

First Presbyterian Church

The Transfiguration of the Lord February 11, 10:00 AM

GATHERING

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

Prelude Improvisation on SWING LOW

Lucas Brown, organ

*Opening Prayer

All: O God, glorious and faithful, to those who seek you with a sincere heart you reveal the beauty of your face. Strengthen us in faith to embrace the mystery of the cross, and open our hearts to its transfiguring power; that, clinging in love to your will for us, we may walk the path of discipleship as followers of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

*Hymn #263 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

*Invitation to Experience God's Grace (Hebrews 4:14-16)

One: Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weaknesses, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

All: We shall confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Laying Down Our Burdens

All: God of compassion, in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory, but we turn away, distracted by our own plans. We confess that we speak when we should listen, and act when we should wait. Forgive our aimless enthusiasms. Grant us wisdom to live in your light and to follow in the way of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

*Silent Prayer

*Declaration of Forgiveness

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: May the God of mercy, who forgives all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

*We Celebrate God's Forgiveness #579 "Glory Be to the Father"

*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, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out upon us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that, being taught by you in Holy Scripture, our hearts and minds may be opened to know the things that pertain to life and holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Readings: 2 Kings 2:1-14, pp. 332 in pew Bible | Mark 9:2-9, pp. 44 in pew Bible

One: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Passing the Torch" Rev. Marvin Lindsay

* We Affirm our Faith: "The Nicene Creed" (Ecumenical) pp. 15, The Presbyterian Hymnal

GIVE THANKS

Practicing Abundant Generosity

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

† Offertory: "We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace"- arr.

Moses Hogan, Chancel Choir

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

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

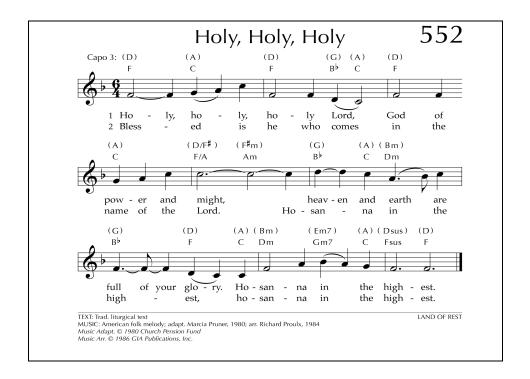
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

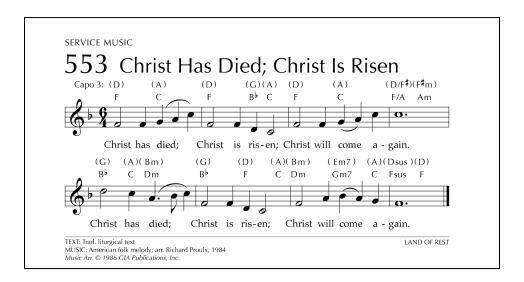
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

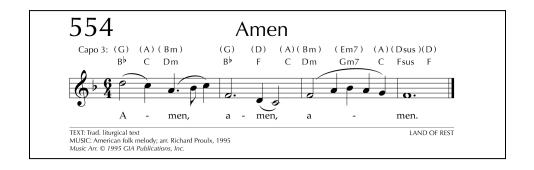
It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God our Creator... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:



You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord... Great is the mystery of faith:



Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine... Give us strength to serve you faithfully until the promised day of resurrection, when with the redeemed of all the ages we will feast with you at your table in glory. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.



The Lord's Prayer (Traditional) pp. 16, *The Presbyterian Hymnal*Breaking of Bread and Communion of the People
Prayer After Communion

LEAVE TO SERVE

† **Hymn** #825, in *Glory to God*

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"



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. Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with Permission Under OneLicense #740987-A. All Rights Reserved.

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</u> <u>newsletter</u>, available on the church website. Subscribe on the <u>Contact Us</u> tab.

FLOWERS: The flowers this morning are given by **Gene and Linda O'Neill** to the glory of God and in memory of Gene's mother **Agnes** and sister **Maureen**. If you would like to place a live flower arrangement in the sanctuary, please contact Diane Thorne at dthorne31@comcast.net 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.



WORSHIP NOTES

"We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace," by Moses Hogan

We shall walk through the valley in peace.
For Jesus Himself will be our leader.
We shall walk through the valley in peace.

We will meet our loved ones there.
For Jesus Himself will be our leader.
We shall walk through the valley in peace.

There will be no trials there. For Jesus Himself will be our leader.
We shall walk through the valley in peace.

