

The Service for the Lord's Day

February 4, 2018

11:00 a.m.

When a nation has just emerged from the throes of a great civil warfare, where section was arrayed against section, and class against class, two things are to be done: First, the work of reconstruction is to be effected; Secondly, a willingness for the proper acceptance of the issue's decision is to be created.

L. Q. C. Lamar



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 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 **Adagio (from Chorale No. 3)** Cesar Franck

CANTICLE George Thalben-Ball

The Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Megan LeCluyse

Youths will faint and grow weary, even the young will stumble and fall;
but those who wait for the LORD shall gain new strength...

*HYMN 371 **Lift High the Cross** *Crucifer*

*SENTENCES

Do you not know? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

Isaiah 40

*PRAYER OF ADORATION



* * *

WELCOME Rev. Jesse Garner

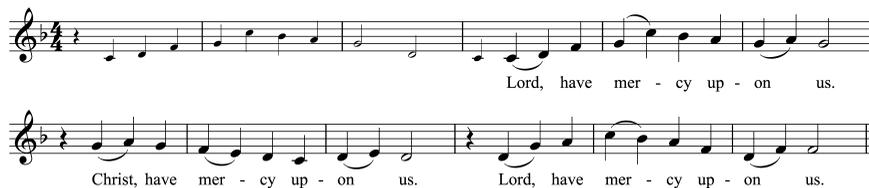
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we humbly confess our many failings. We have lived for ourselves, and not for you. We have turned away from our neighbors, and refused to share their burdens. We have closed our eyes to the pain and suffering around us, and have done little to help others. In your great mercy, forgive our sins and free us from our selfishness, that we may walk in the ways of Christ Jesus our Lord. Hear now the prayers 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

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light Kathleen Thomerson

I want to walk as a child of the Light, I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world, the Star of my life is Jesus.

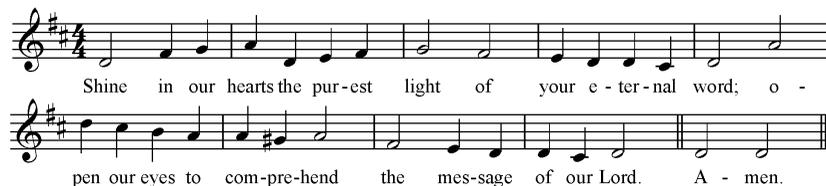
In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The lamb is the Light of the city of God. Shine in my heart Lord Jesus.

I want to see the Brightness of God, I want to look at Jesus. Clear Son of righteousness shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ, I want to be with Jesus. When we have run, with patience, the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus

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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

Isaiah 40:21-31

(p. 654)

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

(p. 168)

NEW TESTAMENT

Mark 1:29-39

(p. 35)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GLORIA**

Regent Square

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

New Strength for a New Day

Rev. Jesse Garner

*Youths will faint and grow weary, even the young will stumble and fall;
but those who wait for the LORD shall gain new strength...
Isaiah 40:30-31a*

***HYMN 424**

O Jesus Christ, My Grateful Hymns

Charterhouse

***CONFESSION OF FAITH**

Rev. Megan LeCluyse

We confess that we believe in and belong
to the one true and living God,
who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Love before all love.

We believe in God the Father, sovereign and holy,
Creator and nurturer of all, Father of Jesus Christ,
sender of the Holy Spirit, and Judge of all the earth.

We believe in God the Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior,
truly human and truly divine, who lived among us full of grace and truth.
For our sin he was crucified, and by the power of God was raised from death,
forgiving us, setting us free and bringing to birth God's new creation.
Now ascended, he calls us to repentance and faith
and restores us to God and to one another.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, the giver of life at work in all creation,
who inspired the Scriptures and makes Christ known,
who transforms hearts and minds and gathers us into the community of Christ,
empowering the Church in worship and in mission.

As God's people, we look forward in hope and joy
to the return of Christ, to the new heaven and earth,
where evil and death will be no more, justice and peace will flourish,
and we shall forever delight in the glory of God.

OFFERTORY**There is a Balm in Gilead**

William Dawson

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul.

Some times I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus, and say He died for all.

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

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 (Insert)*O Zion, Haste***Tidings****BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE****Rondeau**

Jean-Joseph Mouret

* * *

The liturgist today is Rev. Megan LeCluyse. The Greeter is Shellie Unger, and the ushers are Miles Davis, Captain, Joshua Banks, Judy Callan, Jennifer Gay, and Stella Tsai.

The chancel flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jane Hellstrom Michini, by her children, Fred, Cathy, Susan, and Patti.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Monday, February 5	Congregational Care Team	11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, February 6	PNC Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Thursday, February 8	Session Meeting	6:30 p.m.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Join us TODAY for Young Adult First Sunday Brunch after the 11 o'clock service. Meet in Old Buttonwood Hall after worship and we'll walk to the Irish Pub together to enjoy good food and fellowship. This Wednesday, February 7th, at 7:30 p.m. we will gather at First Church (enter on the 21st Street side) for discussion-based fellowship. Saturday, February 10th we're going Ice Skating at Penn's Landing at 7:00 p.m. For more information on the Young Adult Group or to RSVP for Ice Skating contact Annie LeCluyse (youngadults@fpcphila.org), and join the Young Adult fellowship group on Facebook.

WOMEN OF WIT & WISDOM

Women of Wit and Wisdom will enjoy a time of sharing on Wednesday, February 7th, at 2 p.m., in the MacColl Room. The topic is FOOD! Bring your favorite recipes, choice restaurants, and thoughts on food for the body and food for the soul. Don't miss this fun event!

SHROVE SUNDAY PANCAKE BRUNCH

Join us after the Celebration! service next Sunday, February 11th for a "Shrove Sunday" Pancake Brunch, as we mark the last Sunday before Lent with a new take on an old tradition. All are welcome! We'll start around 9:45 a.m.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the congregation will be held next Sunday, February 11th, in Old Buttonwood Hall at noon, following the 11 a.m. worship service. A light lunch will be served. The congregation will receive the 2017 Annual Report and hear and act on the recommendations of the Nominating Committee to elect officers and members of the church's Nominating Committee for 2018. All members are urged to attend this important meeting.

ENTRY INTO LENT - ASH WEDNESDAY

On Ash Wednesday, February 14, all are invited to a special time of silence, guided reflection, a simple meal, and worship. It will begin at 5 p.m. in the sanctuary with guided reflection and meditation, followed by a simple meal in Old Buttonwood Hall at 6:15. Choral Evensong service with imposition of ashes begins at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.

(continued)

LET'S MAKE CASSEROLES!

The Missions committee is looking for volunteers for our quarterly casserole blitz to make casseroles to feed those in need through the University City Hospitality Coalition. Join us in the First Church kitchen between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 17th (enter through the 21st Street door). We have a lot of fun, enjoying coffee, doughnuts and fellowship—and leave knowing we've accomplished something good for our community. If interested, please contact Beverly Cowart at missions@fpcphila.org or 215-382-4315.

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 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 Kenneth J. Ross

The Reverend Herbert D. Valentine

Parish Associates

Mrs. Patti Sassoli, *Director of Communications*

Ms. Annie LeCluyse, *Young Adult Leader*