

The Service for the Lord's Day

November 25, 2018

11:00 a.m.

“The whole point of the kingdom of God is Jesus has come to bear witness to the true truth, which is nonviolent. When God wants to take charge of the world, he doesn't send in the tanks. He sends in the poor and the meek.”

N. T. Wright



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 members and guests alike enter to worship with the same profound welcome.

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 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, 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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Annie LeCluyse

Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high, who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?

Psalm 113:5

*HYMN 151

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Diademata

*SENTENCES

The LORD raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people.

God gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children.

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!

Psalm 113:6-9

*PRAYER OF ADORATION



WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Baron Mullis

* * *

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all time and space, we may declare readily that Christ is king, but do we know what that declaration means? Are we prepared to place our trust wholly in Jesus Christ? Will we order our lives according to his teaching? Would we give up lesser idols that offer us illusions of security? How can we trust what we do not see, O Lord? Yet, Christ is king. Our lips make this affirmation perhaps hesitantly, but it is the proclamation we have to make. So, strengthen us to affirm this. Forgive us when we cannot trust. Forgive us when we do not live according to Christ's teaching. And in forgiving us again, renew us, offer us hope and guide us to follow our king, Jesus the Christ, in whom we have placed our trust, and in whose name we continue our prayers in the silence of our hearts...

**Those who are able may stand.*

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.

The musical score is written for organ and voice. It consists of two staves. The first staff is for the organ, starting with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a whole rest followed by a series of quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5. The second staff is for the voice, also in treble clef, Bb key signature, and 4/4 time. It begins with a whole rest followed by quarter notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5. The lyrics are: "Lord, have mer - cy up - on us." followed by "Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us." Dynamics include *Organ mp* and *mf*.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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

ANTHEM

He is King of Kings

Spiritual

(Text may be followed in hymn 153)

* * *

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.

The musical score is written for voice and organ. It consists of two staves. The first staff is for the voice, starting with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (D major), and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a whole rest followed by quarter notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The second staff is for the organ, also in treble clef, D major key signature, and 4/4 time. It begins with a whole rest followed by quarter notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The lyrics are: "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

2 Samuel 23:1-7

(p. 295)

EPISTLE

Revelation 1:4b-8

(p. 241)

GOSPEL

John 18:33-40

(p. 111)

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

Christ the King

Dr. Mullis

Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king.

For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth.

Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

John 18:37

***HYMN 339**

Be Thou My Vision

Slane

***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

Christ Whose Glory

Frederick Candlyn

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise, triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near; day-star, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn, unaccompanied by Thee;
Joyless is the day's return till Thy mercy's beams I see;
Till they inward light impart, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, Radiancy divine, scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display, shining to the perfect day. Amen.

***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 INTERCESSION

THE 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 144

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

Hyfrodol

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Nun Danket alle Gott

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

* * *

We thank the Parish Choir for leading music this morning. Anyone interested in singing with the Parish Choir may contact Andrew Senn in the church office.

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

A Sunday School class for young children and their families is held at 10 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 liturgist today is Annie LeCluyse. The Greeter is William Swoope, and the ushers are Anten Kraemer (Captain), Fred Barfoot, Jeannie Boehner, Miles Davis, and Stella Tsai.

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of the Telfers and Somervilles who walked before them by the Roberts and Somerville family. "And from the ground there blossoms red, life that shall endless be."

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Monday, November 26

Missions Committee

6:30 p.m.

ADVENT EVENTS

Every Sunday in Advent there are activities following the Celebration! service for all ages. Come at 10 a.m. to join in the fun with our youngest members. Next week we'll be making Advent wreaths in Old Buttonwood Hall. Please see the bulletin insert for the entire list of events happening during Advent.

TWENTIES & THIRTIES GROUP (FORMERLY YOUNG ADULTS)

This Wednesday, November 27th, at 7:30 p.m., we will gather at First Church for "friendsgiving": food (potluck style), fellowship and fun. Next Sunday, December 2nd, after the 11 o'clock service, join us for our monthly brunch at the Irish Pub. For more information on the Twenties & Thirties (T&T) Group contact Annie LeCluyse (youngadults@fpcphila.org), and join the Twenties & Thirties fellowship group on Facebook.

WOMEN OF WIT & WISDOM

Please join us on Tuesday, November 27th, at 1 p.m. in the MacColl Room, to write welcome and Christmas greetings to those in our congregation who are recent visitors and new members. They are indeed members of our First Church Family. There's no need to RSVP; just come! This will also be a time of Christian Sister fellowship. Coffee and tea will be provided. Please note there will be no December event. A joyful and blessed Holy Season to all!

THE GIVING TREE

The Twenties & Thirties Group has set up a "Giving Tree," in Old Buttonwood Hall in support of Valley Youth House. Select an ornament from the tree and purchase the item listed on the ornament; place new, unwrapped items with the ornament attached under the tree on or before Sunday, December 16. Contributions toward the purchase of gifts can be made by sending checks (payable to First Presbyterian Church) to the church office with "T&T Giving Tree" in the memo line. Contact Annie LeCluyse (youngadults@fpcphila.org) for information.

GROUP SPIRITUAL DIRECTION IN ADVENT

On the four Sundays in Advent (December 2, 9, 16, and 23) the Rev. Barbara Chaapel will lead an experience of group spiritual direction from 9:45 to 10:45 in the Whitefield Room. This is an opportunity both to prepare for worship and to prepare for the gift of Christ's coming. Through

(continued)

silence, music, prayer, meditation, and shared reflection, we will attend to the Spirit of God present in our lives and in our gathered community during Advent. Whether you have been part of this group before, or want to experience it for the first time, you are warmly welcome. If you have questions, contact Barbara Chaapel (barbara.chaapel@fpcphila.org).

MOVING FIRST FORWARD - GROWING IN GRATITUDE

Pledge update (as of November 20): we have received 88 pledges for a total of \$352,720 for 2019 Annual Giving. If you have not yet submitted your pledge for 2019, there's still time! Please complete a pledge card, available in the pews or in the church office. You can also pledge online at www.fpcphila.org/make-a-pledge.

GIVING TUESDAY

On the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will once again participate in a celebration of giving that is observed around the globe. #GivingTuesday, which this year falls on Nov. 27, is described by its organizers as “a global day of giving that harnesses the collective power of individuals, communities and organizations to encourage philanthropy and to celebrate generosity worldwide.” Within the PC(USA), opportunities to make a #GivingTuesday gift will range from the national level to congregations. A Presbyterian #GivingTuesday webpage (www.presbyterian-givingtuesday.org) offers several giving options for Presbyterian Mission Agency ministries and other PC(USA) causes.

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 Rev. Jerry K. Foote, *Minister for Congregational Care*

The Rev. Sarah Weisiger, *Minister for Membership Development*

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