

Today's worship service will be streamed live at 10:30 AM and recorded. To view the liturgy, visit FPC's YouTube Channel - "FPC Phoenixville" - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrmNs7JdvZNjpsNjs0Ds8vg>

Morning Worship || November 12, 2023 || 10:30 AM

Prelude *“O Day of Peace that Dimly Shines”* R.B. Farley

Welcome

Passing the Peace

Announcements Jeff McLaughlin

Minute for Mission Jewell Baker, Star Tree & Christmas Dinners

Call to Worship

Terri Camilari

Psalm 78 (responsive)

- 1 Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings from of old,
3 things that we have heard and known,
that our ancestors have told us.
- 4 **We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might,
and the wonders that he has done.**
- 5 **He established a decree in Jacob,
and appointed a law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach to their children;**
- 6 **that the next generation might know them,
the children yet unborn,
and rise up and tell them to their children,**

1. *continued...*

so that they should set their hope in God,
and not forget the works of God,
but keep his commandments;

* Hymn # 352 “My Lord! What a Morning”

Refrain

My Lord! what a morn-ing; my Lord! what a morn-ing;

O my Lord! what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to

fall, when the stars be-gin to fall. 1 You will hear the trum-pet
2 You will hear the sin-ner
3 You will hear the Chris-tian

sound
cry,
shout, to wake the na-tions un-der ground,

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

This spiritual reflects on Jesus' saying about the endtimes as recorded in Matthew 24:29-30/Mark 13:24-26. It belongs to the slower, less common style of spirituals with long, sustained phrases and was among those popularized in concerts by the Fisk Jubilee Singers.

TEXT: African American spiritual
MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1989
Music Arr. © 1990 Melva W. Costen

MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING
Irregular

(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: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: 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

*Following the message children may go to their Sunday School rooms, to the
church nursery room or they may stay with their family in worship.*

Call to the Word

"Thy Word is Living"

Choir

Prayer for Illumination

Terri Camilari

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.

¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reading: Matthew 25:1-13

¹ "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴ but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵ As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶ But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹ But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' ¹⁰ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹ Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹² But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' ¹³ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sermon

Rev. Doug Hagler



1 Re - joice! Re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing; re - plen-ish them with oil;
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing and dark - er night is near.
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this shad - owed sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon he will draw nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

Up, watch with ex - pec - ta - tion; at mid - night comes the cry.
 a - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the Bride - groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

The Latin original of this text based on the parable of the wise and foolish maidens (Matthew 25:1-13) consisted of ten stanzas, but this briefer version is more appropriate for its message of urgency. It is set to a spirited minor Welsh tune named for a Pembrokeshire village.

TEXT: Laurentius Laurenti, 1700; trans. Sarah Borthwick Findlater, 1854; alt. *The Hymnal* 1982
 MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; *Llwybrau Moliant*, 1872; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

LLANGLOFFAN
 7.6.7.6.D

(Please be seated.)

Call to 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.

Offertory

"I Want to Be Ready"

Spiritual

*** 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: Kathryn Grocki

(Please be seated.)

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 # 348

"Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending"

1 Lo, he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
2 Now re - demp - tion, long ex - pect - ed,
3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,

once for our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand,
comes in sol - emn splen - dor near; all the
high on thine e - ter - nal throne; Sav - ior,

6. *continued...*

thou - sand saints at - tend - ing join to
saints this world re - ject - ed thrill the
take the power and glo - ry; claim the

sing the glad re - frain: Al - le -
trum - pet sound to hear: Al - le -
king - dom as thine own. Come, Lord

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
Je - sus; come, Lord Je - sus; come, Lord

lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!
Je - sus. Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

Despite unclear musical origins, the result here is a characteristic early Methodist hymn tune, notable for its breadth and range. It effectively sets a text of similarly mixed sources, one that Charles Wesley regarded as related to "Thy kingdom come" in the Lord's Prayer.

