

First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia



## CELEBRATION!

### The Baptism of the Lord

January 7, 2024

**Welcome**

The Reverend Laura Colee

#### **Opening Acclamation**

Open our lips, O Lord,

**And our mouths shall proclaim your praise!**

#### **\*Song**

#### **For the Beauty of the Earth**

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

**Refrain:** Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:  
(Refrain)

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:  
(Refrain)

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:  
(Refrain)

For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;  
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:  
(Refrain)

#### **\*Prayer (unison)**

Lord God, we love you. We trust you. And we know that you love us, and that you will never leave us.

Today, we celebrate together because of everything you have done for us!

Lord, you always keep your promises, but we do not. We say we want to follow Jesus, but our actions do not match up with our words. We say mean things to other people, we hurt their feelings, we think of ourselves first, and, worst of all, we ignore you.

Lord, forgive us and hear our prayers for Jesus' sake, that we offer to you 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

Genesis 1:1-5

## Seeing and Touching the Word

## Reflections

The Reverend Dr. Lee Hinson-Hasty

## \*Song

## Baptized in Water

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;  
heirs of salvation, trusting the promise,  
faithfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
dead in the tomb with Christ our King;  
one with his rising, freed and forgiven,  
thankfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
marked with the sign of Christ our King;  
born of the Spirit, we are God's children;  
joyfully now God's praises we sing.

## \*The Apostles' Creed (unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of  
the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the  
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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 Reverend Dr. Baron Mullis

### 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

### Peace Like a River

I've got peace like a river; I've got peace like a river;

I've got peace like a river, in my soul.

I've got peace like a river; I've got peace like a river;

I've got peace like a river, in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain; I've got joy like a fountain;

I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain; I've got joy like a fountain;

I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean; I've got love like an ocean;

I've got love like an ocean, in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean; I've got love like an ocean;

I've got love like an ocean, in my soul.

## Benediction and Going Forth

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the power of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 7, 2024

Preaching this morning is the Reverend Dr. Lee Hinson-Hasty, Senior Director of Development at the Theological Education Fund.

### Meetings This Week

Wednesday, January 10

Stewardship & Budget Committee  
Adult Christian Education Committee

6:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

### 2024 Annual Giving Update

Our pledge drive for 2024 Annual Giving is ongoing. As of December 28, we have received 88 pledges for a total of \$360,225. 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](https://fpcphila.org/make-a-pledge).



### Zia Needs Your Spare Shopping Bags!

The Missions Committee has a great way to recycle paper shopping/grocery bags! Our mission partner Zia needs them for the meal kits they assemble and distribute. Look for marked boxes in the narthex and by the 21st Street entrance to collect your bag donations for Zia!

### Sunday Volunteers Needed!

Would you like to get more involved in First Church? Do you enjoy greeting members or meeting visitors, or catching up after worship at Fellowship? The Deacons of First Church have the perfect opportunity for you! Volunteers are needed to serve as Ushers or Fellowship Helpers. Both roles allow you to connect with members and visitors. Please visit our website to learn more and sign up!

**Art Prints and Our Legacy of Faith Book** - Numbered limited edition copies of the original art by Edwin Allen commissioned for the 325th Anniversary of First Church are available for purchase for \$10, either in Black & White (Pen & Ink) or Color (Watercolor over Pen & Ink). The book published for the 150th Anniversary of our building and the 325th year of our congregation is also available (suggested donation \$20). Contact the church office (215-567-0532).

### Ways to GIVE ONLINE

Scan the QR code



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

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