

MAY 1, 2016
SIXTH 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*

8:00 a.m. Worship Service

**SIXTH 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 Prelude on *Royal Oak* and *Engelberg*

arr. Albert L. Travis

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

***HYMN #49** “The God of Abraham Praise”

Leoni

***PRAYER OF THE DAY** (unison)

**Almighty God,
 we praise and thank you for making us children of God,
 not through our own power and piety
 but through our baptism into the crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ.**

**We turn daily to you,
 and in that turning we find peace, courage and purpose.
 Make your whole church a witness
 to the great good news of Christ’s resurrection.
 God of the risen Jesus, hear our prayer. Amen.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

Dennis Smith

PC(USA) regional liaison for the Southern Cone and Brazil

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

THE OFFERING

Offertory

“Holy Manna”

arr. Judy Phillips

The JuBellation Ringers

***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

Galatians 3:23-29

New Testament, Page 189

Hebrews 13:2

New Testament, Page 227

“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.”

SERMON

“Unlabeled”

Dr. Greg Stovell

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN #755

“Alleluia! Laud and Blessing”

Weisse Flaggen

*CHARGE (unison)

1 Peter 4:8-11

Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

*BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Finale from *Concerto No. 5*

G.F. Handel

* Let all who are able, please stand.

*** The Ushers will seat those waiting.

Sermon Notes

9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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ORGAN PRELUDES

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

J.S. Bach

Germany, 1685-1750

Improvisation on *Leoni*

Kádár

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN #49

“The God of Abraham Praise”

Leoni

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (unison)

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we praise and thank you for making us children of God,

not through our own power and piety

but through our baptism into the crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ.

We turn daily to you,

and in that turning we find peace, courage and purpose.

Make your whole church a witness

to the great good news of Christ's resurrection.

God of the risen Jesus, hear our prayer. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

As the children are going to their classes, we will sing Hymn #487, stanza 4 & 5,

“These Treasured Children” (Puer Nobis Nascitur)

“Come, Holy Spirit, help us to be a nurturing community;

empower us to realize God's kingdom through our children's eyes.

Then, tender God, each child embrace; God give them blessings, grant them grace.

Surprise them, God, with wonders still, and gently guide them in your will.”

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTHEM

“Be Thou My Vision”

arr. John Rutter

The text of this anthem can be found in Glory to God, #450, with this additional stanza:

‘Be Thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;

be Thou my whole armor, be Thou my true might.’

The Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

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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.

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

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GIVE THANKS TO GOD

THE OFFERING

Offertory "Holy Manna" arr. Judy Phillips
The JuBellation Ringers

*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 #19 "God of Great and God of Small"

SCRIPTURE READING Galatians 3:23-29 New Testament, Page 189
Hebrews 13:2 New Testament, Page 227

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that
some have entertained angels without knowing it."

SERMON "Unlabeled" Dr. Greg Stovell

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN #755 "Alleluia! Laud and Blessing" Weisse Flaggen

*CHARGE (unison) 1 Peter 4:8-11

Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins.
Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold
grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever
speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so
with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through
Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

*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."

The Choral Scholars: Monica Vera, soprano; Sarah Dungan, mezzo-soprano,
David Beech, tenor; Michael Maggio, baritone

ORGAN POSTLUDE Toccata from Symphony No. V

C.M. Widor
France, 1844-1937

* 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:
Bodi Morgan Clark, born April 21, 2016, son of Chris and Jess Clark,
grandson of Steve and Jenny Clark.

The Chancel Flowers are to the Glory of God and are given by:
Ruth Morgan Spencer, and Nancy Morgan Ninos,
in memory of Eberlin and Elizabeth McKelvie Morgan;
and

Sandi Preston, in memory of her parents, Len and Betty Preston,
in honor of their anniversary.

Ushers

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

9:00 a.m. – Charlie Myhre, *Head Usher*; Fred and Amy Brill, Ginny Manley,
Kathie Myhre

10:30 a.m. – Larry Trerotola, *Head Usher*; Ray and Judy Regan,
Hugh and Eileen Sinclair

