



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ordination and Installation of Officers

January 24, 2021
9:00am

**“There’s a fine line between fishing
and just standing on the shore like an idiot.”**
–Steven Wright

“Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.”

–Mark 1:17

Prelude

Symphony
Henry Purcell
arr. David Marlatt

Welcome

Call to Worship

Psalm 62:7-8

On God rests my deliverance and my honor

My mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

Trust in him at all times, O people;

Pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.

Opening Prayer

We are gathered here today to worship, All-Giving God, in the hope of experiencing your grace in a new way.

We join our voices with the living creatures and the elders, with the thousands and thousands, singing in a full voice, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing.” Amen. (Revelation 5:11-12)

Hymn # 744

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

Prayer of Confession

While declaring your greatness, O God, we realize that we are unworthy to even sing your praises.

While you loved us, we don’t love you fully. We don’t even love our neighbors fully whom we can see. We are hesitant to respond to your unconditional love because we put conditions on our love for others and for you. Forgive us for our half-hearted attempts and our half-baked ideas, and help us to follow the example of Jesus, who gave us a full sacrifice and eternal life. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Let’s say together these words from the Prophet Jeremiah:

“I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people...I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.”

These are words we can trust.

In Jesus Christ, we all are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen!

Response

Blessing and Honor

**Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb;
Take we the robe and the harp and the palm;
Sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,
Dying in weakness but rising to reign.**

Children’s Message

Prayer for Illumination

Infinite God, as we read your scriptures, help us to experience your forgiveness for our sins, which are many, and to forgive others with the same compassion that you share with us. In the name of Jesus, we open ourselves and pray. Amen.

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Paul warns the church at Corinth to change their perspective and serve God while they can.

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

Ministry Updates

Special Music

Adoration
Florence Price

Prayers of the People and 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.**

Giving and Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Notturmo Op. 54, No. 4
Edward Grieg

Hymn # 721

Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

Scripture Reading

Mark 1:14-20

Jesus begins his ministry in Galilee by calling fishermen to follow him and "fish for people."

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee

and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Sermon

“Using the Right Bait”

Bob Sheldon/Caroline Cupp

Ordination and Installation of Officers

Litany of Service (based on 1 Corinthians 12)

There are different gifts,

But it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God,

But it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through different people in different ways,

But it is the same God who fulfills these purposes through them all.

Together we are the body of Christ,

And individually members of Christ.

Introduction of Officers

Constitutional Questions

Laying on of Hands

Pronouncement of Ordination and Installation

Hymn # 724

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Blessing

Response

Eight-Fold Amen

Postlude

Placare Christe Servulis
Marcel Dupre

WHAT HAPPENING AT FIRST PRES

Leading us in worship today are Rev. Bob Sheldon, Interim Pastor; Rev. Caroline Cupp, Executive Pastor; Sandor Kadar, Director of Music; Kira Boros, Choir Accompanist; Elizabeth Corbett, piano; Miner Street Brass.

About Today's Service - Following Jesus involves many aspects of our lives. We begin by seeing him; then we hear him; after that, we trust him; and finally, we follow him. At this point, all that is left is to tell others about him—and begin the process again.

Prayer for Today - I humble myself before you, O God. I know that you will speak to me today, and touch and heal my heart. I have confidence in your love and expect great things, even as you expect great things from me. Amen.

We are happy to announce the births of Sylvia Violette Hempel, born January 14, 2021, daughter of Richard and Katie Hempel, granddaughter of Stuart and Suzanne Levy, niece of Kevin and Caroline Cupp; and Paige Elsie Howard, born January 15, 2021, daughter of Kate and Max Howard, granddaughter of Dennis and Adriana Park.

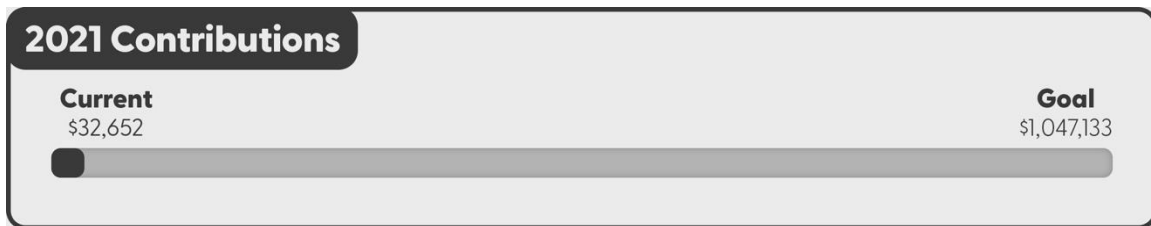
Our sympathy and prayers are with Alan and Cheryl Hoyt and family in the death of Cheryl's mother, and with Tony and Shelley Catanach and family in the death of Shelley's mother.

The **Young Justice Builder's Club** will meet on Sunday, February 7 at noon. All elementary-aged kids and their grown-ups are invited to gather on Zoom for a Bingo game that will help us learn some important vocabulary words and terms that are part of having anti-racist conversations. There will also be prizes for all participants! Contact Sara Pantazes with any questions.

Spiritual Connections - All women are welcome to participate in Spiritual Connections on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 6:30 p.m. This week on January 25 the group will discuss an episode of the On Being podcast – Love in Action with John Lewis. Starting February 8, the next book discussion will focus on *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others* by Barbara Brown Taylor. We will seek to find the sacred in unexpected places. Please obtain your own copy of the book. Questions or requests for Zoom links: Ellen Endsloew at eendsloew@verizon.net

Family Hike – First Pres families will be gathering at ChesLen Preserve this Saturday, January 30 at 10 a.m. for a family hike! Bring your kids, dogs, water bottles and masks, and we'll enjoy being together in the great wintery outdoors. We may need to make a last minute change depending on weather, so please let Sara Pantazes know if you plan to attend.

Annual Congregational/Corporation of the First Presbyterian Church of West Chester - is called to meet on Sunday, January 31 at 11:30 a.m. A zoom link will be provided in the weekly email before the meeting.



The above graph shows the giving amount as of 1/20/2021 compared to the full year goals for contributions so far. This chart will be presented each week to keep the congregation well-informed of our progress. Further details can be found on the Financial Reporting page on our website.