

*And they came to a place called Gethsemane, and he called his disciples, "Sit here, while I shall pray." And he brought Peter, James and John with him, and he began to be overwhelmed in awe and deeply distressed. And he called to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch."*  
(Mark 14:32-34 Pastor's Translation)

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**Worship Live online Sunday at 10:30 a.m.  
on APC's Facebook page at  
[www.Facebook.com/AbseconPresby](http://www.Facebook.com/AbseconPresby)**

Pastor's sermon is titled "A Community in Christ, Apart from a Sinful Crowd" from Isaiah 53 (NRSV) and Mark 14:27-15:47 (Pastor's Translation) available for you in the attached bulletin.

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*If you or someone you know from church is sick or hospitalized, please notify the office at 609/641-3759 so Pastor Drew can reach out to you.*

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**Please Keep These Requests in Prayer**

For an end to this pandemic, relief from the pain it has caused.

For those most at risk and in harm's way, that they are safe.

For those who mourn, that they might know comfort.

For wisdom and discernment to make sound decisions.

For humility in our culture and government to ease division.

For those who are ill, physically and mentally, to heal.

For the poor and marginalized to be seen in the image of God in order to receive the justice, dignity and help they need.

For the good news of your presence with us to be proclaimed by this, your church community, by our words and deeds.

For a revival in our faith to live boldly for your Kingdom.

**For these the individuals and families in acute need right now who are connected to your church in Absecon:**

Rita Abelson, Ben Werner, Carol Thomas, Donna Hughes, Roy Birkbeck, Olive Brown, JoAnn Sabo, Jerry Hoenes, Marilyn & Tito Rosado, Bob Gillis, Dan Hughes, Stan Weir, Jim, Patti & Devon Morris , Christopher Green, Diane Ford, Dorie Keener, John King, The Willicky Family

**Continued prayers always for:**

Judy Stebbins, Rob Perry, Teresa, Robin McBrearty, JoAnne Morgan, Minerva Stadlmeir, Marge Loeb, Kavonna & Essence, Darryl, Kristen and Quentin, Dirk Williamson, Jim Price, Elaine Risley, Frances Weir, Emilia Carboy, Irene Smith, Aiden & Wendy Licolli, Kathy Boyte, Jean Delesantro, Betsy Cunius, Marjorie McGuigan, Doris Steele, Essie Newell, Joyce Pfeiffer, Don & Lucy Croneberger, Marie C. & Carmen DeVece, Olga Davies, Jim Mong, Edith Budd, Carol DeLaurentis, Mildred Felsberg, Virginia Loeb

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**Resurrection in the Air**

Lisa Whitaker

Several years ago I was doing a staff workshop on the island of Cyprus. As is often my habit when I go to a new place, I do some investigating as to what places or events of historical importance are in the area. I love history, so in my free time I often scout out any local history spots. To my surprise one of the listings was a church that was the final resting place of Lazarus. It caught me by surprise. Wait a minute Lazarus was raised from the dead. Oh, yeah, but he DID die again at some point. So, I decided to go visit Lazarus' tomb, the one that he DIDN'T walk out of wrapped in burial cloths! As I sat there in the place of his burial, I pondered many things. What was it like for him to die twice? What did his friends or Mary or Martha think, if they were still around?

I then began pondering his story as recorded in John 11 and 12. In John 12:9, scripture states that because Lazarus' life was a testimony to the power Jesus had over death, the Pharisees plotted to kill him. Imagine that for a moment. Lazarus dies, is miraculously raised from the dead and then he gets word that the very leaders of his faith are plotting to KILL him because his life is a testimony to the power of God! This is why Lazarus made his way over to the island of Cyprus. History records that he fled to Cyprus and there led a large group of Jesus followers!

