

# The Service for the Lord's Day

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First Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2017

11:00 a.m.

These special holidays give rise to various liturgical calendars that suggest we should mark our days not only with the cycles of the moon and seasons, but also with occasions to tell our children the stories of our faith community's past so that this past will have a future, and so that our ancient way and its practices will be rediscovered and renewed every year.

Brian D. McLaren

*Finding Our Way Again: The Return of the Ancient Practices*



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

*est. 1698*

## WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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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*

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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** for ages 7-12 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 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](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** **O Man, Bewail Thy Sins** J.S. Bach

**CANTICLE** **The Lent Prose, Vs. 1** Plainsong

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have sinned against thee. To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory: lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings: listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Rev. Megan LeCluyse

You are a hiding place for me;  
you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

*Psalm 32:7*

**\*HYMN 87** **The Glory of These Forty Days** *Erhalt uns, Herr*

**\*SENTENCES** Rev. Drew Harrison

People of God, on this wilderness journey, what will you eat?  
**The word of the Lord is our daily bread.**  
People of God, in this time of temptation, how will you live?  
**Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.**  
People of God, at this kingdom crossroad, whom will you serve?  
**We worship the Lord our God alone.**

**\*PRAYER OF ADORATION**



**WELCOME** Rev. Megan LeCluyse

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Lord God, you know the ways of good and evil. You know the things that tempt us and the things that give us life. You know our nakedness, and you know our sin. We confess that we have disobeyed your word, denying your providence and care and relying on our own cleverness. Have mercy on us, we pray: cover us with your grace, feed us with the bread of life, and re-create us in your image; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Hear now our silent prayers.

*\*Those who are able may stand.*

# KYRIE

Richard Webster



Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have  
mer - cy on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -  
mor - tal One, have mer - cy on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and  
Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy on us.

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## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS AND PRAYER FOR GRACE

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

### ANTHEM

### Steal Away

arr. Dale Adelman

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus. Steal away, steal away home. I ain't got long to stay here. My Lord, he calls me, he calls me by the thunder, the trumpet sounds within my soul: I ain't got long to stay here. Oh green trees a-bending, poor sinner stands a'trembling, the trumpet sounds within my soul: I ain't got long to stay here.

## 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 2:15-17, 3:1-7

(p. 2)

### EPISTLE

Romans 5:12-19

(p. 151)

### GOSPEL

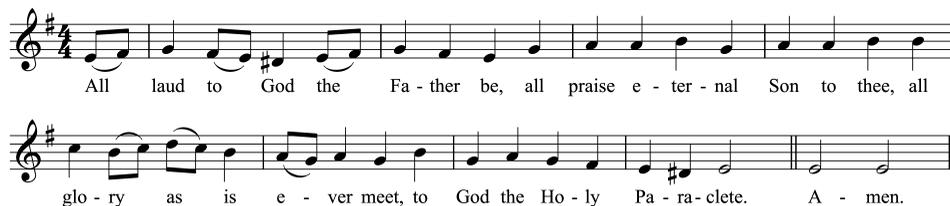
Matthew 4:1-11

(p. 3)

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

**\*GLORIA**

*Erhalt uns, Herr*



All laud to God the Fa - ther be, all praise e - ter - nal Son to thee, all  
glo - ry as is e - ver meet, to God the Ho - ly Pa - ra - clete. A - men.

**SERMON**

**Drawing Close in the Wilderness**

Rev. Megan LeCluyse

*“One does not live by bread alone”*

*Matthew 4:4*

**\*HYMN 81**

**Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days**

*St. Flavian*

**\*APOSTLES CREED**

Rev. Drew Harrison

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**

***Civitas Sancti Tui***

William Byrd

*Civitas sancti tui facta est deserta.  
Sion deserta facta est,  
Jerusalem desolata est.*

Your holy city has become a wilderness.  
Zion has become a wilderness,  
Jerusalem has been made desolate.

