



The **FIRST**
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
in PHILADELPHIA

est. 1698

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 12, 2024

PRELUDE

Andante Sostenuto
from *Symphonie gothique*

Charles-Marie Widor

INTROIT

Alleluia

Plainsong

Alleluia. O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.
—Psalm 47:1

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Dr. Baron Mullis

*HYMN 326

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

MORECAMBE

*OPENING SENTENCES

The Reverend Laura Colee

Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever.

For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

Psalm 86:11-13, 15

*PRAYER OF ADORATION



**Please rise in body or spirit.*

WELCOME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, your ways are not our ways, and your thoughts are not our thoughts. Where we stumble through life looking for hope in the midst of bad things, you know the arc of redemption already. When life tumbles in, and we are bruised by circumstances, you know depths of divine love for each of us that we can only slightly comprehend. When our questions overwhelm our ability to remember your promises, you hold us even closer, more ready to forgive than we are to ask. So we offer you as much of ourselves in confession as we can bear, knowing that fullness of us all is already known to you...

KYRIE 574 (*Choir and Congregation*)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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

ANTHEM

Vox ultima crucis

William H. Harris

Tarry no longer toward thine heritage
Haste on thy way, and be of right good cheer.
Go each day onward on thy pilgrimage;
Think how short time thou shalt abide.
Thy place is bigg'd above the starres clear,
none earthly palace wrought in so stately wise.
Come on, my friend, my brother most entere!
For thee I offered my blood in sacrifice.

—John Lydgate (c. 1370 – c. 1451)

PSALTER LESSON

Psalm 1

(p. 479)

EPISTLE LESSON

1 John 5:9-13

(p. 236)

GOSPEL LESSON

John 17:6-19

(p. 109)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI

LAUDA ANIMA

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

I Have Sent Them Into The World

Dr. Mullis

As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

John 17:18

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us, and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made human, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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 ANTHEM I Have Longed for Thy Saving Health

William Byrd

(arr. of Byrd's *Pavanne The Earle of Salisbury* by Alfred Whitehead)

I have longed for thy saving health, O Lord: and in thy law is my delight. O let my soul live, and it shall praise thee and thy judgements shall help me.

—Psalm 119:174-175

*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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

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 115

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

ST. KEVIN

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Alleluia

Herbert Howells

from *We Have Heard With Our Ears*

POSTLUDE

Electa ut sol

Henri Dallier

* * *

“Folks are usually about as happy as they make their minds up to be.”

—Abraham Lincoln

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAY 12, 2024

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Thursday, May 16

Session

6:30 p.m.

HONORING OUR INTERIM MUSIC LEADERSHIP

Please join us **today** in Old Buttonwood Hall following the worship service to celebrate with gratitude the dedication and leadership of our interim musicians Maestro Donald Nally and organist Paul Fleckenstein. Donald and Paul have enhanced the music ministry of First Church immeasurably with inspired programming, and musicianship of the highest order. This is “farewell for now” to Paul, and Donald will conclude his time with us next Sunday, on Pentecost.

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT - SATURDAY, MAY 18 @ 6 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

All are invited to a concert at First Church presented by **Trio New World**, a Philadelphia chamber music group composed of Chiara Ferrero (violin), Jacob Gin (cello) and Marcello De Vita (piano), all teachers at the Settlement Music School. The concert is free and open to the public; a free-will offering will be accepted.

TWENTIES & THIRTIES BRUNCH

Join us for our regular brunch outing next Sunday, May 19, after the 11a.m. service! We'll be dining at Rosy's Taco Bar on the corner of 23rd & Walnut streets. Please RSVP to Laura (youngadults@fpcphila.org) if you'd like to join so we can make a reservation!

MEMBERSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH

First Church is scheduling a new members class in June. If you are interested in becoming a member of First Church, please contact Rev. Laura Colee (laura.colee@fpcphila.org).

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE MISSIONS FAIR - JUNE 2!

For more announcements, subscribe to our weekly email at fpcphila.org/subscribe.

SOULS SHOT PORTRAIT PROJECT™

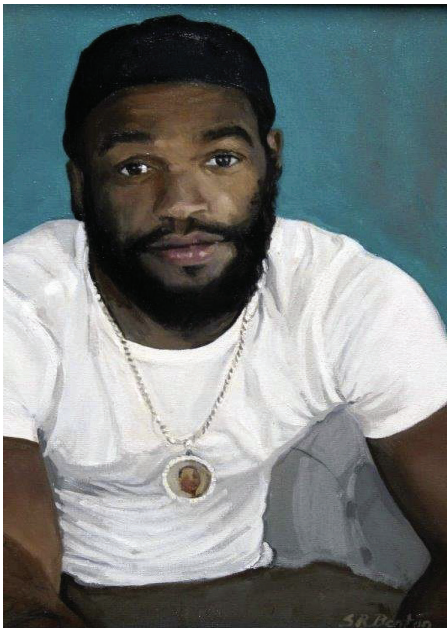
Portraits of Victims of Gun Violence

Shaliyah in Her Garden
Portrait of Shaliyah Haynes-Davis by Meghan Ealanora



EXHIBITION

Portraits of Loved Ones Taken by Gun Violence



For 'Nook': May Your Light Shine On
Portrait of Vincent Thornton by Sally Benton

MAY 6 - 29

EXHIBITION HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

11 AM - 3 PM

Free and open to the public

Fine artists, paired with families and friends of loved ones lost to gun violence, create portraits emphasizing the uniqueness of the souls portrayed. The exhibition is a truly moving tribute. Please join us for this powerful experience.

soulshotportraitproject.org



The First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia
(entrance on 21st Street)
215-567-0532 • office@fpcphila.org • www.fpcphila.org