



Service of the Lord's Day
Sunday, June 20, 2021

God's People Gather

"I was glad when they said unto me, let us go to the House of the Lord!"

(Psalm 122:1)

*With glad hearts, we welcome you to worship among this community of believers! We invite you to sit anywhere you wish. Some pews with social distance *spacers* have been designated on the lectern side near (but not at) the front for anyone who is more comfortable with some distance. Thank you for keeping your masks on – for now!*

Greetings and Announcements

Prayer of Preparation

Everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being: You have made us for yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Give us purity of heart and strength of purpose, that no selfish passion may hinder us from your knowing will, no weakness keep us from doing it; that in your light we may see light clearly, and in your service find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prelude "Blessed Assurance" -- arr. Glass

Alec Dorris, Soloist

***Call to Worship**

L: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;

P: for God's steadfast love endures forever.

L: Thank the Lord for God's steadfast love, for God's wonderful works to humankind.

P: God satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry God fills with good things. (from Psalm 107)

***Hymn This Is My Father's World (verses 1 and 2)**

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world. O, let me ne'er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet. This is my Father's world. The battle is not done: Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you love us, but we do not love you fully. You call, but we do not always listen. We often walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We often are silent and inactive in the face of injustice and wrongdoing. (silence) God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you move toward us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

L: Friends, believe the good news:

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

L: And Jesus says, "Receive my Spirit and be at peace."

*Response

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

God's Word is Heard

Time With Children

Anthem "It Is Well With My soul" – arr. Crockett

Alec Dorris, Soloist

Scripture Readings Job 38:1-11
Mark 4:35-41

Sermon God's Answer for Our Two Big Questions

Rev. W. Carter Lester, Jr.

God's People Respond

*Affirmation of Faith

God created all the worlds that are and upholds and rules everything. We affirm that the universe exists by the power of God's Word and Spirit. God has chosen to give it reality out of the love we have come to know in Christ. God still works through the processes that shape and change the earth and the living things upon it. We acknowledge God's care and control in the regularity of the universe as well as in apparently random happenings. There is no event from which God is absent and his ultimate purpose in all events is just and loving. That purpose embraces our choices and will surely be accomplished. The Creator works in all things toward the new creation that is promised in Christ.

(from A Declaration of Faith)

*Giving Our Gifts

Prayer of Dedication

Doxology

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne, it shall be thy royal throne.

Recognition of High School Graduates

Prayers of the People

The Lord be with you;

And also with you...

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

God's Sends Us Out

***Hymn A Mighty Fortress Is Our God** (verses 1 and 2)

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing. Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he. Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

***Blessing**

***Postlude "Trumpet Finale" – Viviani**

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

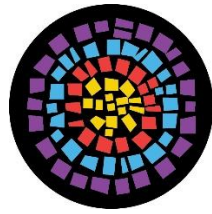
The image shown above is Rembrandt's painting, "Christ in the Storm on the Sea of Galilee."

Our sanctuary singers and musicians this morning are Bruce Achuff, Alec Dorris, John Genter, and Rob Wade. Thank you!

The sanctuary flowers are given by Frank and Joan Evans in loving memory of Joseph Wilson and Sarah Boyer, and dedicated to the First Responders and Law Enforcement members of our congregation.

Calendar of Events for this week:

Today	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	10:45 a.m.	Strawberry Fest (after worship)
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Mission Mornings (9am-12pm)
	7:00 p.m.	Scout Troop 146
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Church Library open during Office hours
	10:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	5:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts (Fellowship Hall, 5-8pm)
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Mission Mornings (9am-12pm)
	9:00 a.m.	Yoga
	5:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts (Fellowship Hall, 5-8pm)
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	Yoga
	9:00 a.m.	Church Library open during Office hours
	5:00 p.m.	Community Meals (lower parking lot)
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Mission Mornings (9am-2pm)
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Worship



**First
Presbyterian**
CHURCH *Pottstown*

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Rev. W. Carter Lester, Jr. & Rev. Karen Pidcock-Lester, Co-Pastors
Jaylee Ferreri, Director for Children, Youth, and Family Ministry
Debra Voytko, Organist, Cynthia K. Foust, Director of Music
Dawn Skelly, Parish Nurse

Jo Ann Bathurst, Children's Choir Director

Marie Kayati, Administrative Assistant -- Thomas Spitko, Sexton

Becky Bostwick, HENS Director, (610) 326-3690

Check out the church's website www.fpcpottstown.org

Sermons are available.

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