



The **FIRST**
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
in PHILADELPHIA

est. 1698

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 10, 2024

PRELUDE

Adoration

Florence Price

INTROIT

Plainsong

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

—*Isaiah 66:10-11/Psalm 122*

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Dr. Baron Mullis

*HYMN 371

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

*OPENING SENTENCES

The Reverend Laura Colee

O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good; for God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those God redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Let them thank the LORD for God's steadfast love, for God's wonderful works to humankind.

And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of the LORD's deeds with songs of joy.

Psalm 107:1-3, 21-22

*PRAYER OF ADORATION



**Please rise in body or spirit.*

WELCOME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and loving God, in our baptism you have welcomed us into a beloved community, dedicated to you, called to life together. This is a gift of grace, meant to enrich our existence, ensuring that no matter what we encounter, we will be supported. There will be someone to walk us, to hold us dear. And yet, sometimes what it takes to be together in this way is costly. It demands honesty of us, and humility, and a willingness to risk authenticity. And too often, we are unwilling to do these things. Forgive us, we pray, for those times when we fail to keep our promises, and teach us what it is to be your people. For we pray this in Jesus' name, and for his sake...

KYRIE (573) (*Choir and Congregation*)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Believe the promise of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

ANTHEM

*O Lux beatissima réple córdis íntima tuórum
fidelium. Accénde lúmen sénsibus, infúnde
amórem córdibus, infírma nostri córporis,
virtúte firmans pérpetsi.*

O Lux Beatissima

O light most blessed fill the inmost heart
of all thy faithful. Enkindle your light in
our minds, infuse your love into our
hearts, strengthen the frailties of our flesh
by your perpetual power.

Howard Helvey

—from the Whitsuntide sequence *Venu Sancte Spiritus*, attr. Stephen Langton

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON	Numbers 21:4-9	(p. 138)
GOSPEL LESSON	John 3:14-21	(p. 92)
EPISTLE LESSON	Ephesians 2:1-10	(p. 188)

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI

PICARDY

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory be to God the Spirit, ever
three and ever one; as it was in the beginning, now and ever more shall be.

SERMON

We Are What God Has Made Us

Dr. Mullis

For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Ephesians 2:10

*HYMN 434

Today We All Are Called

KINGSFOLD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Freya Rasnake van Stolk

daughter of Heather van Stolk and Elaine Rasnake

COVENANT WITH THE CONGREGATION

Do you, as members of the Church of Jesus Christ promise to guide and nurture Freya by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Christ, and to be a faithful member of his Church?

We do.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise

BAPTISM

***AARONIC BLESSING** (*inside back cover of hymnal*)

CALL TO OFFERING

You may bring your offering forward during the offertory, or place it in the plates after the service.

You may also give online; information is available on the card in the pew rack.

OFFERTORY**A Hymn to God the Father**

David Stocker

Wilt thou forgive that sin where I begun, which was my sin, though it were done before?
 Wilt thou forgive that sin, through which I run, and do run still, though still I do
 deplore? When thou hast done, thou hast not done, for I have more.

Wilt thou forgive that sin which I have won others to sin, and made my sin their door?
 Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun a year or two, but wallow'd in, a score?
 When thou hast done, thou hast not done, for I have more.

I have a sin of fear, that when I have spun my last thread, I shall perish on the shore; but
 swear by thyself, that at my death thy Son shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore;
 and, having done that, thou hast done; I fear no more.

—*John Donne*

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise
 God above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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 debts, as we
 forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is
 the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN 439*In Christ There Is No East or West**

ST. PETER

BENEDICTION**CHORAL BENEDICTION****Benediction for Lent 4**

Donald Nally

Amen. Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.

POSTLUDE**Lift High the Cross**

John Leavitt

* * *

“The Church does not dispense the sacrament of baptism in order to acquire for
 herself an increase in membership but in order to consecrate a human being to
 God and to communicate to that person the divine gift of birth from God.”

—Hans Urs von Balthasar, *Unless You Become Like This Child*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARCH 10, 2024

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Tuesday, March 12	Facilities Committee	12:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 13	Stewardship & Budget Committee	6:30 p.m.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SERIES CONCLUDES TODAY

Dr. Heath Carter, Professor of American Christianity at Princeton Theological Seminary, concludes his series addressing how questions about the future of U.S. democracy have come to the fore of public life in recent years. Sessions are held in the MacColl room beginning at 12:30 p.m. Sandwiches will be provided.

TWENTIES & THIRTIES - QUIZZO

Let's get our T&T trivia on! Join us on Monday, March 11, at 7 p.m. for Quizzo at Loco Pez in Grad Hospital (on the corner of 20th and Bainbridge). Please RSVP to Laura Colee (youngadults@fpcphila.org) so we can reserve a team table!

ONLINE LENTEN BIBLE STUDY - WEDNESDAYS THROUGH MARCH 20

An online Lenten Bible study continues on Wednesdays, via Zoom, from 12:15-12:45 p.m. Led by Dr. Mullis and Rev. Colee, we are looking at key passages from the Gospel of Mark to prepare us for Holy Week. *You must register to receive the Zoom link!* Visit our website to register, or call the church office (215-567-0532).

TWENTIES & THIRTIES BRUNCH

The T&Ts are going to brunch next Sunday, March 17, after the 11 a.m. service! Please RSVP to Laura Colee (youngadults@fpcphila.org) if you'd like to join!

DEDICATIONS AT EASTER

We continue our tradition of accepting donations and dedications in honor of or in memory of friends and loved ones at Easter. **Please submit dedications by March 25; forms are available in the narthex and the church office.** Checks should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia; please note "Easter Dedications" on the check memo. Dedications and donations may also be submitted online via the church website: fpcphila.org/easter-dedications or emailed to the church office (office@fpcphila.org).

Lenten Donation Drive

February 18 - April 7

supporting

PHILLY  **HOUSE**



During the season of Lent, the Missions Committee is sponsoring a drive to support **PHILLY HOUSE**, a shelter for men that provides temporary housing and comprehensive services to support transitions to long-term housing.

Items to donate are listed below. Donations can be dropped off in designated locations at the church. Items may also be purchased online from the Amazon Wishlist. (Amazon Wishlist items will be shipped directly to Philly House.) Scan the QR code for more information.

ITEMS TO DONATE

- New combs for men
- New hair picks for men
- New men's T-shirts (all sizes)
- Men's sneakers (all sizes)
- Men's adjustable canvas belts (all sizes)
- Men's boxer underwear and stretch boxer briefs (all sizes)
- Down alternative pillows
- Men's loose fit shorts (all sizes)
- Socks (all sizes)
- Lightweight waterproof backpacks

