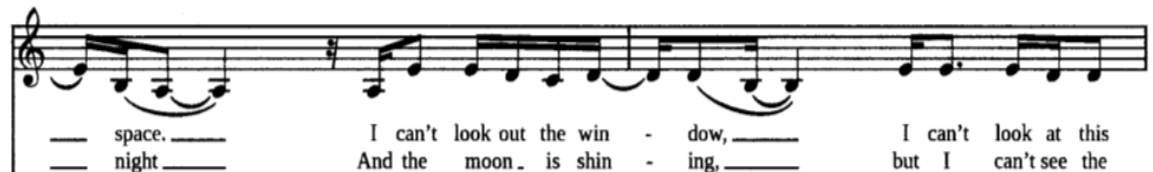
1. I lit a fire _ with the love you left _ be - hind, _
2. All those times _ we looked up at the _ sky _



and it burned wild and crept up the moun - tain
 Look-ing out so far, it felt like we could fly



side. I fol - lowed your ash - es in - to out - er
 But now I'm all a - lone in the dark of



space. I can't look out the win - dow, I can't look at this
 night And the moon is shin - ing, but I can't see the

Chorus:

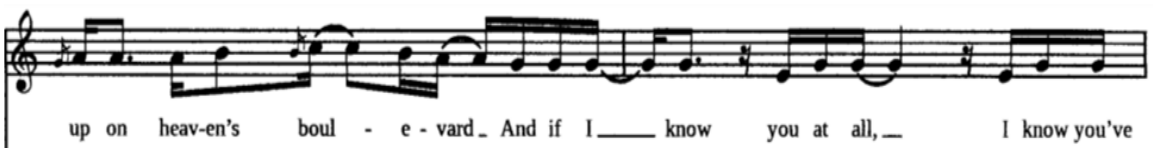


13 G6/E G7/D C Em

place. I can't look at the } stars, they make
 light. And I can't look at the }



me won - der where you are. Stars,



up on heav-en's boul - e - vard. And if I know you at all, I know you've



gone too far oh I, I can't look at the stars.



22 C C Am
 (Guitar solo)

Stars, _____

Stars, _____ they make me won - der where you are. _____

Stars, _____ up on heav-en's boul - e - vard. And if I _____

_____ know you at all, _____ I know you've gone too far. _____

So I can't look at the stars.

Words and Music by Grace Potter. © 2012 Hobbitville Music, (admin. By Walt Disney Music Publishing) All rights reserved. Used by permission.

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

Silence is kept for reflection.

A Eternal God, we remember the faithful departed of this community and of the wider church and world. We give thanks for saints of all times and places, including all those who have added to the church's music. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Faithful God, you establish your church to offer welcome and proclaim your peace. Nourish us so we can proclaim your hope to the world. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Creator God, you bring life to places experiencing drought, deforestation, and pollution. Help us to cultivate and care for the natural world around us. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Loving God, your will is always to bring an end to conflict and division. Call forth voices that can speak peace to Israel and Palestine, Iran, Sudan, Ukraine and Russia, and all places experiencing national violence. Sustain the work of prophets in our time, and work through world leaders to foster understanding, justice, and peace. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Provider God, you call your followers to give your children what they need physically and emotionally, and to support them spiritually. Bless caregivers as they show God's hospitality through their generous service. We pray for all who are mourning and for all on our prayer list, including Bella, Bodhi, Barbara, Susan & William, Scott, George, Sibylle, Leslie, Hailey, Kate, Dawn, Heinz, Ellen, and Vicki. (*Pause to allow additional prayers to be offered.*) We pray for all in harm's way, including essential workers, our armed forces, and all serving overseas. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Living God, you lead us from death to life. Inspire new ministries and endeavors, renew established ones, and strengthen our welcoming presence to our neighbors. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Trusting that you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

C Amen.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

A The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

The Ministers and People share the sign of peace. Afterward, please be seated.

THANKSGIVING

We respond to God's Word and the witness of God's people with thanksgiving.

