

First Presbyterian Church

Third Sunday After Epiphany January 21, 10:00 AM

GATHERING

Handbell Chimes – The ringing of the chimes invites you to a time of Rest... Renewal... Hope

Prelude Improvisation on HAMILTON - Lucas Brown Lucas Brown,

organ

*Opening Sentences (Psalm 139, selected verses)

Silence your scattered thoughts and lay down your distractions. God calls us here to worship.

All: We are here to worship.

One: Drop your nets and leave your boats. God is with us. Jesus calls us.

All: We are here to worship. Let us worship God together.

*Hymn #726 Glory to God Hymnal

726 Will You Come and Follow Me



*Invitation to Experience God's Grace

One: Jesus calls to us: change your hearts and change your lives! Repent, and believe the good news. The mercy and forgiveness we have already received enables us to be honest about the places in our lives in need of transformation. Let us confess our sin together.

*Laying Down Our Burdens

All: God of mercy, we confess that we have gotten comfortable in our categories: haves and have-nots, makers and takers, bigots and bystanders, self-starters and subordinates, law-abiders and illegals, the perpetrators and the innocent. We confess that we are comfortable living under systems of injustice and exploitation. We confess our discomfort in speaking truths that unmask idolatries. Make us ready to follow Jesus, ready to repent, and eager to change our hearts and lives. Call to us again, and show us your mercy. Let us hear your good news again. Amen.

*Silent Prayer

*Declaration of Forgiveness

One: God desires relationship with us, and reconciliation for all of creation. Jesus comes bearing the good news of forgiveness and transformation. Receive the good news of God's grace: We are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

*We Celebrate God's Forgiveness

Glo-ry to God in the Hi - gh est, and peace to God's peo-ple on Earth. Glo-ry to God in the Hi - gh est, and peace to God's peo-ple on Earth!

Glory to God

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Time with the Children

Celebrating the Life of the Church

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

All: God who creates us and calls to us, by the power of your Holy Spirit, enable us to hear your Word, and embolden us to respond faithfully as we seek to follow Jesus Christ. Amen.

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:14-20

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." ¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea – for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

One: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Drop Everything" Rev. Marvin Lindsay

Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons

Sentences of Scripture Statement on Ordination and Installation Affirmation of Faith (*The Apostles' Creed*)

One: Do you believe in God the Father almighty?

ALL: I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

ALL: 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.

One: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

ALL: 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.

Constitutional Questions Prayer of Ordination Declaration, Charge, and Welcome

GIVE THANKS

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.

Practicing Abundant Generosity



https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri11244/give/now

Offertory: "O Love" -Elaine Hagenberg, Chancel Choir

- * Doxology Hymn #592 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"
- * Prayer of Dedication

LEAVE TO SERVE

*Hymn #751, Glory to God Hymnal

Choir will sing verse one and the choir and congregation will sing verses two through six

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

751 From the Nets of Our Labor

We Will Rise Up and Follow



Charge and Benediction Choral Amen, Chancel Choir

Sending Music Toccata on "Leoni" - Gordon Young

Lucas Brown, organ

Please use the Postlude time and music to reflect on today's worship experience and how it will support you in the week to come.

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WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH! It is good to have you here in person or online. Please be in touch if you have news to share or would like more information or to talk to a pastor. Staff contact information is below. Read full announcements in our weekly <u>email newsletter</u>, available on the church website. Subscribe on the <u>Contact Us</u> tab.

FLOWERS: If you are interested in having a live flower arrangement placed in the sanctuary in 2024 please contact Diane Thorne at <u>dthorne31@comcast.net</u> or 609-707-8122.

NURSERY care is available during worship (9:30 - 11:15) for those with young children. The nursery is located in the Preschool (level 1R) in the Red Balloon Room near the Preschool office.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Parents, please register your preK-5th graders for Children's Church using the QR Code. PreK-Kindergarten must be signed out from the Sunday School room. First-fifth graders will reunite with their families in the Bean Parlor after worship.



NEWS AND EVENTS

NEW Bible Study: Letter to the Romans begins February 1st at 6:30pm on Zoom. After the first two sessions, Rev. Passante will provide a syllabus that will serve as a weekly guide including content, chapter and verse. Literally. Please plan on NO CLASS on February 15th. After that we are off and running through Holy Week and beyond! Zoom link and passcode for all meetings can be found at http://www.haddonfieldpres.org/adult-education. Email npassante@haddonfieldpres.org for questions or more info.

