

First Presbyterian Church of Phoenixville 145 Main Street Phoenixville, PA 19460



This Sunday's worship service will be streamed live over the internet at 10:30 a.m. and will be available to the public. It will be broadcast on FPC's YouTube Channel - "FPC Phoenixville". The recorded version will be available for "anytime" viewing. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrmNs7JdvZNJpsNjs0Ds8vg

Morning Worship October 15, 2023 ### 10:30 a.m.

Prelude "God of Wonders" Praise Team

Welcome Rev. Doug Hagler

Passing the Peace (To humans and animals.)

Announcements Sarah Shulman

Call to Worship Karin Goodman

Leader: The creatures of God's creation inhabit the skies, the earth,

and the sea.

People: They share in the fortunes of human existence and have a part in human life.

Leader: God, who confers gifts on all living things,

People: values the lives of all creatures for their own sake.

Leader: Animals were saved from the flood,

People: and made part of the covenant with Noah.

Leader: The paschal lamb recalls the passover sacrifice

People: and the deliverance from slavery in Egypt.

Leader: A giant fish saved Jonah,

People: and animals were included in the repentance of Nineveh.

Leader: Ravens brought bread to Elijah,

People: and lions spent the night with Daniel in peace.

Leader: Animals share in Christ's redemption of all creation.

People: We therefore invoke God's blessing on these animals.

Let us praise our Creator

and thank God for setting us as stewards over all the

creatures of the earth.



TEXT: Francis of Assisi, 1225; trans. composite MUSIC: Ceistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, alt.; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906 (Please be seated.)

Prayer of Confession (unison)

This is the covenant God made with us:

that God would put the law within us, and write it upon our hearts, and would be our God, and we would be God's people.

God forgives the wrong we have done, and the good we leave undone. In penitence and faith, let us silently confess our sins to God.

(Silent prayer and reflection)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news of God's promise: God will pour out the Spirit on all flesh, and all who have the Spirit within them will be made new.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

* Gloria Patri (Children may come forward now for the children's message.) 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.

(Please be seated.)

Children's Sermon

Children will remain with their families in worship today.

Prayer for Illumination

Karin Goodman

Leader: Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Listen for what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Reading: Job 38

3. *continued*....

²⁸ "Has the rain a father, or who has fathered the drops of dew?

²⁹ From whose womb did the ice come forth, and who has given birth to the hoarfrost of heaven?

³⁰ The waters become hard like stone, and the face of the deep is frozen.

³¹ "Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades or loose the cords of Orion?

- ³² Can you lead forth the Mazzaroth in their season, or can you guide the Bear with its children?
- ³³ Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you establish their rule on the earth?
- ³⁹ "Can you hunt the prey for the lion or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,
- ⁴⁰ when they crouch in their dens or lie in wait in their covert?
- ⁴¹Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God and wander about for lack of food?

Reading: Job 39

- ³⁹ "Can you hunt the prey for the lion or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,
- ⁴⁰ when they crouch in their dens or lie in wait in their covert?
- ⁴¹ Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God and wander about for lack of food?

Reading: Job 40

- ¹⁵ "Look at Behemoth, which I made just as I made you; it eats grass like an ox.
- ¹⁶ Its strength is in its loins and its power in the muscles of its belly.
- ¹⁷ It makes its tail stiff like a cedar; the sinews of its thighs are knit together.
- ¹⁸ Its bones are tubes of bronze, its limbs like bars of iron.
- ¹⁹ "It is the first of the great acts of God; only its Maker can approach it with the sword.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God. Amen.



TEXT: Katherine K. Davis, 1939, alt.
MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; harm. Gerald H. Knight, 20th cent.
Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company
Music Harm. © Royal School of Church Music

Sermon

Rev. Doug Hagler

For those of you at home: this is the blessing I'll be offering, and you can offer the same blessing now if you wish.

Everlasting God, creator and giver of life, bless this your creature. May our love mirror your love, and grant them health and peace.

Offering

Leader: With what shall we come before the Holy One, and bow ourselves before God on high? God has shown us what is good.

Let us present ourselves to God as those who have been delivered from death to life.

Blessing of the Animals

Pastor Doug will now come to each of you who have brought an animal, or animals, and offer a blessing. During the blessing of the animals, you are invited to share your blessings through the offering.

Offertory "The Stand" Praise Team

* Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

Elder: Jill Kleppinger

Joys and Concerns

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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

"This Is My Father's World"



TEXT: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901

MUSIC: Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915; harm. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1926, alt.

Rev. Doug Hagler Praise Team

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary are given today to the glory of God.

No Sunday School Today

There will be no Sunday School classes today. Children should remain with the congregation to enjoy and participate in the Blessing of the Animals.

New Office Manager

We are happy to announce that we have found a **new Office Manager** to take over when Sue retires at the end of October and it is our very own **Maggie O'Malley!** She will be working at FPC as one of her two jobs, and her hours initially will be 10 hours on Mondays, 4 hours on Wednesdays, and 10 hours on Fridays. (Pastor Doug will still plan to be in the office at least on Tuesday and Thursday to ensure that it is always covered.)

