

MAY 8, 2016
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



First Presbyterian Church of West Chester

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church. As a community of faith, we strive to “above all, love.” As we worship God together, we pray that you will experience Christ’s presence in our midst, and that he will sustain you in the week ahead. A special welcome goes out to you if you are visiting. If you are with us for the first time, stop by the Welcome Center in the foyer to find out about the many opportunities available to you in the life of our congregation. We hope you will worship with us again next Sunday.

We invite you to sign the Friendship Register, which you will find at the center aisle of each pew. As you pass it to others in your pew, note who is sitting near you, so you may greet them by name.

- Please note that hearing aids and large print bulletins are available from the ushers.
- Maps showing available parking are in the racks in the Fellowship Hall.

Children are always welcome, and encouraged to participate in worship. Children’s Worship Activity Bags are available from the ushers.

The Mission Statement of First Presbyterian Church

Called to love God and one another, First Presbyterian Church responds to God’s grace by following Christ with ministries of hospitality, worship, faith development, service and generosity.



Leading Us in Worship Today:

Greg Stovell, *Pastor*
 Steve Clark, *Associate Pastor*
 Caroline Cupp, *Associate Pastor*
 Marcia Sommers, *Director of Music and Fine Arts*
 Sándor Kádár, *Principal Organist*
 Jane Waddington, *Assistant Organist*

cover illustration: Pharaoh and the Midwives, miniature on vellum from the Golden Haggadah, Catalonia, early 14th century.

8:00 a.m. Worship Service

**SEVENTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

CHIMES – A call to stillness

Use these moments prior to the Prelude to greet one another briefly. At the ringing of the chimes, please seek the presence of God in stillness and quiet. Please silence cell phones.

ORGAN PRELUDE

Processional in E Flat Major

arr. David N. Johnson

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Father of us all, Mother of each one,
 thank you for your love for us from the beginning of time.

**You formed us in our mother’s wombs,
 you knit us together with love.**

Your devotion to us has not failed,
 your care has followed us our whole life long.

All we are and all we have, we owe to you.

Praise to our God from whom all life and blessings flow.

***HYMN #761**

“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

Beecher

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION/ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (unison)

Wondrous God, we confess that we have not listened for your Word as we should.
 We confess that we have placed obstacles in the way of our neighbors,
 Our own interests above those of others.
 Forgive us for our proud and foolish ways.
 Forgive us for taking your amazing gift of grace for granted.
 Redirect us, by your Spirit, that we may be your faithful people once again.

***RESPONSE**

Meineke

“Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was
 in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end, Amen, Amen.”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (unison)

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image: male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY	Elizabeth Guman
SCRIPTURE READING	Fall 2016 Guatemala Trip
John 19:23-30	New Testament, Page 114

Elizabeth Guman
Fall 2016 Guatemala Trip
New Testament, Page 114

SCRIPTURE READING John 19:23-30

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/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.

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

THE OFFERING

Offertory “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” Beethoven/arr. Fred Bock
Julie Claeys, piano; Jane Waddington, organ

*Offertory Response Lasst Uns Erfreuen

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!”

*Prayer of Dedication

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 1:8-20 Old Testament, Page 49

SERMON “Called to See with God’s Eyes” Rev. Caroline Cupp
from Sermon Series: *Called* - part 10

GO IN GOD'S NAME

***HYMN #300** “We Are One in the Spirit” They’ll Know We Are Christians

***BENEDICTION**

ORGAN POSTLUDE God of Grace arr. Paul Manz

* Let all who are able, please stand. *** The Ushers will seat those waiting.

Sermon Notes

9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service **SEVENTH SUNDAY
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ORGAN PRELUDE Improvisation on *In Dir Ist Freude*

Kádár

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Father of us all, Mother of each one,
thank you for your love for us from the beginning of time.

**You formed us in our mother's wombs,
you knit us together with love.**

Your devotion to us has not failed,
your care has followed us our whole life long.

All we are and all we have, we owe to you.

Praise to our God from whom all life and blessings flow.

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We confess that we have placed obstacles in the way of our neighbors,
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Forgive us for our proud and foolish ways.
Forgive us for taking your amazing gift of grace for granted.
Redirect us, by your Spirit, that we may be your faithful people once again.

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

Elizabeth Guman
Fall 2016 Guatemala Trip

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*As the children are going to their classes, we will sing Hymn #469,
"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"*

"Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love; send us power; send us grace."

After worship, parents may pick up children at their classroom.

Lower level: Nursery rm 5, Pre-K rm 6, K-1 rm 10, Gr 2-3 rm 14, JAM in Social Hall.