Lenten small groups are forming now. This year we will study <u>Meeting God in Paul</u>, by Rowan Williams. Sign-up sheets will be in the Bean Parlor beginning Jan. 21. Not available to meet in person? You can sign up for our FB discussion group or for a group that will meet on Zoom. Details coming soon.

Did You Personalize Your Hymnals Yet? As you may know, our denomination adopted the new *Glory to God* hymnal back in 2013, and our church is excited to join the movement this year! *Glory to God* is a remarkably thoughtful collection of spiritual songs and hymns that was created with an eye towards both diversity and tradition. In it, you will find all of the old standards like "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" and you will also find new standards like "Lift Every Voice and Sing". Moreover, *Glory to God* includes roughly 250 more songs than our old hymnal even though it is also lighter and thinner. Session is asking that each family purchase two hymnals at \$25 a piece. (If we do that, we'll have enough hymnals to fill our entire sanctuary.) You may also include a short memorial or dedication that will be affixed to the inside cover of your hymnals. Please use the QR code below to purchase and personalize your hymnals today!

Now is the Perfect Time to Join a Choir! With Christmas in the rear-view mirror, all our children's, youth, and adult choirs will begin their repertoire for 2024 this week and next week. If you or your child have been considering joining a choir or bell choir here at the church, we'd like to invite you to act now! Please contact Nancy Ruth (nancyruthw@comcast.net) or Peter Leibensperger (PLeibensperger@haddonfieldpres.org) with any questions!

Volunteers Needed for Prison Ministry: The thought of going into a jail and meeting with female inmates can seem overwhelming. However, those who participate in this ministry will tell you that the ministry is very rewarding and sorely needed. The ladies we see every other Friday at the Camden County Jail (directly behind the Camden County Courthouse) greet us enthusiastically and are sincerely seeking to follow God. Our hope is that we can be a vehicle to reflect God's forgiveness and love and offer them an alternative path going forward. We feel very safe and secure entering the jail. We desperately need more volunteers so we can have a group able to go into the jail on a weekly basis and see more ladies. Every time we go in the officers have to turn inmates away because we are only able to meet with 10 ladies at a time. If we had more volunteers, we could go in every Friday and see more inmates. The time investment is minimal once you go through the approval process. If you are interested in volunteering or finding out more information, please email Judy Blank (jmblank451@verizon.net).

The Social Connection, our social gathering ministry for special needs adults, is now 13-months-old and a great success. We thank all who have joined us as participants and helpers and all who have made donations. Our next social evening is January 22. If you would like to donate Bingo prizes, please email Deb Nussbaum (debranussbaum1987@gmail.com) or see Deb or Joyce Stout at church.

THE PORCH BIBLE STUDY will meet at 7 p.m., Tuesday, January 23, on Zoom. We are returning to our study on Colossians & Philemon. We will be discussing the supremacy of Christ and serving Christ. All are welcome to our study and prayer time. For information, see Deb Nussbaum or Jill Mascena at church or email Deb at debraussbaum1987@gmail.com. Paul Urian will send out the Zoom link to all who are interested.

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY: Need a ride to and from worship? We have a new procedure to ask for a ride, beginning in November. To request transportation to worship, call the church at 856-429-1960. When you hear the auto attendant message, press 103 and you will go directly to the deacon voice mailbox. Leave a message and a deacon will call you back regarding your request.

Transportation requests must be received no later than the Tuesday prior to the Sunday when the ride is needed. Make sure to leave your phone number and a convenient time to call. Please take note: if you call later than Tuesday at 4 p.m., there may not be a deacon or church member available to drive you. This procedure will efficiently simplify the needs of our members. We look forward to seeing you in worship! Questions? Call the church office, or Joan Fiorella at 856 889-9185.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: CHERISHED women of First Presbyterian! If you're looking for a Bible study, a walking group, a quilting group, or any number of things, click her to check out the fall activities that Presbyterian Women are offering: at www.haddonfieldpres.org/presbyterianwomen.

CHECK YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE: You can have your blood pressure taken in the Bean Parlor following morning worship. Screenings will occur monthly. If any medical professionals are interested in supporting this ministry, please email Linda O'Neill at ElonMail@yahoo.com or Bonnie Manskopf at BonnieManskopf@yahoo.com.

