



The **FIRST**
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
in PHILADELPHIA

est. 1698

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

JANUARY 14, 2024

PRELUDE

Sinfonia Festiva

Gerald Near

INTROIT

Eight Orisons, No. 8 (v. 2)

Harold Friedell
(1905-1958)

Know you that lowly baby was the bright and morning Star? He who came to light the Gentiles and the darken'd isles afar? And we, too, may seek his cradle; there our hearts' best treasures bring; love, and faith, and true devotion for our Savior, God, and King.

—*Cecil Frances Alexander*

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Dr. Baron Mullis

***HYMN 275**

God of Our Life

SANDON

***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

**Those who are able may stand.*

*PRAYER OF ADORATION



WELCOME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, with the tenderness of a nursing mother, you care for us. As a father has compassion on his children, so do you gather us under your wings. Great and mighty though you are, you choose to be with us, and for us. You even created us in your image, giving us an identity as your beloved children, and calling us to live a different way. But we have our own preferences. Given your grace, we look on others with judgment. Provided with all we need, we hoard our gifts. Created to love one another, we follow other commandments. Forgive us, we pray. Teach us again what it is to abide in your promises, for we pray it in the name of Jesus Christ, and for his sake...

KYRIE (573)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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

ANTHEM

Let all the Angels of God Worship Him

(from *Messiah*)

G. F. Handel

(1685-1759)

Let all the angels of God worship Him.

—*Hebrews 1:6*

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

(p. 165)

GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:43-51

(p. 91)

PSALTER LESSON

Psalm 139:1-18

(p. 566)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

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. Amen

SERMON

Hemmed In

Dr. Mullis

You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Psalm 139:5

***HYMN 326**

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

MORECAMBE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The 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.

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

I Sat Down Under His Shadow

E.C. Bairstow
(1874-1946)

I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste.
He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love.
—*Song of Solomon 2:3b-4*

***DOXOLOGY (591) AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

OLD HUNDREDTH

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 563**

Lift Every Voice and Sing

LIFT EVERY VOICE

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Deep in My Heart

American trad.

Deep in my heart, I do believe we shall live in peace someday.

—*We Shall Overcome*, v.3

POSTLUDE

Toccata

W. Ralph Driffill

* * *

“Love is not blind; that is the last thing that it is. Love is bound; and the more it is bound the less it is blind.”

—G.K. Chesterton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 14, 2024

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Thursday, January 18

Session

6:30 p.m.

2024 ANNUAL GIVING UPDATE

Our pledge drive for 2024 Annual Giving is ongoing. As of January 11, we have received 90 pledges for a total of \$363,145. ***Thank you to everyone who has pledged!*** If you have not yet pledged, pledge cards are available in the pews or in the narthex. You may also pledge online; scan the QR code or visit fpcphila.org/make-a-pledge.



TWENTIES & THIRTIES BRUNCH

The first T&T brunch in the new year is next Sunday, January 21, after the 11 a.m. service! Please RSVP to Laura Colee (youngadults@fpcphila.org) if you'd like to join!

USHER TRAINING

Usher training for ALL ushers (both new and experienced) will take place on the next two Sundays (January 21 and 28) at 10:15 a.m. in the narthex. Ushers are requested to attend one of the two training sessions. Contact Michael Smith (mbsmithphl@gmail.com) with questions.

CONVERSATIONS WORTH HAVING - SAVE THE DATE!

We're excited to announce the return of *Conversations Worth Having*. On Saturday, February 17, our guest speaker will be Dr. Brian Blount, one of the world's leading experts on the Gospel according to Mark, the book of Revelation, and a topic known as *Cultural Hermeneutics*. In this year's *Conversations Worth Having* seminar, Dr. Blount will address the topic of *Christian Nationalism*. Watch for registration details, coming soon.

Subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter at fpcphila.org/subscribe.