Upper level: Gr 4-5 room 214B, Confirmation 209, Middle Sch 210, Sr High 216.

SCRIPTURE READING John 19:23-30 New Testament, Page 114

ANTHEM "Beautiful Savior" arr. F. Melius Christiansen

*"Fair are the meadows, fairer the woodlands, robed in flowers of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of Man.
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!"*

The Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/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.

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

THE OFFERING

Offertory "The Heavens are Telling" Franz Joseph Haydn
from *The Creation*

*"The heavens are telling the glory of God; the wonder of His work displays the firmament;
today that is coming speaks it the day; the night that is gone to following night.
In all the lands resounds the word; never unperceived, ever understood."*

The Chancel Choir

Solo Trio: Mickey Gast, soprano; Brian Parker, tenor; Bob Schwan, bass

*Offertory Response Lasst Uns Erfreuen

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"

*Prayer of Dedication

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

*HYMN #300 "We Are One in the Spirit" They'll Know We Are Christians

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 1:8-20 Old Testament, Page 49

SERMON "Called to See with God's Eyes" Rev. Caroline Cupp
from Sermon Series: *Called* - part 10

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN #242 "Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded" In Dir Ist Freude

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Peter C. Lutkin

*"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. Amen."*

ORGAN POSTLUDE Prelude in E Minor, BWV 548 J.S. Bach
Germany, 1685-1750

* Let all who are able, please stand. *** The Ushers will seat those waiting.

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The rosebud is to the Glory of God and in honor of:
Paul Robert Brandon, born May 2, 2016, son of Sara and Lee Brandon,
grandson of Kay and Bob Young.

The Chancel Flowers are to the Glory of God and are given by:
Rob and Tammy Wampler, in memory of our mothers, Dawn Dichiera and Gail Wampler;
and

Alicia and Bob Liermann, in honor of Lindsay and Nick Liermann.

Ushers

8:00 a.m. – Bill Benson, *Head Usher*; Charles Haverstraw

9:00 a.m. – Bob Black, *Head Usher*; Patty Ohneck, Judy and Jim Austin

10:30 a.m. – Bill Benson, *Head Usher*; Ed and Lauren Hoopes,
Barbara and Amy Lidle

Coffee and Flower Deacons today: Gerallyn Duke and Charles Simon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUTH

• **Flowers are Here Today!** Pre-ordered flowers are ready to be picked up this morning in Fellowship Hall. Even if you didn't pre-order, stop by the table between services and see our selection of beautiful flowers on sale today! Thank you for supporting our Youth Ministry, and our effort to brighten the lives of our homebound members with your contribution toward the delivery of a flower to their homes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

• **Information on the Fall Trip to Guatemala:** Do you feel God calling you to consider being part of our team that visits our brothers and sisters at Getsemani this fall? A First Pres team will be traveling to our sister church in Guatemala: November 12-20. We will learn about their culture, country and the ministries of their church. We are hoping to have 10-12 travelers with some who have gone on the trip before and some who have not. To learn more: Visit our table in Fellowship Hall during the month of May, come to our information session May 15 from 10:00 to 10:30 a.m. in Herron Lounge, or contact Elizabeth Guman, ecguman@gmail.com or 610-308-4017.

• **24-hour Stop Hunger Now:** Thank you to everyone who participated in and/or financially supported the 24-hour Stop Hunger Now event last weekend. If you were there, you helped make history! Over 120,000 meals were packed in 24-hours and we received media coverage on TV, Facebook and Twitter. Here are some of the comments we received:

- “We were happy to join you in the crazy meal packing marathon. It was an awesome event and a great partnership!”;
- “This has been such an energizing and important ministry for our church!”;
- “You are such an instrumental means of bringing hope and health to so many. The ripple from this goes so much wider than we will ever know. Thank you for your vulnerability. Too many people think that big ideas are not worth entertaining, and yet, it’s those very ideas that change the world.”

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & MEMBERSHIP

• **Sign Up Now For The 2016 Church Photo Directory:** Stop by the Lifetouch sign-up table in Fellowship Hall or go to www.firstpreswc.com, to begin the process. You’ll need to pick a day and time that best fits your schedule. The scheduled photo session dates to choose from (*first come, first served*) are:

- May 31 (Tuesday, between 2:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.)
- June 1-3 (Wednesday/Thursday/Friday, between 2:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.)
- June 4 (Saturday, between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.)
- June 14-17 (Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday/Friday, between 2:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.)
- June 18 (Saturday, between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.)
- June 21-24 (Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday/Friday, between 2:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.)
- June 25 (Saturday, between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.)