CHRISTIAN HERITAGE CLASS January 21: St. Peter In Rome. Finding and Authenticating the Bones of the "Prince of the Apostles." The search for the bones of St. Peter and the discovery of the

remains of a robust man in his 60s or 70s by Peter's altar in the Basilica is a fascinating tale that began with the death of Pope Pius XI in 1939 (with the excavation for his tomb) and continued through World War II. Even today, most important for the Vatican is not the identity of the relics, per se, but the confirmation that Peter did indeed come to Rome (and not Babylon).

<u>January 28. Doubting Thomas</u>. St. Thomas placed his finger in the wounds of the Risen Christ-or did he? St. John's gospel account (Ch. 20) has two accounts about seeing and believing. Mary Magdalene believes, and Thomas (at first) fails to believe. But does St. John truly support-or does it contradict the one thing most people believe they know about Thomas' doubt and belief. His feast day is July 3 and he is patron saint of the Christians of India ... and of architects.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 01/14/23: 143 in person and 36 online

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Please pray for these individuals and situations throughout the week. If you would like to add a personal prayer request, please contact one of the pastors. In making requests on behalf of others, please obtain the permission of the person needing prayer. The requestor will have their name printed as the originator of the request. Pastors will revisit these requests every 30 days.

Prayers for the Church

- Pray for the people, government, and country of **Ukraine** as war continues.
- Pray for **Gaza** and the **people of Israel and Palestine** as war continues.
- Keep **Randi** in your prayers as she waits patiently for a diagnosis (1/17-C. Carty)
- Continue in prayer for **Vivian**, who has been diagnosed with lymphoma (1/16-J. Grantham).
- Prayers for 4-year-old Ellie and her parents as she begins treatment for lymphoma(1/15-L.Carpenter)
- Continue in prayer for **Tom Rowe** and wife **Suzanne**, as Tom receives experimental cancer treatments **(1/15-J. Blank)**.
- Continue prayers for **Jake** who is battling childhood cancer **(1/11-L. Kirsch)**
- Pray for courage and faith for **Savannah**, a mother of two undergoing chemotherapy. **(1/11-L. Kirsch)**.
- Please pray for Jo-Ann's recovery after going through a very serious operation (1/10- J. Russell).
- Pray for **Jenn**, her husband, and her three children. Jenn is now in hospice care six months after being diagnosed with liver cancer **(1-10 C. Crumley)**.
- Pray for the family and friends of **Ken Young**, a former minister at FPCH, who died on Wednesday, January 10 **(1/10-J. Mascena)**
- Continue to lift up prayers for Patrick and his family (1/8-pastors)
- Please pray for **Philip** that he would receive God's mercy and grace, and that God's sustenance and provision would cover all his affairs (1/7-P. Chang)
- Prayers for Branson as he studies abroad this semester (1/6-M. Wilson)
- Pray for infant Ivy Hope, that as she enters the world her many operations are successful (1/4-R. Woodland)
- Hold in prayer our Stephen Ministers and their Care Receivers; also pray for our new Stephen Ministers who are being trained over the next several months (1/4-pastors)
- Pray for Bob Wells that he would experience relief from pain and a variety of ailments (1/3-K. Bell)

- Please pray for **Pat** who is living with liver and pancreatic cancer (1/3-K. Bell)
- Pray for all the ladies at the Camden County Jail, specifically Jenny, Victoria, Taylor, Malene, Tiffany, Shannon, Laura, Crystal, Brisheen and Divana (1/2-G. Ladies)
- Please pray for **Naomi and Inzi**, and for each of their families to be reunified **(1/2-G. Ladies)**
- Please pray for Lillian, her situation and family (1/2-G. Ladies)
- Pray for **Efflee**, **her mother**, **and her two boys**. Pray also for an expedited court date, and all those Efflee is worried about **(1/2-G. Ladies)**
- Pray for a **15-year old nephew with Down Syndrome**, who is going for his final leukemia treatment. Keep his family in your prayers as well! **(12/26-pastors)**
- Continue in prayer for Linda's brother **Roy**, as he undergoes radiation and further cancer treatment (12/20- L. O'Neill)
- Continue in prayer for **Isabel Pross** as she continues cancer treatment **(12/17-pastors)**
- Prayers for **Lauren**, a young mother with metastatic thyroid cancer **(12/17-J. Stout)**.

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Marvin Lindsay, Ph.D., Senior Pastor and Head of Staff- mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org
The Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante, Associate Pastor - npassante@haddonfieldpres.org
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