SONG REFLECTION

Cindy Vittitow

THE OFFERING

Now we join Christians all over the world in worshiping God through the giving of our financial resources, in recognition and thanksgiving that all we have comes from God.

Abiding Peace
@Abiding-Peace-BuddLake



venmo

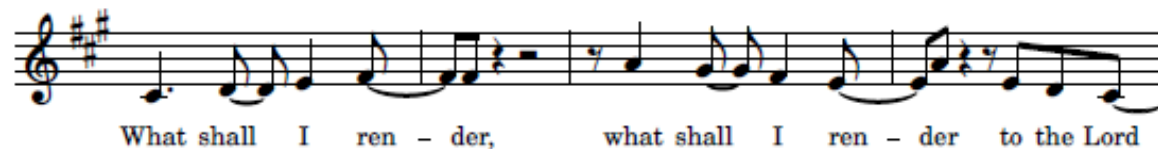
A Let us with gladness present the offerings of our life and labor to the Lord.

OFFERTORY

Reckless Love

Words and music by Caleb Culver, Cory Asbury,
and Ran Jackson

All stand, as able, and sing.





for all God's ben-e-fits to me, for all God's ben - e-fits to me?
 I will of-fer the sac - ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will call
 on the name, the name of the Lord. I will
 take the cup of sal-va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will
 pay my vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all God's peo -
 - ple, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the courts of the Lord's
 house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem, Je-ru-sa - lem.

A Loving God,

C we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us to trust your provision and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

A Let us now join in the Prayer for Spiritual Communion.*

C My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

* Attributed to Saint Alphonsus de Ligouri

THE LORD'S PRAYER

A Unite us in your Spirit as we pray:

C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

SONG REFLECTION

Roy Persson

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Amazing Grace ELW 779



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION

A May the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN REFLECTION

Emily Ober

SENDING HYMN

Siyahamba ELW 866

All stand, as able, and sing. Sing first in original Zulu, then in English. Subsequent verses will be sung only in English.



Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



nyen' kwen - khos'. *Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',*
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:
 We are dancing ...
 We are praying ...
 We are singing ...

Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984
 Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional
 Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

DISMISSAL

A Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Praise band



Many thanks to all of the church members who nominated songs for inclusion in this hymn sing liturgy, and for your stories of witness to the importance of this music in your faith journeys.

Next Week's Lessons:

Zechariah 9:9-12

Psalms 145:8-14

Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Serving in Worship		
	Today, 6/28	Next Week, 7/5
Altar Guild	Demetria Laird	Sandy Carlson
Counter	Howard Corneilson	Ursula Schroeder
Assistant Minister	Maria Jerez	Sandy Carlson
Lector	Evelyn Jorgensen	Maria Jerez
Communion Assist.		Cindy Pawlo
Usher/Greeter	Sandy Carlson	Doug Laird
Acolyte	Mary Kasakove	Howard Corneilson
Soloist	Shelli Skeels	TBD
Livestream Assistant	Tyler Rice	Ray Mueller

OFFICE HOURS

Catherine: Thursday, 7/2 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Emergency Pastoral Coverage: Pastor Serena is on vacation from June 25 - July 9. Contact Deacon Karen Kelly (215)-872-0949 or Pastor Bernie Kelly (609)-741-9234.