The rule: You are welcome to congratulate Maggie, but please hold off on discussing anything related to her new position as Office manager until **October 23rd**. (This means not talking about what she'll be doing, what you want her to do when she starts, making appointments to meet with her, etc. Let's let her enjoy her last few days, until we are paying her). On behalf of the Personnel Committee, we are happy and excited that this position change will work for Maggie and we look forward to working with her.

Finally: We are so thankful and grateful for the time that Sue Smith has been with us, and wish her the very best retirement ever!. -Pastor Doug

Retirement Celebration

The Session of First Presbyterian Church invites you to a celebration of Sue Smith! Sue is retiring after 17 years as our Church Office Manager, and we will send her off with a reception following worship on Sunday, October 22. Please join us in Fellowship Hall for cake and other goodies but more importantly to show Sue some love.

Pub Theology

The next Pub Theology will meet on Sunday, October 15th at 7:00 PM at (The Foodery, 325 Bridge St, Phoenixville). Join Pastor Doug in a discussion of theological topics and current events over food and drinks. Listen, chat, and hash things out...it's fun and thought-provoking!

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE ONLINE AUCTION WITH MAXSOLD NOW until 8:00 PM, Wednesday, October 18th

People-to-People's MaxSold October Auction has started. There are lots of interesting items: guitar, sports attire, toys, jewelry, vintage items, fall & holiday items, and more. Check out the auction that benefits People to People's outreach to our community. The auction can be found by clicking on this link https://bit.ly/P2POctAuction. The auction will conclude on Wednesday, October 18th, with pick up in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, October 21st. Enjoy looking and the thrill of bidding! Thank you, *People to People*

Tonight: Sunday School Teachers Meeting

A Zoom meeting for Sunday School teachers will be held this evening at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will mostly be an informal opportunity to discuss how Sunday School is going so far this fall, to share ideas, and to address any questions or concerns that have arisen. In addition, we will discuss the upcoming Christmas Pageant and ideas for intergenerational activities through next spring. The Zoom link was emailed to all teachers, but please contact Jeff McLaughlin (fpcchildrenandyouth@gmail.com) if you do not have it.

Prayer Requests

Joys:

Concerns: Helen Harrop; The Camilari family

Prayer Chain & Prayer Requests

To request prayers, you can fill out a card in the worship service, drop a note off in the church office or email Amy Myers and members will be lifting you up in prayer. fpcprayerchain1@gmail.com You may also call Sue Smith at (610) 933-8816 and she will forward your requests on to Amy. Anyone interested in being a Prayer Warrior should email Amy.

Men's Group Book Discussion

Join the Men's Group on the 3rd Sunday of each month after church for lunch and discussion. Next meeting date will be Oct. 15th. The book to be discussed will be "Cry Like a Man".

Presbytery Women's Circle

The women's study, *Sacred Encounters*, will begin on Sunday, Oct. 15th at 12:00 n. in the parlor. Bring a snack or your lunch. Enjoy a brief video session followed by discussion and prayer. Join in this fun learning experience.

Remembering Loved Ones

On November 5th, All Saints' Sunday, we will note in the bulletin the names of the saints (believers) from our congregation who have died <u>during the past year</u>. We will also note other relatives and loved ones who have died in the past year but were not members of this church. If you would like the names of those loved ones listed, please send a message to Sue Smith at <u>secretaryfpc145@gmail.com</u> or call the church office at 610-933-8816.

Bridge of Hope New Sponsors

You may remember that we are recruiting for our next Bridge of Hope cohort to work together to keep a family from experiencing homelessness. So far we have three people who have expressed interest, and ideally we would like to have at least three more. If you have questions, or are interested, talk to Pastor Doug.

Queer Circle Book Study

The next meeting of the Queer Circle Book Study is scheduled for Monday, October 23rd at 7pm via Zoom. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85778319381 Join us as we discuss the book -Outlove: A Queer Christian Survival Story. We hope that this discussion will bring in folks who are interested in learning more about gender, sexual orientation, Christian faith, and related issues. Talk to Pastor Doug, Sarah Shulman, or Jacqui Busch for more information, and we hope to see you there.

Raise Right Gift Cards

We ask that you consider shopping with **gift cards** to your favorite stores while at the same time you benefit the church financially. A percentage of each gift card is donated to our church.

In October we will be placing orders on **Wednesday**, **October 11** and Wednesday, **October 25**. If you would like to place an order, please call or text Lynne Williams at 610-955-4749 (cell), or send an email to (<u>brettdrew@comcast.net</u>).

We will complete the order forms for you. Please pick up a **list of retailers**, located in the narthex and the office.

