

The Service for the Lord's Day

August 13, 2017

11:00 a.m.

“The books or the music in which we thought the beauty was located will betray us if we trust to them; it was not in them, it only came through them, and what came through them was longing. These things—the beauty, the memory of our own past—are good images of what we really desire; but if they are mistaken for the thing itself they turn into dumb idols, breaking the hearts of their worshippers. For they are not the thing itself; they are only the scent of a flower we have not found, the echo of a tune we have not heard, news from a country we have never yet visited.”

C.S. Lewis,
The Weight of Glory

“Ah, music," he said, wiping his eyes. “A magic beyond all we do here!”

J.K. Rowling,
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone



The **FIRST**
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
in PHILADELPHIA

est. 1698

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Whether you are visiting today for the first time, or are a longtime member of this church, we are glad you're here.

The symbol of our church has long been “the open door.” We strive very hard to be just that, a community as diverse and hospitable as God’s kingdom. We don’t all look or act alike, and we certainly don’t all think alike. We come from many different faith traditions. We bring different questions, and we carry different burdens. But every Sunday, we worship together as one.

This is a very historic congregation. The first gatherings of the Presbyterian Church (USA) met in our church. Three of our members signed the Declaration of Independence. But we are not a museum or a monument to the past. Today we wrestle with the challenges of the modern world and bring our faith to bear on the contemporary issues facing this city just as did the founders of this church over three hundred years ago.

After the service, please stick around. If you have questions about the church and its ministries, or our historic building, please ask. We’d love to tell you about them. So have a cup of coffee with us. Introduce yourself to one of our clergy. You never know—you just might be home!

Jesse Garner, 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** for ages 7-12 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 Park America 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

Two Preludes

Carson Cooman

i: *Con ostinato*; ii: *Quasi eco*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Megan LeCluyse

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:8-9

*HYMN 142

All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!

Coronation

*SENTENCES

Elder Delores Brisbon

O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,
Make known his deeds among the peoples.
Sing to him, sing praises to him;
Tell of all God’s wonderful works.
Glory in the Lord’s holy name;
Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
Seek the LORD and his strength;
Seek his presence continually.

Psalm 105:1-4

*PRAYER OF ADORATION



* * *

WELCOME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

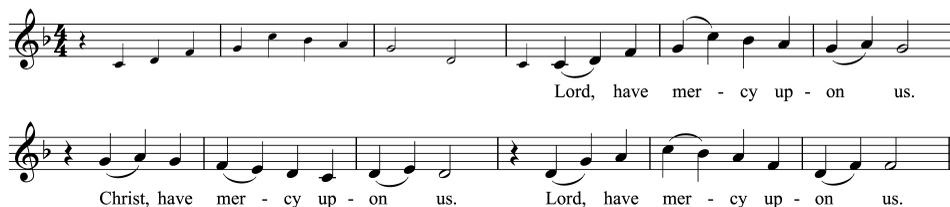
God, You call us to step out in faith, to place our lives in Your hands, and to wholeheartedly commit to following You. We confess that we find this difficult to do. It is not always easy to follow where You lead— to turn away from our own personal wants and desires, to let go of our safety nets and trust that You will provide for us in all things. Forgive us when we doubt You, God. Increase our faith. Open our eyes to see

**Those who are able may stand.*

past our own interests and concerns, to Your broader vision for us and for our world.
Hear the prayers we continue to offer in silence...

KYRIE

Andrew Senn



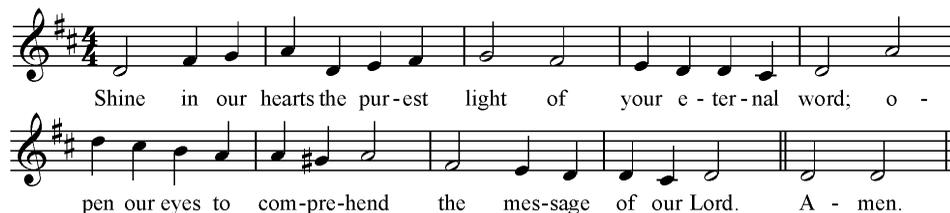
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Brothers and sisters, believe the good news.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

* * *

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.

OLD TESTAMENT Genesis 37:1-11 (p. 33)

EPISTLE Romans 10:5-15 (p. 156)

GOSPEL Matthew 14:22-33 (p. 16)

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA

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 Songs of Our Faith

Rev. Megan LeCluyse

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

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

OFFERTORY

Panis Angelicus

César Franck

***PRESENTATION & DOXOLOGY**

Lasst 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 INTERSESSION

Rev. Megan LeCluyse

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 210

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

St. Anne

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata

Michele Leclerc

* * *

Soloist: Michael Hogue

Organist: Edward Landin

SUNDAYS @ FIRST

CELEBRATION!

