

# The Service for the Lord's Day

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September 29, 2019

11:00 a.m.

“I believe that there is one story in the world, and only one. . . . Humans are caught—in their lives, in their thoughts, in their hungers and ambitions, in their avarice and cruelty, and in their kindness and generosity too—in a net of good and evil. . . . There is no other story. A man, after he has brushed off the dust and chips of his life, will have left only the hard, clean questions: Was it good or was it evil? Have I done well—or ill?”

—John Steinbeck,  
*East of Eden*



*The* **FIRST**  
PRESBYTERIAN  
**CHURCH**  
*in* PHILADELPHIA

*est. 1698*

## WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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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*

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### 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](mailto: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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> Street from Chestnut to Locust Streets and on the north side of Locust from 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>. 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](https://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](http://www.fpcphila.org)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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PRELUDE

Improvisation

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Mullis

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

*Psalm 146:1-2*

\*HYMN 488

The God of Abraham Praise

Leoni

\*SENTENCES

Rev. LeCluyse

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

**the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

The LORD watches over the strangers; The LORD upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked God brings to ruin.

**The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!**

*Psalm 146:5-10*

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION



\* \* \*

WELCOME

*\*Those who are able may stand.*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you have called us and we confess that sometimes we would rather not consider all that means. Where you have been clear that you want our whole selves, we think it's fine if we hold back, gambling that you might be satisfied with a half-measure instead. Where you have told us what is required of us, we have substituted easy piety. So forgive us when we cling to our own ideas about what your kingdom looks like. Open our minds to your vision for us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray all these things, and continue our prayers now...

## KYRIE

Andrew Senn

*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

### Behold, O God, Our Defender

Noel Rawsthorne

Behold, O God, our defender, and look upon the face of thine anointed.  
For one day in thy courts is better than a thousand.

\* \* \*

## 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.

<b>OLD TESTAMENT</b>	Amos 6:1a, 4-7	(p. 839)
<b>EPISTLE</b>	1 Timothy 6:6-19	(p. 207)
<b>GOSPEL</b>	Luke 16:19-31	(p. 78)

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 Kingdom and the Chasm**

Dr. Mullis

*Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.*

*Luke 16:26*

**\*HYMN 261**

**God of Compassion**

*O Quanta Qualia*

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

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.

**OFFERTORY**

**A Song of Thanksgiving**

Malcolm Archer

Let us with a gladsome mind  
 Praise the Lord, for he is kind;  
 For his mercies ay endure,  
 Ever faithful, ever sure.

Let us blaze his name abroad,  
 For of gods he is the Lord,  
 For his mercies ay endure,  
 Ever faithful, ever sure.

He the warm and golden sun  
 Causes in its course to run,  
 And the moon to shine at night,  
 'mid her starry sisters bright.

All things living he doth feed,  
 his full hand supplies their need.  
 For his mercies ay endure,  
 Ever faithful, ever sure.

**\*PRESENTATION & DOXOLOGY**

*Old Hundredth*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. 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 420**

**God of Grace and God of Glory**

*Cwm Rhondda*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**Trumpet Tune in A**

David Johnson

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We thank the Parish Choir for leading the music in this morning's worship. Anyone interested in singing with the parish choir should contact Andrew Senn in the church office.

The liturgist this morning is the Rev. Megan LeCluyse. The greeter is Dave Huting, and the ushers are Jeannie Boehner (Captain), Miles Davis, Edna Dick, Jon Rogers, and Jim Schreyer.

The chancel flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of my grandparents Margaret & Joseph Parell, by Jamie Parell and Steve Penning.

### MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Thursday, October 3	Trustees Meeting	6:30 p.m.
	Deacons Meeting	6:45 p.m.

### FPCQ BRUNCH—TODAY!

fpcQ will be gathering for brunch today, September 29<sup>th</sup>, following the 11 a.m. worship service. We will gather in Old Buttonwood Hall and proceed together to our brunch destination.