Each participating family will receive a complimentary 8”x10” photograph, and a free copy of the full church directory, just for coming. You will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits for yourself, your family, and your friends.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

• **Column Classics** – The final program of the fine arts series this season is one you won’t want to miss: Sunday, May 15, 7:00 p.m., the Chancel Ringers will be presenting a Spring Ring. The program will include favorite hymn tunes, unique arrangements for bells, and selections of music from the movies and Broadway! Always inspiring, this talented ensemble of 12 ringers will be enhanced by a variety of instruments, including flute, piano and percussion. Over 100 bells and chimes; free, offering received.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Summer Chancel Choir:** Our Choir will take on a different look in the summer months, and beginning on **May 29**, the Choir invites all who like to sing to join for a summer of “*The Top Anthems Every Presbyterian Should Know*”. You’ll read more about summer singing opportunities in the coming weeks, but pencil in **8:20** on Sunday mornings for an inspiring summer of singing. **Sneak Preview: Thursday, May 19, 7:30-9:15 p.m.** – a sing-through of all the music for summer. Join in! All adults, college-aged singers, and high school/middle school musicians are welcome! Questions? Ask Marcia, Sándor, or any member of the Choir!

CAREGIVING

• **Deacons’ Work Day:** Do you need help with spring cleaning or other home projects? Our deacons are here to serve! We are helping members with their projects on the morning of Saturday, May 14th. Please contact the church office at 610-696-0554 or email care@firstpreswc.com to let us know if you have a project that we can help you with. No job is too small!

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms” 1 Peter 4:10

• **Quilters:** Sweet Dreams is a part of Fabric Missions of First Presbyterian Church. We make quilts for newborns baptized in our church, pillow cases for children at Chester County Hospital, among other sewing projects for mission.

We are in need of a few experienced quilters who would love to share their talent to support our mission. We invite you to visit our table in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, May 15, to meet some of our members and learn more about our group. Look for the “quilted cross.”

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

• **Adult Education Opportunity This Month:** “*Women in the Gospel of Luke*” 9:00 a.m. Sundays May 15 & 22 (note change of time from info in the May newsletter). The gospel of Luke contains more stories about women than any other gospel. But who are these women? What does Luke say about them? Is Luke the “women’s gospel”? Should we be paying closer attention? No advance registration or preparation required, just come join the exploration and conversation. This study is led by our seminary intern, Kelsey Wallace.

• **Summer Children’s Ministry Position:** We’re looking for someone to work 10-14 weeks over the summer, averaging 10 hours a week. This “*Children’s Ministry Assistant*” will work with Steve Clark, Associate Pastor for Christian Education & Outreach, and the CE Committee, to assist in planning and leading (1) the Summer Sunday School program and (2) Vacation Bible School. If you or someone you know is interested, contact Pastor Steve (sclark@firstpreswc.com). (There is some flexibility on start and end dates; details will be worked out in conversation with the Search Team for this position.)

ADMINISTRATION

• **Associate Pastor Installation:** The Rev. Caroline Cupp will be formally installed as our Associate Pastor for Caregiving and Mission during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday May 22. Please join us in celebration of this special occasion at a reception to be held in Fellowship Hall following the service.

• **Director of Children’s Ministries:** Personnel Committee continues to accept applications. This position is posted online (go to www.firstpreswc.com), and we welcome your referrals of candidates for the position! Please send resumes to sclark@firstpreswc.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Are you a people person?** We need you! Looking for people to exhibit radical hospitality at the front office of the church between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. in ½ day shifts. In this volunteer position, you are the most important person in the church! Looking for friendly, capable, warm and welcoming individuals who can greet visitors, answer the phone, help with miscellaneous office work and be the face of the church. Is this opportunity for you? If so, please contact Karen Goldstein at 610-696-0554 or kgoldstein@firstpreswc.com.

• **Attention All Child & Youth Volunteers!** If you volunteer with any activities within the church that involves children or youth, and have not attended a previous Stewards of Children training, please mark your calendar for our next training session on Wednesday, May 18 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Stewards of Children is a program that creates a culture of awareness – teaching adults to prevent and recognize signs of sexual abuse and react responsibly when abuse is disclosed, discovered, or suspected. First Pres requires all volunteers who participate in the children's or youth ministries to attend.

Special Note: This training will be open to anyone who is interested; space permitting. If you are not a current child/youth volunteer, we ask that you purchase the workbook for \$10 - the training will be offered for free!


For questions, or to signup for the training, please contact Kelly Fleming at flemk6@aol.com or 484-678-9249.