Celebration worship is held each Sunday morning at 9 a.m. Join us in Old Buttonwood Hall for this more informal service that is inclusive of all ages.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

A Bible study of each Sunday's lectionary texts is led by Rev. Jesse Garner in the MacColl Room at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Sunday school for children (ages 5 and up) is not held during the summer months, but will resume in September.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Each Sunday immediately following worship our Deacons lead a brief period of intercessory prayer in Rev. Garner'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 liturgist today is Elder Delores Brisbon. The Greeter is Paula Gross, and the ushers are Andrea Bowman, Captain, Philip Amoa, Reginald Amoa, Edna Dick, and Jen Gay.

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of my grandparents, Vera & Arthur Lang and Susie & Harry Lindeman, by Susy Christensen.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Tuesday, August 15

PNC Meeting

6:30 p.m.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

On Wednesday, August 16th, at 7:30 p.m., we will gather at First Church for game and movie night. (Enter at 21st Street.) On Saturday, August 19th, we're going hiking! Meet at Valley Green Inn at 10 a.m. For more information on the Young Adult Group contact Annie LeCluyse (youngadults@fpcphila.org), and join the Young Adult fellowship group on Facebook.

BACKPACK CHALLENGE

From now until August 18th, the Young Adult Group will be collecting new backpacks and school supplies for the Backpack Challenge sponsored by Valley Youth House. The Backpack Challenge raises funds and collects essential back-to-school items for foster care youth in Philadelphia. The collection box for school supplies is in Old Buttonwood Hall. You can also contribute online via the Valley Youth House donation page (roonga.com/BackpackChallenge/).

LET'S MAKE CASSEROLES!

Volunteers are needed for our quarterly casserole blitz to make 30-40 casseroles to feed those in need through the University City Hospitality Coalition. This will translate into 300-400 servings of hot meals for the hungry and homeless in our city. Join us at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 27th in the church kitchen; enter through the 21st Street door. We have fun, enjoying coffee, doughnuts, and fellowship while accomplishing something good for our community. If interested, please contact Beverly Cowart at missions@fpcphila.org or 215-382-4315.

SONGS OVERSEAS

The Chancel Choir left yesterday for their trip to Cornwall to serve as Choir in Residence at Truro Cathedral. Share in their adventures! See your choir in action, rehearsing and singing, and visiting historic sites around Cornwall! LIKE and FOLLOW the Chancel Choir's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/FPCPhilaChoir/) or view the blog on our website (www.fpcphila.org/songs-overseas-truro/) for pictures, videos, music, and musings from Truro Cathedral!

BAND OF BOOMERS--SAVE THE DATE!

Band of Boomers, the First Church fellowship group for the Baby Boomers among us, will be taking a trip to Winterthur on Sunday, September 10, after worship for lunch and a tour of the museum and gardens. For more information, contact Shellie Unger (shellieunger@mac.com).

(continued)

URBAN MOSAIC

Large numbers of unreached peoples are congregating in urban slums around the world. By 2050, 40% of the world's population will be located in urban slums. Urban Mosaic in Mexico City is beginning to address this issue, and First Church is joining with them. If you would be interested in participating in or contributing to a week-long missions trip to Mexico City, October 7 – 14, please contact the Missions committee (missions@fpcphila.org) or Rev. Garner (jesse.garner@fpcphila.org).

INTERESTED IN FIRST CHURCH?

If you would like to learn more about First Church and how you can be a part of the life and ministry of the church, you're invited to attend one of our new member classes. Classes are informal and explore what Presbyterians believe, what membership means, and how to get involved at First Church. Contact Jesse (jesse.garner@fpcphila.org) for more information.

MOVING FIRST FORWARD UPDATE

A gift to First Church helps to support a broad range of ministries both here at 21st & Walnut, throughout the city of Philadelphia, and beyond. We are grateful for your faithful generosity. The following is an Annual Giving update through July. We encourage you to help us keep Moving First Forward.



Attendance: Weekly average July 2017 (9 a.m. & 11 a.m.)	154
Giving: Year-to-date total through June 2017	\$218,891
Projected (budgeted) year-to-date total	\$222,159

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA

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

The Reverend Jesse Garner, *Pastor*

The Reverend Megan LeCluyse, *Celebration Team Leader*

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

The Reverend Barbara A. Chaapel

The Reverend Ken Ross

The Reverend Herbert D. Valentine

Parish Associates

Ms. Suzanne Riemann, *Church Administrator*

Mrs. Patti Sassoli, *Director of Communications*

Ms. Annie LeCluyse, *Young Adult Leader*