



The **FIRST**
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
in PHILADELPHIA

est. 1698

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FEBRUARY 4, 2024

PRELUDE **Toccatà in D minor ("Dorian")** J. S. Bach

INTROIT **Eight Orisons, No. 4** Harold Friedell

Let thy merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of thy humble servants; and, that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*The Book of Common Prayer*

CALL TO WORSHIP The Reverend Dr. Baron Mullis

***HYMN 263** **Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise** ST. DENIO

***OPENING SENTENCES** The Reverend Laura Colee

Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for the LORD is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

The LORD builds up Jerusalem; God gathers the outcasts of Israel. The LORD heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.

God determines the number of the stars; the LORD gives to all of them their names.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; God's understanding is beyond measure.

The LORD lifts up the downtrodden; God casts the wicked to the ground. Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre. Praise the LORD!

Psalm 147:1-7, 20

**Those who are able may stand.*

*PRAYER OF ADORATION



WELCOME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you have revealed yourself to us in Jesus Christ. Everything we need to know about you has been shown. Your goodness, mercy, healing, and renewal are on full display. But sometimes we do not see what is right before us. Sometimes we miss your perfection and concentrate instead on our own imperfection. We misunderstand you, and so we misunderstand the world. Forgive us, we pray. Restore to us the ability to see what is plainly in front of us. Renew within us the capacity for goodness, mercy, healing, and renewal, for we pray it in Jesus' name, and for his sake...

KYRIE (573)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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

ANTHEM

A New Song

James MacMillan

O sing unto the Lord a new song, sing unto the Lord all the whole earth. Sing unto the Lord and praise His Name, be telling of His salvation from day to day. For He cometh to judge the earth, and with righteousness to judge the world and the people with His truth.

—*Psalm 96:1, 2, 13*

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

(p. 168)

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:29-39

(p. 35)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 40:21-31

(p. 654)

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**Good News**

Dr. Mullis

Those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40:31

HYMN (insert)*Be Still, My Soul**

FINLANDIA

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**Search Me, O God**

J. R. Day

Search me, O God, and know my heart; O try me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there be any wicked in me; and lead me in the way everlasting.

—*Psalm 139:23-24*

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

OLD HUNDRETH

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

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 435*We All Are One in Mission**

ES FLOG...

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** **Peace Be Unto You** (*excerpt*) Knut Nystedt
Peace be unto you; as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.
—*John 20:19*

POSTLUDE **The Rejoicing** Charles Callahan

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“Especially among Christians in positions of wealth and power, the idea of reading the Gospels and keeping Jesus' commandments as stated therein has been replaced by a curious process of logic. According to this process, people first declare themselves to be followers of Christ, and then they assume that whatever they say or do merits the adjective "Christian".”

—Wendell Berry

Blessed are the Peacemakers: Christ's Teachings of Love, Compassion, and Forgiveness

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 4, 2024

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Monday, February 5	Worship Committee	6:30 p.m.
	Membership & Evangelism Committee	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 6	Missions Committee	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, February 7	Adult Christian Education Committee	7:00 p.m.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The Annual Meeting will be held next Sunday, February 11, at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. All members are encouraged to attend. The meeting will be live streamed, but members must be present to vote.

TWENTIES & THIRTIES GROUP

As we prepare to enter into the Lenten season this month, the T&Ts will be taking a trip to the Philadelphia Museum of Art to engage in the spiritual practice known as *visio divina*. We will spend some time looking at certain pieces together, and then you will be free to explore the museum. If you'd like to join us, please RSVP to Laura (youngadults@fpcphila.org)!

ASH WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 14

Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent. First Church will hold two services with imposition of ashes at 12 noon and 7 p.m. The evening service will be live streamed. (On street parking is available with placard.)

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

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Be Still, My Soul

1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
 2 Be still, my soul: thy God doth un - der - take
 3 Be still, my soul: the hour is has - tening on

Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain.
 to guide the fu - ture sure - ly as the past.
 when we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord;

Leave to thy God to or - der and pro - vide,
 Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake;
 when dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,

who through all chang - es faith - ful will re - main.
 all now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
 sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.

(over)

Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heaven - ly Friend
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past

through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt be - low.
all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The first system contains the first three lines of lyrics. The second system contains the next three lines of lyrics. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and some melodic lines.

Conversations Worth Having



*Reading the Bible in a time of
Christian Nationalism*

with

Rev. Dr. Brian Blount

President Emeritus, Union Theological Seminary

Saturday, February 17, 2024

10 AM - 3 PM

To register, scan the QR code, visit
www.fpcphila.org, or call 215-567-0532.

