

The Service for the Lord's Day

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2019

11:00 a.m.

“Baptism reminds us that there’s no ladder to holiness to climb, no self-improvement plan to follow. It’s just death and resurrection, over and over again, day after day, as God reaches down into our deepest graves and with the same power that raised Jesus from the dead wrests us from our pride, our apathy, our fear, our prejudice, our anger, our hurt, and our despair.”

—Rachel Held Evans,

Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church



The **FIRST**
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
in PHILADELPHIA

est. 1698

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Grace and peace to you as we gather for worship! Here in this place, the seasons of our lives are marked: the children of God of every age are baptized, marriages are celebrated, and when one grieves, the whole body grieves together. We are a family of faith.

And just as Christ Jesus has welcomed each person to this church for over three hundred years, we extend our word of welcome in his name. Christ loves all, calls all, and welcomes all, and so whether this is your first time here, or you have worshipped here for years, everyone enters this place with the profound welcome of Jesus Christ.

This congregation is steeped in history – three members of the church signed the Declaration of Independence. We are a part of the history of this city from its earliest days. But make no mistake about it: this is a living, breathing congregation seeking in real and tangible ways to make the grace of God known to our very modern world.

We would love to know you, and for you to know us. Please stay after the service and join in our fellowship time together where we enjoy refreshments, and most importantly, share our lives together. And if in getting to know us, you feel God is calling you to join together with us in living God's grace in this place, it would be our joy for you to become a part of this community.

Baron Mullis, Pastor

IF YOU ARE NEW HERE

Please fill out the pew pads in the black folders. You will find more information about our church on the Visitor's Information Display in the Narthex and in Old Buttonwood Hall.

There are several ways to become involved at First Church, both in the church and in the community. We are committed to the city of Philadelphia and support a number of mission programs and agencies working in this community. To learn more or to get involved, contact missions@fpcphila.org and check the announcements for upcoming volunteer opportunities.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Childcare is provided each Sunday morning for babies and toddlers from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the lower level of the building, reached by the stairs inside the 21st Street entrance.

Large print bulletins and **children's bulletins** are available in the narthex.

Parking is available for worship services on the west side of 21st Street from Chestnut to Locust Streets and on the north side of Locust from 20th to 23rd. Ushers will provide a placard to display on your vehicle dashboard. Parking is also available at SP+ Parking, located at 2107 Sansom Street (next to Day by Day Restaurant). See ushers to validate your parking receipt for a reduced rate.

BE SOCIAL!

Social Media users—Check in at First Church and like our Facebook Page (facebook.com/FirstPresPhilly). Follow us on Instagram & Twitter [@firstpresphilly](https://twitter.com/firstpresphilly), and join our hashtag campaign [#firstchurchlove](https://twitter.com/firstchurchlove).

Visit our website to learn more, and subscribe to our email list: www.fpcphila.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Prelude in G

Felix Mendelssohn

CANTICLE

Lift Thine Eyes

Mendelssohn

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help. Thy help cometh from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved. Thy keeper will never slumber.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Dr. Baron Mullis

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

Revelation 7:9-10

*HYMN 492

Baptized in Water

Bunessan

*SENTENCES

The Reverend Megan LeCluyse

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Revelation 7:11-12

*PRAYER OF ADORATION



A - - - men.

* * *

WELCOME

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Zofia Martinez

FPC Scholarship Recipient

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, good shepherd, we acknowledge before you that our lives are not whole. We have done things we wish we had not. We have missed opportunities to do the things that would bring hope and healing to a hurting world. We have shut ourselves off from the possibility that your transforming love might change us. It's not that we mean to sin, it's that we can't

**Those who are able may stand.*

help it. But you can help us. You can renew us. You can bring us to wholeness. And so we offer you ourselves, in need of healing and in need of forgiveness, with our spoken prayers, and those offered in the silence of our hearts...

KYRIE

Andrew Senn

Organ *mp*
 Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
mf
 Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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

ANTHEM

Schafe können sicher weiden (from Cantata 208)

J. S. Bach

<i>Schafe können sicher weiden</i>	Sheep may safely graze
<i>Wo ein gutter Hirte wacht</i>	Where a good shepherd is guarding them
<i>Wo Regenten wohl regieren</i>	Where rulers reign well
<i>Kann man Ruh' und Friede spüren</i>	You can feel rest and peace
<i>Und was Länder glücklich macht</i>	And what makes peoples happy

* * *

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.

NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 9:36-43

(p. 125)

GOSPEL

John 10:22-30

(p. 102)

PSALTER

Psalms 23

(p. 491)

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 evermore shall be. Amen.

SERMON

The Good Shepherd and the Black Sheep

Dr. Mullis

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long."
Psalm 23:6*

***HYMN 172**

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Resignation

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Jordan Elizabeth Reeck
child of Crystal & Nick Reeck

COVENANT WITH THE CONGREGATION

Do you, as members of the Church of Jesus Christ promise to guide and nurture Jordan by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Christ, and to be a faithful member of his Church?

We do.

