

The Service for the Lord's Day

October 15, 2017

11:00 a.m.

Out of love for the truth and from desire to elucidate it, the Reverend Father Martin Luther, Master of Arts and Sacred Theology, and ordinary lecturer therein at Wittenberg, intends to defend the following statements...

83. Again, "Why are funeral and anniversary masses for the dead continued and why does he not return or permit the withdrawal of the endowments founded for them, since it is wrong to pray for the redeemed?"
84. Again, "What is this new piety of God and the pope that for a consideration of money they permit a man who is impious and their enemy to buy out of purgatory the pious soul of a friend of God and do not rather, because of the need of that pious and beloved soul, free it for pure love's sake?"
85. Again, "Why are the penitential canons, long since abrogated and dead in actual fact and through disuse, now satisfied by the granting of indulgences as though they were still alive and in force?"
86. Again, "Why does not the pope, whose wealth is today greater than the wealth of the richest Crassus, build this one basilica of St. Peter with his own money rather than with the money of poor believers?"

From the *Disputation on the Power of Indulgences*, or
the *Ninety-five Theses*,
Martin Luther (1517)



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, and join our hashtag campaign #firstchurchlove.

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Improvisation

CANTICLE

George Thalben-Ball

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Jesse Garner

O give thanks to the LORD who is good,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

*HYMN 145

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Marion

*SENTENCES

Larry Slagle

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

Do not worry about anything, but in everything
let your requests be made known to God.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:4-7

*PRAYER OF ADORATION



A - - - men.

* * *

WELCOME

Rev. Jesse Garner

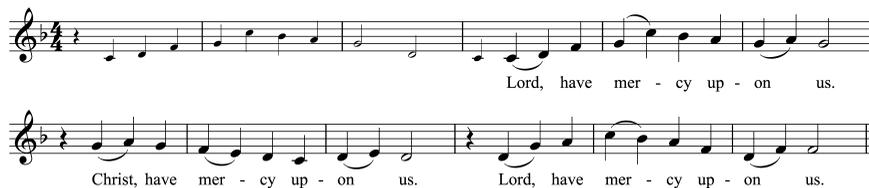
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call us, but we have not responded. We have walked away from neighbors in need, wrapped up in our own concerns. We have not spoken up in the face of evil, prejudice, hatred and greed. God of grace, come to us in mercy, that we may repent, turn to you, and walk in the ways of Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Hear now the confessions we offer in silence...

**Those who are able may stand.*

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!

ANTHEM

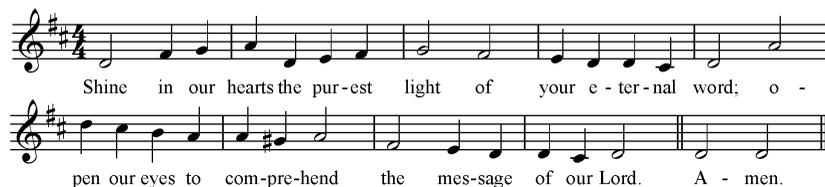
Rejoice in the Lord Always

Henry Purcell

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice. Let your softness be known unto all: the Lord is e'en at hand. Be careful for nothing: but in all prayer and supplication, let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen.

* * *

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

Exodus 32:1-14

(p. 77)

EPISTLE

Philippians 4:1-9

(p. 195)

NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 22:1-14

(p. 24)

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

Reflections on Ghost Ranch

Rev. Jesse Garner

"Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

Philippians 4:8

***HYMN 553**

For the Fruit of All Creation

East Acklam

***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

DEDICATION OF THE COLUMBARIUM

Mr. William Leonard

OFFERTORY

Teach Me, O Lord

William Byrd

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes, and I shall keep it unto the end. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall keep it with my whole heart. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein is my desire. Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness. O turn away mine eyes, lest they behold vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way. O stablish thy word in thy servant, that I may fear thee. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (*Psalm 119:33-38, Gloria Patri*)

***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.

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 423

Jesus Shall Reign

Duke Street

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Paeon

Herbert Howells

* * *

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

Sunday school for children (ages 5 and up) is held on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in the Cochran Room. A Bible study of each Sunday's lectionary texts is led by Rev. Jesse Garner in the MacColl Room at 9:45 a.m.

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 Larry Slagle. The Greeter is Michael Smith, and the ushers are Andrea Bowman, Captain, Philip Amoa, Reginald Amoa, Pamela Bierce, and Jennifer Gay.

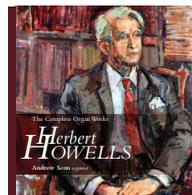
The chancel flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and with appreciation, joy and gratitude for all the blessings that we receive every day, by Andrea Bowman.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Monday, October 16	Worship Committee	6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 17	Wise Retirees	9:30 a.m.
Thursday, October 19	Annual Giving Team	6:30 p.m.

HOWELLS ORGAN CONCERT

Join us for an organ concert **today at 4 p.m.** celebrating the 125th anniversary of Herbert Howells. The concert will also celebrate the long-awaited release of Andrew Senn's recording of Volume One of the complete organ works of Howells, with Volume Two due out in February. Copies of the CD will be sold at the reception following the concert.



READING BUDDIES (POSTPONED)

Reading Buddies pairs adult volunteers with young students for an hour of reading together each week. Reading Buddies is held on Mondays at 10 a.m. at First Church; however, due to an issue with the the school district, **Reading Buddies will NOT be held tomorrow, October 16.** The starting date will be announced. For information or to volunteer, contact Jeannie Boehner at 267-324-5535 (jeannie.boehner@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 our next new member class next **Saturday, October 21st**, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., with lunch included. The class will cover the distinguished history of our church, what membership means, and how to get involved. If you'd like to attend, please contact Rev. Jesse (jesse.garner@fpcphila.org) or the church office (office@fpcphila.org).

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

This Wednesday, October 18th, at 7:30 p.m. we will be gathering at First Church (enter on the 21st St. side) to continue our discussion based fellowship. For more information on the Young Adult Group contact Annie LeCluyse (youngadults@fpcphila.org), and join the Young Adult fellowship group on Facebook.

REFORMATION STUDY

Our study of the Reformation continues on Tuesday evenings in October. This week, we will focus on a less well-known aspect of the movement, the so-called "radical—or Anabaptist—Reformation." Future weeks will focus on John Calvin and the Reformed tradition (October 24),

(continued)

and on October 31—the 500th anniversary of Luther’s posting of the 95 Theses—we will conclude the study looking at the Catholic reformation. Ken Ross and Jesse Garner will lead our discussions which will meet at 6:30 pm each Tuesday.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need 3-4 volunteers for a Habitat workday on Saturday, November 4. If you’re interested in helping out, or have questions, please speak with Rev. Jesse Garner (jesse@fpcphila.org).

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 September. We encourage you to help us keep Moving First Forward.



Attendance: Weekly average September 2017 (9 a.m. & 11 a.m.)	168
Giving: Year-to-date total through September 2017	\$256,596
Projected (budgeted) year-to-date total	\$264,816

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*

Ms. Suzanne Riemann, *Church Administrator*

The Rev. Jerry K. Foote, *Director of Congregational Care*

The Reverend Barbara A. Chaapel

The Reverend Ken Ross

The Reverend Herbert D. Valentine

Parish Associates

Mrs. Patti Sassoli, *Director of Communications*

Ms. Annie LeCluyse, *Young Adult Leader*