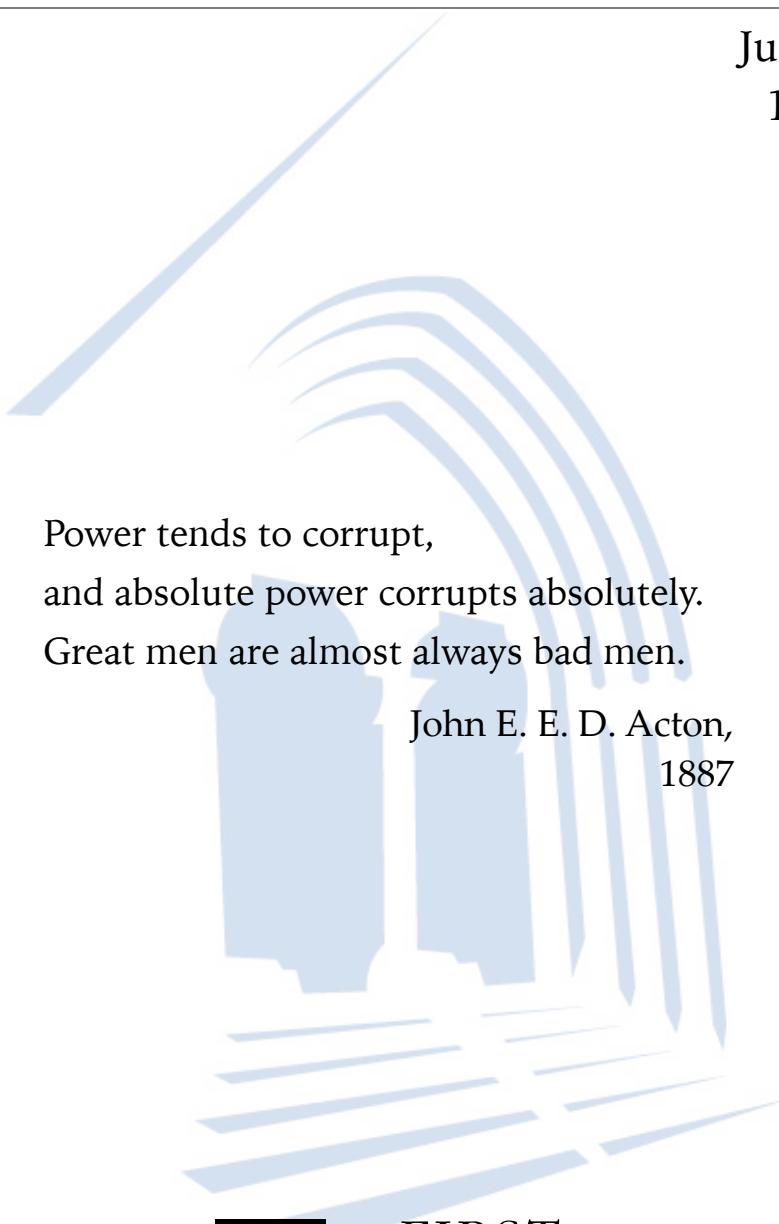


The Service for the Lord's Day

July 8, 2018
11:00 a.m.



Power tends to corrupt,
and absolute power corrupts absolutely.
Great men are almost always bad men.

John E. E. D. Acton,
1887



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, 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

Arioso

Craig Phillips

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Megan LeCluyse

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*HYMN 488

The God of Abraham Praise

Leoni

*SENTENCES

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God.

Your name, O God, like your praise,
reaches to the ends of the earth.

Let Zion be glad, and let the nations rejoice,
that this is God, our God forever and ever.

Psalm 48

*PRAYER OF ADORATION



* * *

WELCOME

Rev. Jesse Garner

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not responded. We turn away from neighbors in need, caught up in our own concerns. We silently condone the evil, prejudice, and injustice that is around us. God of grace, help us to admit our sinful ways, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and walk in paths of righteousness for the sake of Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Hear now the confessions we offer in the silence of our hearts...

**Those who are able may stand.*

KYRIE

Healey Willan

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!

* * *

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

2 Samuel 5:1-10

(p. 276)

EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

(p. 181)

GOSPEL

Mark 6:1-13

(p. 39)

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

Paul's Problem

Rev. Jesse Garner

*Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities...
for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.*
2 Corinthians 12:10

*HYMN 434

Today We All Are Called

Kingsfold

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Isabelle Czekanski,
child of Brian & Amy Czekanski

COVENANT WITH THE CONGREGATION

Do we, as members of the Church of Jesus Christ promise to support Isabelle with our love and our prayers that she might grow to know and follow Christ, and become a faithful member of his Church?

We do.

**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

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

BAPTISM

**AARONIC BLESSING (inside back cover of hymnal)*

OFFERTORY

Praeludium in D

Dietrich Buxtehude

*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

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 God, Our Faithful God

Meiningen

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune

Craig Phillips

* * *

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 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 11 o'clock 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JULY 8, 2018

The liturgist today is the Rev. Megan LeCluyse. The Greeters are Kay & Marvin Keenze, and the ushers are Anten Kraemer (Captain), Reginald Amoa, Joshua Banks, Fred Barfoot, and Dave Nave.

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Reid B. Reames by Allan Schimmel.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Monday, July 9

Missions Committee

6:30 p.m.

FIRST CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY

If you have not submitted a photo for the new , time is running out! We will take photos today after worship in Old Buttonwood Hall. See Patti Sassoli or Sarah Weisiger. If you'd like to send a photo, please email digital photo files (jpg/jpeg) to communications@fpccphila.org.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

This Wednesday, July 11th, at 7:30 p.m., we will gather at First Church (enter on the 21st Street side) to listen to a podcast, and discuss it after. For more information on the Young Adult Group contact Annie LeCluyse (youngadults@fpcphila.org), and join the Young Adult fellowship group on Facebook.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION IN JULY

Barbara Chaapel will lead group spiritual direction on the five Sundays in July (1, 8, 15, 22, 29) at 9:45 a.m. in the Whitefield Room, offering the opportunity to experience the practice of our Christian life together in silence, prayer, reflection, and sharing. All are welcome, whether you have attended the group in the past or want to experience a new practice of our faith.

MOVING FIRST FORWARD UPDATE

A gift to First Church helps to support a broad range of ministries 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 May 2018:



Average weekly attendance May 2018 (9 a.m. & 11 a.m.)	154
Budgeted giving through May	\$157,794
Total giving through May	\$175,432

(continued)

BIBLE STUDIES

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets weekly on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. at the church. For information contact Jerry Foote (jerry.foote@fpcphila.org).

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets the first Saturday of the every month at 9 a.m. at DiBruno Brothers, 1730 Chestnut Street. They will meet next on July 7. For information contact Mac McLarin (mac.mclarin@fpcphila.org).

A COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY, led by Delores Brisbon, meets on Wednesday mornings at the Old City Presbyterian Apartments (25 N. 4th Street). For information contact Delores Brisbon (deloresbrisbon2201@comcast.net).



PLANNED GIVING
Planting Seeds for the Future

***Become a member
of the
Buttonwood Circle!***

www.fpcphila.org/planned-giving/

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 Rev. Sarah Weisiger, *Director of 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