Keep These Friends in Your Prayers: Those who are sick or in need: Joshua Olsen, Jon, Cheryl Inglin, Judy Consentino, Jon & Maria, Sandy Kahler, Karen Qualls, Jim Tangen, Don Larsen, Joseph Horn, Ryan Manhardt, Grace Bessasparis, Jackson Cook, Donna Fahy, Jeanne Scalora, Valeriy Braginetz, Linda Kahler, Mark Dennis, John Corneilson, Karen & Ken Predmore, David Breault, Charles Wetzell, Patricia Coats, Alia Duffy, Aimee Nilsen, Lydia Millner, Dean Kowal, April Inglin, Bella Adams, Bodhi Maslow, Barbara P, Susan & William Swainy, Scott Schaefer, George Schroeder, Sibylle Scheiermann, Leslie Picinich, Hailey Ochs Plante, Kate Draven, Dawn Huber, Heinz, Ellen Parker, Vicki Gentler, Carol Baker, Shariff Stewart, Lisa Wolper, Maxine Wolper, Samy Dawood, David Laird, Peter Jensen, Joan Lewis, Jose, Brian Henkel, Mary Beth Mueller, Joseph DeSantis, Jenn DiDino, Nancy Tullo, Sue Corneilson, Mary & Gene Kasakove, Barb Phinney, Sarah Laird, Judy Wayman, Willey Langley, Courtney & Austin Eddington, Carol Schenck, Gray Lerner, Serena Rice, the Bevill Family, Teddy Favret, Kendal Ehrke, and Sunanda (Elizabeth) Maddela.

Those in mourning: Those mourning Jean (Moore) Milstead, The friends and family of the Benoit family who suddenly lost their daughter; The family and friends of Judy Day. The family of Tom Reed; the loved ones of Judith Evans (Pastor Serena's aunt), Evelyn Jorgensen and family mourning the loss of her half-brother, Rüdiger; Ellen Lewis and family mourning the loss of Mike Lewis; The Persson Family on the loss of Kayla; Those mourning Dan Filin (partner of Pastor Serena's mom); The family of Dawn Parks; The loved ones of Carole Ernstrom; Those mourning Maria's mother, Juanita; The friends and family of Kenneth Johanson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Church office hours:** During the Summer, Pastor Serena will generally hold office hours on Wednesday afternoon/evenings, Thursday mornings, and Sundays. She is also available for pastoral care by phone, zoom or other means on other days (Saturday is her day off). Our office administrator, Catherine, is in the office on Thursday mornings, unless otherwise noted in the bulletin. If you have a need to access the church building, please contact Pastor Serena.

- **Food Pantry Needs for June:** Cereal, canned soup, pasta sauce, Parmalat milk, fruit, juice, hot-dogs & buns, frozen meatballs, mashed potatoes, rice, crackers, cake mixes, gluten free pasta.

- **Altar Flowers:** Please consider signing up for altar flower donations. Price: \$17.50. If interested send an email to Catherine (aplcbuddlake@gmail.com) with your dedication and date you want the flowers on the Altar and send your check to the church.

- **Interested in hosting a coffee hour?** Not hard. Just bring some store bought baked goods. Coffee is already prepared ahead of time by the Altar Guild. Questions: Call Demetria Laird at 973-398-9614.

ART, MUSIC, AND LITURGY

Art: Photo by Michael Maasen on Unsplash.

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This week at Abiding Peace

Sunday, June 28:

- Worship Service, 10:00 a.m. - In-person and Live-streamed
- Fellowship Hour

Monday, June 29:

Tuesday, June 30:

Wednesday, July 1:

- AA meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 2:

Friday, July 3:

- Mass Protest against Christian Nationalism in Philadelphia, organized by the Palm Sunday Path

Saturday, July 4:

- Zumba, 9:00 a.m.

Next week at Abiding Peace

Sunday, July 5:

- Worship Service, 10:00 a.m. - In-person and Live-streamed
- Guest Preacher Rev. Sara Lilja
- Fellowship Hour
- Food contributions due for Soup Kitchen

Monday, July 6:

Tuesday, July 7:

- Faith Kitchen, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 8:

- Senior's Pool Party, 2:00 p.m. @ the Pawlos'
- AA meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 9:

Friday, July 10:

Saturday, July 11:

- Zumba, 9:00 a.m.
- Rain Garden Maintenance volunteering, 11:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

July 12 – World Cup Potluck Lunch, 11:30 a.m.

July 13 - Worship & Music, 11:00 a.m. via Zoom

July 15 – Unfinished Objects Gathering, 2:00pm-4:00pm

For all live-streamed services, click (or type) the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/AbidingPeaceChurch/live>