Orders and checks must be received by the day before the orders are placed (October 10 and October 25). Please make checks payable to "First Presbyterian Church DR". As always, thank you for continuing to support this program! The Stewardship Committee

Gratitude Journal

During our year-long journey of gratitude, we invite you to record your responses in a journal so you can reflect at the end of the year.

This week's prompt is: Learning about a new culture.

If you would like to share your reflection (1-2 minutes) after a specific prompt or something you are grateful for, please let us know and we can let you share! The Church Growth Committee

Books Through Bars

The next Books Through Bars volunteer trip will be on Saturday, October 21st. Registration to volunteer is available via Sign-Up Genius. https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050F4AADA722A1FB6-books2, or call Sue Smith in the church office (610-933-8816) to sign up. Please indicate if you are willing to share with driving. Volunteers will meet in the church parking lot at 10:30 am and return by 2:30 pm. Thanks in advance for your help with this meaningful ministry.

Antiracism Book Club

The Antiracism Book Club will be discussing "We Remain: Race, Racism and the Story of the American Indian" by Keith R. Burich on Sunday, October 22nd at 7:00 p.m. The zoom link for this group can be found in The Beat or ask Sue Smith to email it to you. Newcomers are welcome!

Cards for the Military

There is a basket in fellowship hall for your cards, letters, and notes for individuals serving in the military. Jen Johnson will be delivering these notes to her nephew Peter Johnson and his Navy squadron.

Contact Jen (physedjj@verizon.net) for more information.

Support Maui

The rebuilding process has begun across Maui following the devastating wildfires that killed at least 115 people and displaced thousands more. Overall, the wildfire has affected an estimated 3,453 acres of land.

The burn area is restricted to authorized personnel only as federal agencies remove potentially dangerous ash and other debris. This could take months, officials have said. To support Maui in its rebuilding process, please write a check out to First Presbyterian Church of Phoenixville with "Maui" in the memo line.

This Week in the Life of the Church

Sunday, October 15th (*Childcare available.)

8:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study via Zoom

10:30 a.m. *OUTDOOR WORSHIP - Blessing of the Animals

In person and via YouTube

12:00 n. Men's Group (start in the office then out for lunch)

12:00 n. Women's Circle (parlor)

7:00 p.m. Sunday School teachers meeting via Zoom

7:00 p.m. Pub Theology (The Foodery, 325 Bridge St, Phoenixville)

Monday, October 16th

9:00 a.m. People to People Clothing+ ministry (fellowship hall)

12:30 p.m. Church staff meeting via Zoom

6:30 p.m. Zumba class (fellowship hall)

Tuesday, October 17th

6:30 p.m. Zumba class (fellowship hall)

7:30 p.m. Property Committee meeting (office)

Wednesday, October 18th

12:30 p.m. Church Growth Committee meeting (Panera Bread Collegeville)

7:30 p.m. Handbell choir rehearsal (choir room)

Thursday, October 19th

9:00 a.m. Women, Infants & Children (fellowship hall)

9:00 a.m. People to People clothing+ ministry (fellowship hall)

10:00 a.m. People to People Food ministry (kitchen)

7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal (choir room)

Friday, October 20th

9:00 a.m. Women, Infants & Children (fellowship hall)

Saturday, October 21st

7:30 a.m. Parking lot rented by St. John's UCC till 1:00 p.m.

9:30 a.m. Zumba class (fellowship hall)

10:30 a.m. Books Through Bars (leave from church parking lot)

10:45 a.m. MaxSold pick up (fellowship hall till 1:00 p.m.)

Sunday, October 22nd (*Childcare available.)

8:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study via Zoom

10:30 a.m. *WORSHIP – Rev. Doug Hagler, In person and via YouTube

10:45 a.m. *Sunday School classes

11:45 a.m. Retirement reception for Sue Smith (fellowship hall)

12:00 n. Confirmation class (3rd floor classroom)

7:00 p.m. Antiracism Book Club via Zoom

Rev. Douglas Hagler, Pastor145@comcast.net; 415-300-7912 (cell)

Diane Legnini, Director of Music; Sarah Shulman, Praise Team Leader Maggie O'Malley, Communications Coordinator,

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Jeff McLaughlin, Children & Youth Coordinator

fpcchildrenandyouth@gmail.com

Sue Smith, Office Manager, secretaryfpc145@gmail.com

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Church Treasurer: fpctreasurer145@gmail.com

Elders on Session

Ken Brown Kevin Carrabine Kathryn Grocki Roger Warwick Jewell Baker (Cl

Jewell Baker (Clerk) George Cockerill

Jeff McLaughlin

Adam Smith Karin Goodman Cassy Gulden Jill Kleppinger

Jeanie Osterhoudt

Board of Deacons

Jen Johnson Kathy Thais Gail Schnaedter Ellen Williams Kristin Craven Gail Landazuri

Mona Sabia (Chairperson)

Paulette Mark Lucinda Parrish Lynne Williams Bob Wittrock