

First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia



CELEBRATION!

Second Sunday in Lent
February 25, 2024

Welcome

The Reverend Laura Colee

Opening Acclamation

Open our lips, O Lord,
And our mouths shall proclaim your praise!

***Song**

Praise Yet the Lord, the Almighty

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly for aye we adore him.

***Prayer (unison)**

The Reverend Dr. Baron Mullis

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, step-by-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

Shine in our hearts the pur - est light of your e - ter - nal word; o -
pen our eyes to com - pre - hend the mes - sage of our Lord. A - men.

Reading the Word of God

Mark 8:31-38

Becky Yep

Seeing and Touching the Word

Reflections

Rev. Colee

*Song

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

*Affirmation of Faith (unison)

adapted from the PCUSA Brief Statement of Faith

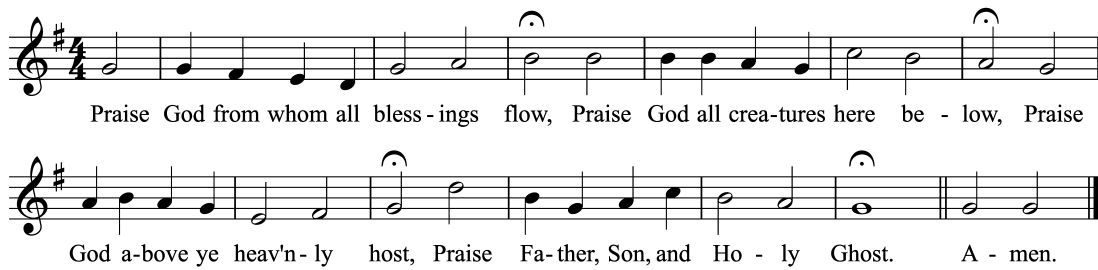
We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

Yet 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.)



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow, Praise God all crea - tures here be - low, Praise
God a - bove ye heav'n - ly host, Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

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

You Shall Go Out With Joy

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field
will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands
while you go out with joy.

Benediction and Going Forth

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the power of the Holy Spirit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 18, 2024

Lenten Donation Drive

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. The donation drive will run from February 18 through April 7. Visit our [website](#) or scan the QR code for a list of needed items and Amazon Wishlist options.



Adult Christian Education Series with Dr. Heath Carter

On Sundays, beginning today through March 10, Dr. Heath Carter, Professor of American Christianity at Princeton Theological Seminary, will address how questions about the future of U.S. democracy have come to the fore of public life in recent years. Sessions will be held in the MacColl room beginning at 12:30 p.m. Sandwiches will be provided. Remote attendance will be available via Zoom for those who are not able to attend in-person. Visit our [website](#) to register or call the church office (215-567-0532) to receive the Zoom link. (Those attending in person do not need to register!)

Online Lenten Bible Study

A four-week Lenten Bible study will be held on Wednesdays exclusively online, via Zoom, from 12:15-12:45 p.m. Led by Dr. Mullis and Rev. Colee, we will look at key passages from the Gospel of Mark that 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 Volunteer Event

Join us as a group of T&Ts volunteer with Books Through Bars on Saturday, March 2 at 1:30 p.m. We will be filling requests for reading materials for incarcerated individuals in Pennsylvania and throughout the tri-state area. Please email Laura Colee (youngadults@fpcphila.org) if you'd like to join us!

Dinner with Howard University Students - Sunday, March 3

The church will be hosting a dinner next Sunday at 5 p.m. in Old Buttonwood Hall to welcome students from Howard University who are traveling from Washington, D.C. to spend their spring break engaged in volunteer work around the city of Philadelphia. All are welcome to join us! Please RSVP by February 26, by emailing or calling the church office (office@fpcphila.org; 215-567-0532).

3 Ways to GIVE ONLINE

Scan the QR code



Text FPCPHILA to 73256
using your mobile device, followed
by your contribution amount.

FPCPHILA \$100

This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply.



@firstpresphilly

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

fpcphila.org