• **2016 Global Leadership Summit, Thursday and Friday, August 11 & 12.** First Pres is again a partner and Summit Advocate for this incredible leadership summit. Because of this, we can offer an early bird price of \$99 a person until sometime in June. If you have attended the GLS before and want to again, contact Dory Speer, 610-696-0554 or dspeer@firstpreswc.com. We are committed to bringing 25 people to the summit simulcast at Westminster Pres and we'd love to have you join us. If you haven't had the opportunity to attend in previous years, watch the bulletin and your email each week for additional information.

Connection Card

Welcome!

Fill out this card and drop in the Offering Plate or hand to an usher



Name:

Address/City/State/Zip:

Phone number:

Email:

Age Group (check all that apply to your household):

☐ First time guest

☐ Repeat visitor

☐ Looking for a church home

☐ Please update my information

☐ Single

☐ Married

☐ Birth - PreK

☐ K - 5th Grade

☐ Grades 6-8

☐ Grades 9-12

☐ Age 19-24

☐ Age 25 - 40

☐ Age 41 - 59

☐ Age 60+

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY – May 8

MOTHER'S DAY

YOUTH FLOWER SALE

- 8:00am Worship
- 8:30am Sunday Social ('til 10:30am)
- 9:00am Worship; Nursery to age 2; Sunday School for all ages; Radio Broadcast on 1520AM; Live web stream
- 10:30am Worship; Nursery to age 2; JAM age 3-Grade 5
- 4:00pm Middle School and Senior High Youth Group

MONDAY – May 9

- 7:30am Building and Maintenance
- 2:00pm Peace Circle (off site)
- 6:00pm Deacon Outreach Committee
- 7:00pm Deacon Chairs; Personnel Committee; Grace Circle (off site)

TUESDAY – May 10

- 10:00am Faith Community Nurses Office Hours
- 5:30pm Men's Ministry Studies - Mars Group
- 7:30pm Men's Ministry Studies

WEDNESDAY – May 11

NO BRIDGE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 7

- 9:00am Sew Many Blessings; Sermon Talk
- 9:30am Women's Study; Praise Circle (off site)
- 12:00pm Bulletin deadline
- 6:45pm Brass Ensemble
- 7:30pm Chancel Ringers
- 7:40pm Stephen Ministry Supervision

THURSDAY – May 12

- 11:00am Hope Circle
- 7:30pm Chancel Choir; Middle School Bible Study (off site)

FRIDAY – May 13

- 6:00am Men's Study Groups
- 1:00pm Sweet Dreams

SATURDAY – May 14

- 8:30am Deacons' Work Day
- 9:00am Chancel Ringers Rehearsal
- 3:00pm Confirmation Retreat

SUNDAY – May 15

PENTECOST SUNDAY

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING SUNDAY

COMMUNION (all services)

- 8:00am Worship
- 8:30am Sunday Social ('til 10:30am)
- 9:00am Worship; Nursery to age 2; Sunday School for all ages; Study of Women in Luke; Radio Broadcast on 1520AM; Live web stream
- 10:30am Worship; Baptisms; Nursery to age 2; JAM age 3-Grade 5
- 1:30pm Home Communion
- 4:00pm Middle School and Senior High Youth Group
- 7:00pm Column Classics: Chancel Ringers Concert

Office Hours:
Mon - Fri 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

First Pres on Facebook

Keep up with your church family at www.facebook.com/firstpreswc

Iglesia Evangélica Presbyteriana Getsemani

In 2003, First Presbyterian Church of West Chester began a formal covenant relationship with the Iglesia Evangélica Presbyteriana Getsemani in Villa Nueva, Guatemala. As the signed covenant document describes, *"We are joined in mutual respect and willingness to learn from one another, support each other, and grow together as disciples of our Savior and Lord."*



One very important part of this ministry is our annual visits with each other: they travel here one year; we travel there the opposite year. These opportunities to visit in person have been very important to build this ministry as we worship together, learn together and share with each other about how Christ is working in our lives.

On our trips to visit Getsemani we experience a wide variety of activities. We've been able to participate in their church's Vacation Bible School. We worship in their Sunday service and with their Women's Fellowship and their Friday night Men's Fellowship. We attend presentations to understand the Guatemalan culture, visit historical sites to learn about their history and see nonprofits addressing challenging social issues. We have opportunities to share meals and conversation with the people of Getsemani church to talk about our churches and our faith.



Our next trip is planned for November 12-20. To learn more and see if God is calling you to be part of our team this year, come to the information session on Sunday May 15 at 10:00 a.m. in the Herron Lounge or contact Elizabeth Guman (ecguman@gmail.com, 610.308.4017.)

130 West Miner Street, West Chester, Pennsylvania 19382

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please text your support to 610-347-5509 (\$\$\$ FPC)