First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia



CELEBRATION!

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 10, 2024

Welcome

The Reverend Dr. Baron Mullis

Opening Acclamation

Open our lips, O Lord,

And our mouths shall proclaim your praise!

*Song

God is So Good

God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God's so good to me.

God cares for me; God cares for me; God cares for me; God's so good to me.

God loves me so; God loves me so; God loves me so; God's so good to me.

God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God's so good to me.

*Prayer (unison)

The Reverend Laura Colee

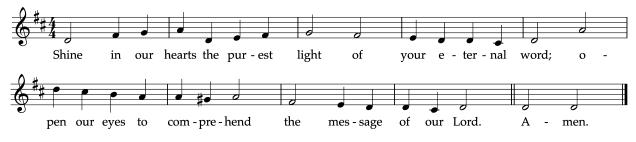
Lord God, your love is always reaching out to us. Wherever we go, you go with us. Help us to feel your presence walking alongside us throughout this season of Lent.

Lord, you tell us to love one another, but we do not always do what you ask of us. Forgive us for the ways we have hurt others and ourselves. Forgive us for ignoring you and our neighbors. Help us to be brave and kind every day of our lives. Guide us, stepby-step, on our journey of faith and hear our prayers for Jesus' sake, that we offer to you now in silence...

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination



Reading the Word of God

Ephesians 2:1-10

Seeing and Touching the Word

Reflections

Jesus Loves Me!

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

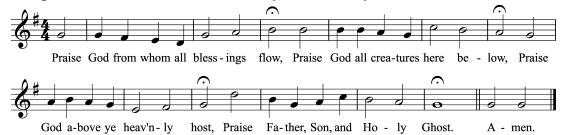
Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago, taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me." Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

*Affirmation of Faith (unison) adapted from the PCUSA Brief Statement of Faith We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. Amen.

Offering (You may remain seated during the Doxology.)



Miles Vaughan

Karen Marston

Dr. Mullis

*Song

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

The Lord's Supper

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 God thanks and praise.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Let us keep the feast!

Prayer after Communion (unison)

God, who takes care of each one of us, thank you for feeding us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation; now send us out into the world to tell everyone about your love. Amen.

*Closing Song

Now Go in Joy

Now go in joy to spread the Word till all people have heard: God embraces all! Follow, then, the disciples' call: tend your neighbors with loving care in daily work and prayer. God's own grace empower your spirit. Amen!

Benediction and Going Forth

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the power of the Holy Spirit.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 with Dr. Heath Carter 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., or remote attendance is available via Zoom; visit our <u>website</u> to receive the Zoom link.

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

The Missions Committee is sponsoring a donation drive to support Philly House, a shelter for men that provides temporary housing and comprehensive services to support transitions to long-term housing. The drive will run through April 7. Visit our <u>website</u> or scan the QR code for a list of needed items and Amazon Wishlist options.



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