Coffee Deacons today: Dean Stafford and Evelyn Norton

Flower Deacons today: Jim and Patty Sylvester

*From the Loft: We welcome to our worship this morning Principal Organist **Sándor Kádár**. Born to Hungarian parents in Serbia, Sándor has been involved in church music since his early years, and accepted his first organist position at the age of 15. He holds Bachelor degrees in organ performance, sacred music and conducting, and a Master's degree in Sacred Music from the University of Music and Performing Arts in Graz, Austria. In 2012, he attended Westminster Choir College for a semester as an exchange student, and returned here to work three years ago. He has extensive playing and accompanying experience, and is most well-known in the Philadelphia area for having played for two Papal masses in September of 2015. Last year, Sándor was the only person nationwide to achieve the highest level of certification – Fellow - in the American Guild of Organists. We welcome him to FPC; you will get to know much more about Sándor in the coming weeks and months.*

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & MEMBERSHIP

• **Pub Theology This Week:** Tuesday, May 3, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Boxcar Brewpub (142 E Market St, West Chester). This month's topic: "*Faith: Default or Option?*" What do people mean when they talk about "faith"? Do I have to be religious or "spiritual" to have faith? Join us for stimulating conversation, with no pressure to come (or leave) with the "right" answers. Bring your questions...and be ready to go away with more questions to think about. Enjoy food and drink with friends, and make some new friends. It's free; you just pay for your own food and beverages. Invite a friend or three and join the conversation! (Sponsored by First Presbyterian and Westminster Presbyterian churches.)

• **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

• **National Day of Prayer:** This Thursday, May 5 is National Day of Prayer. Please come to the Herron Lounge to pray from 7:00-8:00 a.m. for our nation (a light breakfast will be available beginning at 6:45 a.m.). Start your day off right with brothers and sisters in Christ, praying together! Contact Elizabeth Hess for more info (ebhess801@gmail.com).

• **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.

• **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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 Enrichment Series:** "*Understanding Islam and Those Who Live By It*" concludes this morning with a General Q&A session at 10:30 in Herron Lounge. The series has been facilitated by Jeff Heim, member of Calvary Lutheran Church in West Chester and experienced historian and lecturer on the topic.

• **Adult Education Opportunity This Month:** "*Women in the Gospel of Luke*" 10:30 a.m. Sundays May 15 and 22 in Herron Lounge. 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

• **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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Director of Christian Education:** 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.

• **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.

YOUTH

• **Last Day to Order Spring Flowers for personal use, gift giving or delivery to a homebound member:** Support our Youth Ministry with your order of potted flowers today in Fellowship Hall. Flowers will be available for pick-up on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8 or will be delivered to a homebound member by our Youth and adult visitors. Orders may also be place online at <http://www.firstpreswc.com/register1/youth-flower-sale/>. Contact Becky Gamble at 610-889-0928 with any questions.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY – May 1

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

MONDAY – May 2

TUESDAY – May 3

10:00am Faith Community Nurses Office Hours
1:00pm Summer Mission Agency mtg.
5:30pm Men's Ministry Studies - Mars Group
7:00pm Pub Theology (off site)
7:30pm Men's Ministry Studies

WEDNESDAY – May 4

NO BRIDGE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 7

9:00am Sew Many Blessings; Sermon Talk
9:30am Women's Study;
10:00am Bulletin deadline
10:30am Agape mtg.
6:45pm Brass Ensemble
7:30pm Chancel Ringers

THURSDAY – May 5

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER (NDP)

6:45am NDP Breakfast
7:00am NDP
7:00pm Preschool Board mtg.
7:30pm Chancel Choir;
Middle School Bible Study (off site)

FRIDAY – May 6

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

SATURDAY – May 7

10:00am Youth Flower Sale Setup

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
11:30am Youth Committee mtg.
4:00pm Middle School and Senior High Youth Group

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

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance



On April 14, a 6.5 magnitude earthquake hit Kumamoto, Japan, followed two days later with an even stronger quake. All told, 41 people died in the combined events. On April 16, Ecuador experienced a 7.8 magnitude

earthquake. Current estimates list at least 413 people killed and over 2,500 injured; getting rescue crews to some of the most devastated areas has been difficult due to flooded roads and downed communication lines.

As the country heals from this extraordinary devastation, international aid will be crucial in setting up medical clinics, food, and shelter for survivors. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, in concert with Church World Service, is already on the ground in both Ecuador and Japan with emergency assistance.

First Presbyterian Church has already made a \$5,000 donation to support the PDA's emergency relief efforts in Ecuador and Japan. It is a testament to the members of this congregation that we were able to respond so quickly through rapid action of the Service & Outreach team. If you feel moved to add to this relief effort please know that your contributions are welcome. Contact ccupp@firstpreswc.com for additional information.



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office@firstpreswc.com | www.firstpreswc.com

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