



The **FIRST**
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
in PHILADELPHIA

est. 1698

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 5, 2024

PRELUDE

Intermezzo

Peter Mathews

Timothy Schwarz, violin

INTROIT

Alleluia

Henry Purcell

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Laura Colee

*HYMN 108

Christ Is Alive!

TRURO

*OPENING SENTENCES

The Reverend Dr. Baron Mullis

O sing to the LORD a new song, for the Lord has done marvelous things.

The LORD has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the LORD with the sound of melody. With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

adapted from Psalm 98:1-6

*PRAYER OF ADORATION



A - men.

WELCOME

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the Confession of 1967

New life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

The new life does not release people from conflict with unbelief, pride, lust, and fear. They still have to struggle with disheartening difficulties and problems. Nevertheless, as they mature in love and faithfulness in their life with Christ, they live in freedom and good cheer, bearing witness on good days and evil days, confident that the new life is pleasing to God and helpful to others.

The members of the church are emissaries of peace and seek the good of all in cooperation with powers and authorities in politics, culture, and economics. But they have to fight against pretensions and injustices when these same powers endanger human welfare. Their strength is in their confidence that God's purpose rather than human schemes will finally prevail. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

You may bring your offering forward during the offertory, or place it in the plates after the service.

You may also give online; information is available on the card in the pew rack.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Greater Love Hath No Man

John Ireland

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

—Canticles 8, John 15, 1 Peter 2, 1 Corinthians 6; Romans 1

*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia. Praise God above ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

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.

*HYMN 485

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Amen, from *Preces and Responses*

Gabriel Jackson

POSTLUDE

Tocatta in D minor

Max Reger

* * *

“In 1961, more than four hundred Americans participated in a dangerous experiment designed to awaken the conscience of a complacent nation. Inspired by visions of social revolution and moral regeneration, these self-proclaimed “Freedom Riders” challenged the mores of a racially segregated society by performing a disarmingly simple act. Traveling together in small interracial groups, they sat where they pleased on buses and trains and demanded unrestricted access to terminal restaurants and waiting rooms, even in areas of the Deep South where such behavior was forbidden by law and custom.”

—Raymond Arsenault

Freedom Riders: 1961 and the Struggle for Racial Justice

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAY 5, 2024

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Monday, May 6	Worship Committee	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 7	Missions Committee	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 8	Stewardship & Budget Committee	6:30 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH

First Church is scheduling a new members class in June. If you are interested in becoming a member of First Church, please contact Rev. Laura Colee (laura.colee@fpcphila.org).

For more announcements, subscribe to our weekly email at fpcphila.org/subscribe.

SOULS SHOT PORTRAIT PROJECT™

Portraits of Victims of Gun Violence

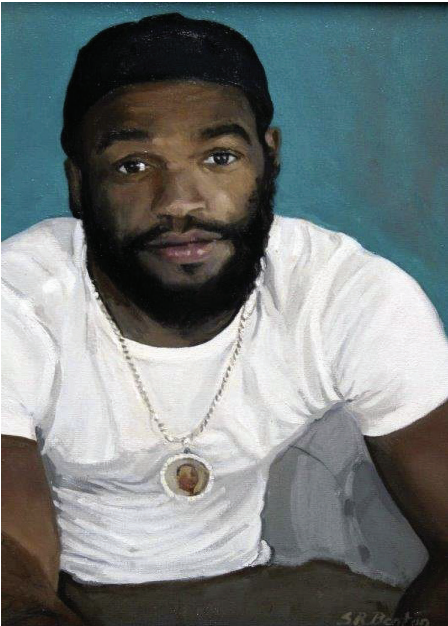


Shaliyah in Her Garden

Portrait of Shaliyah Haynes-Davis by Meghan Ealanora

EXHIBITION

Portraits of Loved Ones Taken by Gun Violence



For 'Nook.' May Your Light Shine On

Portrait of Vincent Thornton by Sally Benton

OPENING RECEPTION

Sunday, May 5 @ 12 noon

Free and open to the public

REGULAR EXHIBITION HOURS

MAY 6 - 29

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

11 AM - 3 PM

Fine artists, paired with families and friends of loved ones lost to gun violence, create portraits emphasizing the uniqueness of the souls portrayed. The exhibition is a truly moving tribute.

Please join us for this powerful experience.

soulshotportraitproject.org



est. 1698

The First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia
(entrance on 21st Street)

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