## \*PRESENTATION & DOXOLOGY

*Old Hundredh*

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

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 Love, How Deep**

*Deus Tuorum Militum*

## \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort*

J.S. Bach

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## SUNDAYS @ FIRST

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### 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

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 Rev. Drew Harrison. The Greeter is Larry Slagle, and the ushers are Miles Davis, Captain, Pam Bierce, Jeannie Boehner, Anten Kraemer, Joao Magalhaes, and Atticus Tsai-McCarthy.

### MEETINGS THIS WEEK:

Monday, March 6	Congregational Care Team	11:00 a.m.
Thursday, March 9	Session	6:30 p.m.

### YOUNG ADULT GROUP

The Young Adults will go for First Sunday Brunch today after the 11 o'clock service. We'll meet in Old Buttonwood Hall during fellowship and walk together to the Irish Pub. Join us for food, fellowship, and good conversation. In March the Young Adults will take a break from our regular Wednesday gatherings to take part in Lenten Wednesdays dinner and study @ 6:30 p.m. For more information on the Young Adult Group contact Annie LeCluyse ([youngadults@fpcphila.org](mailto:youngadults@fpcphila.org)), and join the Young Adult fellowship group on Facebook.

### LENTEN WEDNESDAYS

Our Lenten Wednesday programs will begin on March 8 with a simple supper in Old Buttonwood Hall at 6:30 p.m., followed by a period of study beginning at 7:15. The evening will conclude with a brief service of evening prayers at 8 p.m. On-street parking will be available (with placard).

### PERSPECTIVES ON SPIRITUAL TRANSITIONS

Our Adult Education series during Lent continues next Sunday, March 12, with the Rev. David Cassie discussing the challenges and rewards of growing older. Join us in the MacColl Room at 9:45 a.m.

### GROUP SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Group Spiritual Direction will meet next Sunday, March 12, at 9:45 a.m. in the Whitefield Room (lower level). Spiritual Direction is the ancient practice of the church when Christians devoted time to discerning God's presence in their lives. Contact Barbara Chaapel ([barbara.chaapel@fpcphila.org](mailto:barbara.chaapel@fpcphila.org)) to learn more.

### ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the congregation of First Church will be held **next Sunday, March 12**, at 12:30 p.m. in Old Buttonwood Hall. This is an extremely important meeting with major decisions to be made. In addition to receiving several reports, and electing both officers for the Session, Deacons, Trustees and members of the Church Nominating Committee, we will also elect the members of the Pastor Nominating Committee that will search for the next pastor of this church. Please make every effort to attend. A light lunch will be served.

## WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

Women's Bible study meets on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. at the church. A Community Bible study led by Delores Brisbon meets on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. at the Old City Presbyterian Apartments (25 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street). Men's Bible study meets on Saturday mornings at 9 a.m. at the café at DiBruno's (1730 Chestnut Street). All are welcome to participate. For information contact Drew Harrison (drew.harrison@fpcphila.org).

## THE SANCTUARY DURING LENT

The season of Lent is a time of penance and reflection, a time when we look inward and prepare ourselves to accompany Jesus to the cross. The Worship Committee has prepared the sanctuary to help focus our Lenten journey. The purple cloth beneath the cross and on the pulpit and lectern signifies the color of mourning, and of royalty as we await a new kind of king. The grapevine wreath on the communion table suggests Jesus' crown of thorns. In each of the niches under the stained glass windows are bare branches, stones, and purple cloth to convey the wilderness where John the Baptist and Jesus journeyed.

The candles on the Communion table and in the niches remind us that we never journey without the light of Christ. On each successive Sunday in Lent, a pair of candles in the niches, beginning in the rear of the church, will remain unlit as the sanctuary, and our journey, darkens toward the cross. We await the renewed light of Easter's dawn.

We invite worshipers to spend a moment in silent reflection at the niches or the table 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 Jesse Garner, *Pastor*

The Reverend Megan LeCluyse, *Celebration Team Leader*

The Reverend Drew Harrison, *Membership and Congregational Care Director*

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, *Interim Church Administrator*

Mrs. Patti Sassoli, *Director of Communications*

Ms. Annie LeCluyse, *Young Adult Leader*