First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia



CELEBRATION!

February 11, 2024

Welcome

Opening Acclamation

Open our lips, O Lord,

And our mouths shall proclaim your praise!

*Song

Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art; thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower; raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; thou, mine inheritance, now and always; thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Prayer (unison)

The Reverend Laura Colee

The Reverend Dr. Baron Mullis

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!

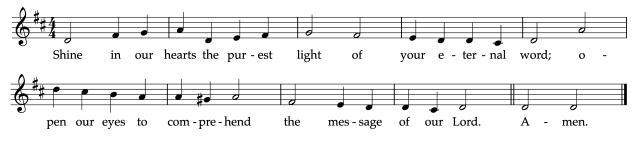
Lord, you always keep your promises, but we do not. We say we want to follow Jesus, but our actions do not match up with our words. We say mean things to other people, we hurt their feelings, we think of ourselves first, and, worst of all, we ignore you.

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



Reading the Word of God

Mark 9:2–9

Reagan Buzan

Seeing and Touching the Word

Reflections

*Song

Down to the River to Pray

Refrain:

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good old way, and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.

Oh, sisters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down. Oh, sisters, let's go down, down to the river to pray. [Refrain]

Oh, brothers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down. Oh, brothers, let's go down, down to the river to pray. [Refrain]

Oh, children, let's go down, let's go down, come on down. Oh, children, let's go down, let's go down, come on down. [Refrain]

*The Apostles' Creed (unison)

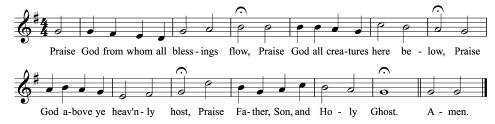
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

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.)



Karen Marston

Dr. Mullis

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

O When the Saints

O when the Saints go marching in, O when the Saints go marching in, O Lord I want to be in that number, when the Saints go marching in.

And when the sun begins to shine, and when the sun begins to shine, O Lord I want to be in that number, when the sun begins to shine.

O when the trumpet sounds its call, O when the trumpet sounds its call,

O Lord I want to be in that number, when the trumpet sounds its call.

O when the new world is revealed, O when the new world is revealed,

O Lord I want to be in that number, when the new world is revealed.

O when the drums begin to bang, O when the drums begin to bang,

O Lord I want to be in that number, when the drums begin to bang.

O when the stars fall from the sky, O when the stars fall from the sky,

O Lord I want to be in that number, when the stars fall from the sky.

O when the Saints go marching in, O when the Saints go marching in,

O Lord I want to be in that number, when the Saints go marching in.

Benediction and Going Forth

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the power of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meetings This Week

Thursday, February 15

Session

6:30 p.m.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

The Annual Meeting is being held today 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

Today after 11 a.m. worship, 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 RSPV 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.)

Conversations Worth Having – Saturday, February 17

Who we are, our cultures, backgrounds, and communities, invariably (and appropriately) shape how we read the Bible. But what if our background skews our understanding of scripture in a way that leads away from the Gospel, even to idolatry? What then? In this year's Schneider Speaker Series, Dr. Brian Blount, president emeritus of Union Presbyterian Seminary, will help us explore the ways we read the Bible, with a particular focus on Christian Nationalism. Registration is required; visit our website, scan the QR code, or call the church office (215-567-0532) to register.

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!

Ways to GIVE ONLINE

