

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2024

PRELUDE Theme and Variations Hendrik Andriessen

INTROIT Alleluia Francisco López Capillas

from *Dic nobis*, *Maria* (excerpt)

Surrexit Christus spes mea: praecedet vos in Galilaeam. Alleluia.

Scimus Christum surrexisse a mortuis vere: tu nobis, victor Rex, miserere. Amen. Alleluia.

Christ my hope is arisen; he will go before you into Galilee. Alleluia.

We know Christ is truly risen from the dead! On us, you conqueror, King, have mercy! Amen. Alleluia.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Dr. Baron Mullis

\*HYMN 146

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

VINEYARD HAVEN

#### \*OPENING SENTENCES

The Reverend Laura Colee

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear the LORD. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek God shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before God. For dominion belongs to the LORD, and God rules over the nations.

To the LORD, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before God shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for the LORD.

Posterity will serve the LORD; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that the LORD has done it.

Psalm 22:25-31

#### \*PRAYER OF ADORATION



WELCOME

MINUTE FOR MISSION

The Arc of Philadelphia

Shane Janick

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you call us to be with one another, as you are with us. Your word of grace is extended to us in community, as we confess together, and receive pardon together. But too often, we don't see ourselves that way: Called to a deep and abiding life together. Too often we splinter off with those of like mind. We associate with those of similar means. We spend too much time with people who look like us, and not enough with those who will help us see life a different way. In our worst moments, we may even see ourselves as better than others. Forgive us, we pray. Remind us that you call us to bear with one another. And as we do so, may we be blessed with the abundance of community for which you have made us, through Jesus Christ our Lord...

KYRIE 574 (Choir and Congregation)

#### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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

## ANTHEM We Have Heard with Our Ears Herbert Howells

We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us, what thou has done in their time of old: how thou hast driv'n out the heathen with thy hand, and planted them in; how thou has destroy'd the nations, and cast them out. For they got not the land in possession through their own sword, neither was it their own arm that helped them, but thy right hand, and thine arm, and the light of thy countenance, because thou hadst a favor unto them.

Thou art my King, O God; send help unto Jacob. Through thee will we overthrow our enemies; and in thy name will we tread them under, that rise against us. For I will not trust in my bow, it is not my sword that will save me. But it is thou, thou that savest us from our enemies, and puttest them to confusion that hate us. We make our boast of God all day long, and will praise thy name forever.

-Psalm 44:1-9

GOSPEL LESSON John 15:1-8 (p. 107)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 8:26-40

(p. 124)

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** 

# **Absolutely Everyone**

Dr. Mullis

As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?"

Acts 8:36

\*HYMN 341

## Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine

**ASSURANCE** 

## \*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 ANTHEM

If Ye Love Me

Phillip Wilby

If ye love me, keep my commandments,

And I will pray the Father,

And he shall give you another comforter,

That he may abide with you for ever:

Even the spirit of truth.

And ye know him, for he dwelleth with you,

And shall be in you.

I will not leave you comfortless.

I will come to you.

—John 14:15-18

#### \*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 387

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

BRADBURY

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION Am

Amen, from Preces and Responses

Gerre Hancock

**POSTLUDE** 

Coronation March, from Le Prophéte

Giacomo Meyerbeer

+ + +

"He drew a circle that shut me out-Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout. But love and I had the wit to win: We drew a circle that took him in!"

-Edwin Markham

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

APRIL 28, 2024

## MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 28 Deacons 12:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1 Adult Christian Education Committee 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 2 Facilities Committee 12:00 p.m.

## MEMBERSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH

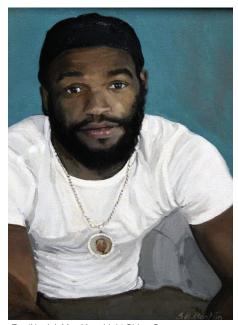
First Church is scheduling a new members class in June. If you are interested in becoming a member of First Church, please contact Rev. Laura Colee (laura.colee@fpcphila.org).





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

OPENING RECEPTION Sunday, May 5 @ 12 noon Free and open to the public

REGULAR EXHIBITION HOURS

MAY 5 - 31

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

11 AM - 3 PM

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.

soulsshotportraitproject.org



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