TEXT: Stanzas 1, 3, Charles Wesley, 1758, alt.; stanza 2, John Cennick, 1752, alt.
MUSIC: Thomas Olivers, 1763; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

HELMSLEY
8.7.8.7.4.4.4.7

* Benediction

Sanctuary Flowers

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

Holiday Card Writing

The Church Growth Committee invites all to a Holiday Card Writing event in Fellowship Hall after today's worship service. Join the Committee in writing holiday cards to those incarcerated at the SCI Phoenix and Muncy prisons. Suggestions for wording will be provided as well as light refreshments. Come and gather to snack and share some holiday spirit!

2024 Pledge Campaign

Stewardship begins with gratitude to God for everything we have received from Him. We express our thanksgiving and gratitude by giving back to God a portion of His gifts. As we begin the 2024 Pledge Campaign, the Stewardship Committee asks that you prayerfully consider your financial commitment to our church. Your generous and faithful offerings help to support the many ministries of First Presbyterian Church. Your pledge helps the Finance Committee as they plan for the coming year. Please place your completed pledge card in the offering plate on Dedication Sunday, November 19th. You may also return it by mail in the pre-addressed envelope that you receive with the card. Thank you for sharing your many gifts, and for your continued financial support.

The Stewardship Committee

Adult Sunday School / Bible Study

There are some scheduling and content changes to share regarding Adult Sunday School/Bible Study. **Nov. 12th** - no session; **Nov. 19th** - 8:00 AM start time with a new book; **Nov. 26th & Dec. 3rd** - 8:30 AM start time; **Dec. 10th** - 8:00 AM start time; **Dec. 24th & 31st** - no session; **Jan. 7th** - sessions resume at 8:30 AM. The book for the Advent Study will be *The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem* by Adam Hamilton. New learners are always welcome. This is a short series and a great way to "get

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your feet wet." If interested, please contact [Sue Casey](#) for a book and the Zoom link.

Community Thanksgiving Eve Service

First United Methodist Church (865 Main St, Phoenixville) will host a Community Thanksgiving Eve service at 7 PM on November 22nd. It will be a great time to join with our Methodist friends again and give thanks for all we have.

Scrip Gift Cards

Let the Stewardship Committee help you with your **Christmas shopping**, while at the same time provide you the opportunity to support our church. We are placing orders for **gift cards** every Wednesday, beginning **December 1**. (Orders will be placed **12/1, 12/8, 12/15, and 12/22**) If you would like to place an order, please call Lynne Williams at 610-415-1581 (home) or 610-955-4749 (cell). You may mail your check to Lynne, drop it off at her home, (14 Schofield Road, Phoenixville, PA 19460), or see her at church on Sunday morning. Orders and checks must be received by the day before the orders are placed (**Nov. 30, Dec. 7, Dec. 14 & Dec. 21**). Please make checks payable to "First Presbyterian Church DR". You do not need to fill out an order form. We will do that for you. Happy Christmas Shopping! As always, thank you for continuing to support this program.

Pick-Up Choir

By popular demand, we will be having a Pick-Up Choir on Sunday, November 19th. Our anthem will be "*Soon and Very Soon*" by Andre Crouch. This is a simple, lively 4-part arrangement of this well-known hymn. Please join the choir at 9:45 a.m. at the piano to learn the anthem for later in the Service.

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 Nov. 19th. The book to be discussed will be "*Cry Like a Man*". Meet in the main office after the

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worship service and then go to lunch. Contact Pastor Doug if you have any questions about the group. Book or no book, all are welcome!

Presbytery Women's Circle

The women's study, *Sacred Encounters*, will begin on Sunday, Nov. 19th 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.

Pub Theology

The next Pub Theology will meet on Sunday, Nov. 19th (revised date) 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!