### TWENTIES & THIRTIES (T&T) GROUP

This Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:30 p.m. we will gather at First Church for fellowship and discussion. Next Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, join us for our monthly brunch after the 11 a.m. worship service. For more information on the T&T Group, contact Annie LeCluyse ([youngadults@fpcphila.org](mailto:youngadults@fpcphila.org)), and join the Twenties & Thirties fellowship group on Facebook.

### 2019 CONSTITUTION SEMINAR

Continuing this Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, Will Harris leads our annual Constitution Seminar, entitled “Three Ways of Thinking — Biblical and Constitutional: Or How Does Creation Make Us Creative?” The series is presented in the MacColl Room on the next 2 Wednesdays (October 2, October 9) from 6:30-8 p.m., concluding on Saturday, October 12 from 10 a.m.-noon. While they build on each other, each session stands alone, so please join us!

### ADULT CE - LECTIO DIVINA

Beginning next Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, from 9:45 - 10:45 a.m., Barbara Chaapel will lead an adult education session of *lectio divina* (“divine reading”) using the lectionary texts for each Sunday. We will read the biblical text together and be led in contemplative reflection and sharing, listening for God’s Word in our lives with what the Benedictines call “the ears of the heart.” We invite anyone who wants to experience an old, yet new, approach to the Bible to join us. The series will continue each Sunday through November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### FIRST@FIVE CHORAL EVENSONG

Next Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, at 5 p.m., is the first of the choral evensong services being offered this fall on the first Sunday of each month. Join us in reflective service of glorious music and liturgy, and stay after the service to share in a light supper.

### FOOD DRIVE

From October 6<sup>th</sup> through November 3<sup>rd</sup>, First Church is sponsoring a food drive for Zia’s food

(continued)

bank. More information is available on the insert in today's bulletin.

## **BELONGING • BELIEVING • BECOMING - 2019 FALL PROGRAM GUIDE**

Be sure to get your copy of our new Fall Program Guide, available in the narthex and in the church office. The guide is also available on our website ([fpcphila.org](http://fpcphila.org)). The program guide contains an overview of everything that's going on at First Church through the end of the year.

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## **SUNDAYS @ FIRST**

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### **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](mailto: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.

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## **THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA**

201 South 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
215-567-0532  
[www.fpcphila.org](http://www.fpcphila.org)

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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*





# *First@Five*

on the first Sunday of each month

## Choral Evensong

Sunday, October 6 @ 5 pm

As darkness falls to end the day, this reflective worship experience creates a sense of space and mystery where one feels the presence of God.

Join us in this 500-year-old tradition of glorious music and liturgy.

*Stay after the service to share in a light supper.*

The Chancel Choir of First Presbyterian Church

Mr. Andrew Senn, Director of Music

Dr. Baron Mullis, Pastor

[www.fpcphila.org](http://www.fpcphila.org)



Zia was created in 2015 to address food insecurity, a major issue for many Philadelphians, especially children. First Church is partnering with Zia for its Breakfast in the Classroom initiative at Laura W. Waring Elementary (18<sup>th</sup> & Green Sts.), where 100% of the students live at or below poverty level.

Please join us at 9:45 on October 20<sup>th</sup> to learn more about Zia's efforts (and many flexible volunteer opportunities). More information is available at [www.ziafood.org](http://www.ziafood.org).

Contact Paula Gross ([paulajgross@gmail.com](mailto:paulajgross@gmail.com)) for information on volunteering.

## **ZIA FOOD DRIVE**

### **October 6<sup>th</sup> - November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

First Church is sponsoring a food drive for Zia's food bank operated at Laura W. Waring Elementary School. This food bank provides the ingredients for 8-10 meals a month for almost 30 member families. The following non-perishable items can be dropped off in Old Buttonwood Hall and will be added to fresh food that Zia secures for the Food Bank, to provide complete balanced meals.

Skippy peanut butter  
Welch's grape jelly  
Swanson chicken or beef broth  
Ken's Italian dressing

Hellmann's Mayonnaise  
Parmalat Milk  
Spices (cinnamon, oregano, garlic powder, chili powder, etc.)