****APOSTLES' CREED (traditional)***

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.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise

BAPTISM

****AARONIC BLESSING (inside back cover of hymnal)***

OFFERTORY**Psalm 23**

Franz Schubert

*Gott ist mein Hirt, mir wird nichts mangeln.
 Er lagert mich auf grüne Weide, er leitet mich
 an stillen Bächen, er labt mein schmachtendes
 Gemüt, er führt mich auf gerechtem Steige zu
 seines Namens Ruhm. Und wall' ich auch im
 Todesschatten Tale, so wall' ich ohne Furcht,
 denn du beschüttest mich, dein Stab und
 deine Stütze sind mir immerdar mein Trost.
 Du richtest mir ein Freudenmahl im
 Angesicht der Feinde zu, du salbst mein
 Haupt mit Öle und schenkst mir volle Becher
 ein. Mir folget Heil und Seligkeit in diesem
 Leben nach; Einst ruh' ich ewge Zeit dort in
 des Ew'gen Haus.*

The Lord is my shepherd, therefore can I lack
 nothing. He shall feed me in a green pasture,
 and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
 He shall convert my soul, and bring me forth in
 the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.
 Yea, thou I walk through the valley of the
 shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art
 with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
 Thou shalt prepare a table before me against
 them that trouble me, thou hast anointed my
 head with oil, and my cup shall be full. But thy
 loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all
 the days of my life, and I will dwell in the
 house of the Lord for ever.

PRESENTATION & DOXOLOGYLasst uns erfreuen*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia,
 alleluia! Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION**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 170*The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want***Crimond****BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE****Fugue in G****Mendelssohn**

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Rainer Beckmann & Priscilla Herreid, recorders

The Greeter is Suellen Smith, and the ushers are Jeannie Boehner, Captain, Fred Barfoot, Dave Nave, Michael Smith, and Don Williams.

The chancel flowers are dedicated to the glory of God, in memory of our beloved mothers, Sereta Bailey and Verna Eichlin, and in honor of all the mothers in our congregation, by Joann and Carl Bailey.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Thursday, May 16

Session

6:30 p.m.

MASONRY & ROOFING PROJECT

The initial phase of the FAMP capital projects has begun. The scaffolding will be erected over the next several weeks. We can expect the overall project (and scaffolding) to last about 4 months, through the summer. Access to the church entrances should not be affected. Refer to our website (www.fpcphila.org/masonry-roofing-project) for more information.

TWENTIES & THIRTIES (T&T) GROUP

This Wednesday, May 15th, at 7:30 p.m., we will gather at First Church for an “ask the pastor” evening with Baron Mullis. (Enter at 21st Street.) Join us May 18th for a hike; RSVP via email. For more information on the Twenties & Thirties Group, contact Annie LeCluyse (youngadults@fpcphila.org), and join the Twenties & Thirties fellowship group on Facebook.

SPRING MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Do you have questions about what it means to be Presbyterian? Have you wondered about the history of our particular church? Perhaps you have contemplated membership and are wondering what it entails? If so, we would like to invite you to consider joining us for our quarterly membership class on Sunday, June 2nd. Come and learn about the ways in which our church expresses our universal faith in its own distinctive way; ask questions and grow in your knowledge of who we are and why we do the things that we do; and help us get to know you better as you discern whether membership is right for you. To register, contact Rev. Sarah Weisiger (sarah.weisiger@fpcphila.org). Lunch and childcare are provided.



PLANNED GIVING
Planting Seeds for the Future

***Become a member
of the
Buttonwood Circle!***

www.fpcphila.org/planned-giving/

(continued)

SUNDAYS @ FIRST

CELEBRATION!

Celebration! is a worship service that engages Christians of all ages through singing, interactive Bible lessons for children, prayer, preaching, and the Lord's Supper. Join us in Old Buttonwood Hall at 9 a.m.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Adult CE classes are held at 9:45 a.m. in the MacColl room. Sunday School class for young children and their families is held at 9:45 a.m. in the Cochran Room. Contact Sarah Weisiger (sarah.weisiger@fpcphila.org) for more information.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Each Sunday immediately following 11 o'clock worship our Deacons lead a brief period of intercessory prayer in Dr. Mullis's office. To request prayers, fill out one of the prayer requests and place it in the offering plate or join the Deacons for the prayer time after worship.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA

201 South 21st Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-567-0532
www.fpcphila.org

The Reverend Dr. Baron A. Mullis, *Pastor and Head of Staff*

The Reverend Megan LeCluyse, *Celebration Team Leader*

Mr. Andrew Senn, *Director of Music and Organist*

Ms. Suzanne Riemann, *Church Administrator*

The Reverend Jerry K. Foote, *Minister for Congregational Care*

The Reverend Sarah Weisiger, *Minister for Membership and Faith Formation*

Mrs. Patti Sassoli, *Director of Communications*

Ms. Annie LeCluyse, *Young Adult Leader*

The Reverend Barbara A. Chaapel

The Reverend Kenneth J. Ross

The Reverend Herbert D. Valentine

Parish Associates