"We Shall Walk Through the Valley In Peace," is a traditional African-American Spiritual, arranged in 2001 by Moses Hogan (1957–2003). Hogan was born in New Orleans and attended Oberlin, Juilliard, and Louisiana State University. Hogan, a pianist and a conductor, was a prolific arranger and writer of many original spirituals sung throughout the world, including today's anthem as well as "Joshua Fought The Battle of Jericho." -Bud Miller



† Our Session recognizes that throughout U.S. history African American composers have not been compensated equitably for the music they have created. To remedy this in "our little way," the congregation is invited to use this QR Code to make a donation whenever we sing an African American Spiritual. This donation will support The Essence of Harmony Choral Society. EHCS focuses explicitly on celebrating the works of both classical and under-recognized African-American composers. In addition, the group presents classics and anthems, spirituals, and contemporary gospel music.

NEWS AND EVENTS

NEW Bible Study: Letter to the Romans will resume on February 22nd at 6:30pm on Zoom. 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 in the Bean Parlor or use this online form: https://forms.gle/vr5vqk4VsiOgvBsEA



Did You Personalize Your Hymnals Yet? Glory to God, the newest Presbyterian hymnal, is a remarkably thoughtful collection of spirituals and hymns 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". The Session is asking that each family purchase two hymnals at \$25 a piece. 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 to purchase and personalize your hymnals today!

Volunteers Needed for Prison Ministry: Those who participate in our ministry with the women of the Camden County Jail will tell you that the ministry is very rewarding and sorely needed. The ladies we see every other Friday 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. We feel very safe and secure entering the jail. 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 PORCH BIBLE STUDY will meet at 7 p.m on Tuesday, Feb. 27 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 debranussbaum1987@gmail.com. Paul Urian will send out the Zoom link to all who are interested.

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY: Need a ride to and from worship? 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 4:00 PM, there may not be a deacon or church member available to drive you. We look forward to seeing you in worship! Questions? Call the church office, or Joan Fiorella at 856-889-9185.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: All women of the church are invited to join Presbyterian Women for "Finding God in Ordinary Time" Women's Retreat on Saturday, March 9th from 9:00 AM to

noon, led by Christine Marie Eberle. Tentative schedule and presenter info is available on the Presbyterian Women's page on the website and flyers can be found in the parlor. Pre-register by contacting Judy Grantham at judygrantham@comcast.net. Retreat fee is \$20.

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 February 11. The Sons of Thunder (part 2): St. John. Among the 12 Apostles are "James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name *Boanerges*, which means Sons of Thunder)" (Mark 3:17). This is the only place in Scripture that mentions the designation of the sons of Zebedee as the Sons of Thunder, and there is no stated explanation as to why Jesus named them this. However, Jesus has a purpose for everything He does, so He must have had a good reason. In one incident of inhospitality in Samaria they suggested calling down fire from heaven to destroy (Luke 9:54) only to be rebuked by the Master. James and John were among Jesus' closest friends, being two of the "inner three" disciples (see Matthew 17:1). As the Church Age began, James (feast day July 25) was the first apostle to be killed (Acts 12:2), while John (feast day Dec. 27) was the last to die, although of old age (100!) John's epistles, written late in his life, hint that he still possessed a fervency of spirit.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 02/04/24: 256 in person and 34 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.
- Prayers for **Jochen and Deb Bettag** to feel strength and courage from the Lord. Jochen's diagnosis is a very rare form of cancer **(2/5-C. Carty)**
- Continue to pray for **Patrick** and his family **(2/5-pastors)**
- Continue to keep Branson in your prayers as he studies abroad this semester (2/5-M. Wilson)
- Please keep a dear friend, **Dorothy**, in your prayers as she navigates several cancer diagnoses (1/31-C. Carty)
- Continue to pray for **Mark** as he recovers from gallbladder surgery (1/30-S. Oswald)
- Please pray for **Patricia**, **Hannah**, **Selena**, **Rasheen**, **and Emani** who are incarcerated. Pray for the ladies who are being released from jail **(1/26-G. Ladies)**
- Pray for the lives and families of **Tamara and Kristy**, and that each will get to go home to their families (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray for the restoration of June's life (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray that Afi and her girls would be reunited (1/26-G. Ladies)

- Pray for **Christina's peace of mind** and her parents' health (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray for Enza, her children, and her husband (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray for **Krystle's health and safety**, and that of her family; pray also for her prosperity following her impending release (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray that the **truth comes to light in Morgan's case**, that there will be justice for her two daughters, and pray for her sister's release from addiction **(1/26-G. Ladies)**
- Please pray for Malea- specifically her relationships with significant others (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray for **Julia**, and her daughter **Nava**. Pray also for **Julia's mother Sophia**. May the Lord care and deliver this family **(1/26-G. Ladies)**
- Pray for Chanel's release and that she would be reunited with her husband (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Please pray for **Jessica Devietro** who is living with cancer (1/22-L. Sommers)
- Pray the God's Spirit would be with **Heather and the rest of the McCall family**, following her dad's sudden passing after falling on ice **(1/22-L. Sommers)**
- Please pray for God's blessing and provision on and over **Phillip's upcoming trip home** (1/20-P. Chang)
- 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)**.

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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