Lazarus' resurrection was some time before Passover, at least a week and possibly longer. In John 12, it is recorded that Jesus returned to Lazarus' home right before Passover and it was then that the Pharisees were plotting to kill both Lazarus AND Jesus. I find it interesting that Jesus' resurrection came on the heels, so to speak of Lazarus' resurrection. Imagine being one of the disciples or Mary or Martha and witnessing not ONE resurrection, but TWO all within a short time period. Death, resurrection, death, resurrection. What a roller coaster of emotions they all had to be on. Yet, what an amazing time, resurrection was in the air. Life after death

was before them. In those three years of hanging out with Jesus, his followers had witnessed resurrection several times. Did Jesus raise those others to life so that HIS resurrection would be a bit easier to accept, almost part of the norm? Did that theme of resurrection throughout his ministry provide a basis for a deep core belief in the hearts of the disciples that He IS the resurrection and the life? I don't know. What I do see and read and am pondering is that resurrection was in the air, it was the buzz word/event of Jesus' last days on earth.

What amazing hope He left for His friends to cling to, what thoughtful security that death is not something to be feared, but it is conquered. Do not lose hope, "Death, where is your sting?" (I Corinthians 15:55) As we celebrate Easter, let's remember . . .

Resurrection is in the Air

Life Conquers Death

Happy Resurrection Day to all of you,

Lisa

**Teaching/Travel update:**

So far this year I have been able to teach in person in 3 different Discipleship Training Schools. My schedule is to teach in 3 more schools by mid-May. I also am zooming all over the world from Absecon. I even put up several clocks in my office with different time zones to help me keep track of what time it is where I am teaching or meeting!

Thank you for your on-going prayers. My schedule as of now is quite full until the end of 2021. God continues to open doors and I continue to walk through them!

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Thank you to everyone who purchased flowers to decorate the sanctuary on Easter. Janet Gee will be at the church on April 5 to assist those who will be picking up their Easter plants.

The Mission/Evangelism Committee is grateful for your donations through Mission Bouquet offerings.

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Members of your **Mission/Evangelism Committee** have formed a team of volunteers to help local families in need of assistance. **You are invited to help** in this work by bringing your donations of peanut butter, pasta, canned fish/meat, vegetables, fruit, soups, stews, etc. (and/or personal care items) to the church for team members to distribute as needed.

This is an ongoing project of the committee so please think of the work of your team often.  
Thank you in advance!

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### One Great Hour of Sharing

‘One Great Hour of Sharing’ brings congregations together in the Presbyterian Church (USA) to see and help those in need.

At Absecon Presbyterian Church, Carol Kleiner famously led this appeal in our building, and Vic and Rita Abelson took over after her passing. Each year, together we gave, we heard stories of how this money impacts lives, and we passed out those little coin banks to get the kids involved. This appeal has been a part of building this church as a community in service.

Collected during Lent, gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing appeal supports hunger relief through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promotes development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assists in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

This year amid this pandemic, our togetherness is already at stake. **Please consider demonstrating your unity with your church and denomination by giving to One Great Hour of Sharing this year?** You can make your gift online and credit your Absecon Presbyterian Church by following this link—<http://bit.ly/PresbyterianSpecialOfferings>—or you can send a gift to the church designated for the One Great Hour appeal.

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### Deposit made on March 19, 2021

<b>General</b>	
Loose	
Envelopes Undesignated	\$722.10
Envelopes Designated	\$360.00
Per Capita	
Initial	\$1.00
Fuel	
On-line Undesignated	
On-line Designated	
Online Per Capita	
Online Initial	
On-line Fuel	
<b>General Total</b>	<hr/> <b>\$1,083.10</b>

**Benevolence**

Loose	
Envelopes Undesignated	\$83.00
Envelopes Designated	\$5.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$60.00
On-line Undesignated	
On-line Designated	
On-line One Great Hour of Sharing	
On-line Pakistan	
<b>Benevolence Total</b>	<hr/> <b>\$148.00</b>

**Capital Expenditures**

Loose	
Envelopes Undesignated	\$24.90
Envelopes Designated	
On-line Undesignated	
On-line Designated	
Winter Fund Raiser	
Cemetery	
<b>Capital Total</b>	<hr/> <b>\$24.90</b>

<b>Combined Total</b>	<hr/> <hr/> <b>\$1,256.00</b>
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Please know that we love each and every one of you, and you continue to be in our prayers.

Stay safe –  
Follow Official Guidelines –  
and Know You Are Loved!