Thanksgiving Eve Community Interfaith Worship Service

First United Methodist Church (865 Main St, Phoenixville) will host a Thanksgiving Eve Community Interfaith Worship Service at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, November 22nd. It will be a great time to join with our Methodist friends again and give thanks for all we have.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

First United Methodist Church (FUMC, 865 Main St, Phoenixville) will also host the annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 23rd, at 12:00 PM. Take-out meals and deliveries will be available. Help is needed. To donate food or time, please call FUMC at 610-933-5936.

Antiracism Book Club

Zoom with the Antiracism Book Club when they meet again on Sunday, November 26th. Discussion will flow from the book *We Remain: Race, Racism, and the Story of the American Indian* by Keith R. Burich. Join us at 7:00 PM and discover how much there is to learn! Newcomers are welcome! Contact Pastor Doug if interested – Pastor145@comcast.net.

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: **How are you thankful for knowing your limits and trusting in God?** 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*

Queer Circle Book Study

The next meeting of the Queer Circle Book Study is scheduled for Monday, November 27th at 7pm via Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85778319381>. Join us the book discussion of *The Book of Queer Prophets*, edited by Ruth Hunt. This is a great opportunity to learn more about gender, sexual orientation, Christian faith, and related issues. Talk to Pastor Doug, Sarah Shulman, or Jacqui Busch for more information.

Star Tree & Christmas Dinners

Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus...and it's us! This year we will help 6 local families have a Merry Christmas. Use this Star Tree Sign-Up Genius link to pick gifts and food items you're able to donate -

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050F4AADA722A1FB6-star2>. Please be sure to attach the number (letter-number) to your gift bag and return it (unwrapped) to the church on or before Sunday, December 3rd. Thanks from the MAC Committee elves!

Church Decorating

The Worship & Music Committee will be decorating the church for Advent/Christmas on Saturday, December 2nd, from 9:30 AM-12:00 noon. There will be decorations for all ages to be part of the event.

SPECIAL note: We would like to display our big tree this year. Assembly takes several strong people to put it up. If you can help with the tree on December 2nd, please let Maggie know by Tuesday, November 28th - call 610-933-8816 or email secretaryfpc145@gmail.com.

Special Communion Service

On Sunday, December 3rd, the FPC Choir will be presenting “The Desert Shall Rejoice”, an Advent communion service based on the Book of Isaiah and original poetry composed by our own Jacqui Busch. The readings and original poetry will be framed with anthems and antiphons sung by our choir, congregational hymns, and Advent candle lighting. Please mark your calendars and be sure to join us at the 10:30 AM worship service for this special introduction to the Advent season.

Caroling & Cocoa

Save the date! The Parish Life Committee will host our annual Caroling & Cocoa gathering on Sunday, December 10th. Please plan to join us for singing led by Rebecca Barkley, hot cocoa, and maybe some yummy goodies too. Stay tuned for more details.

Worship & Event Safety

You are welcome to use the doors on either side of the chancel to go to the restrooms at any time during worship. If you have a mobility concern, we have an usher in the Narthex who will accompany you down the ramp and let you in through the glass door. For security reasons, we will be keeping the glass door locked during worship. In addition, as a response to safety and security concerns, the Session has decided that external doors will remain locked during church events. If arriving late, people will need to be let into the building as needed once an event has begun.

Prayer Requests

Joys:

Concerns: Helen Harrop, Sharyn Funderwhite, Denny, Michael Wilson

Prayer Chain & Prayer Requests

The Prayer Chain ministry is in need of a new organizer because Amy Myers is moving to Pittsburgh. She has been a fabulous coordinator for years and will be missed. This position offers a special way to stay connected with FPC congregants without having to be onsite. If you are interested in filling this vital role, please talk with Amy or Maggie. In the

12. continued...

meantime, you can email requests to Amy at fpcprayerchain1@gmail.com and members will be lifting you up in prayer. You may also call Maggie O'Malley at 610-933-8816 and she will forward your requests.

Books Through Bars

The next Books Through Bars volunteer trip will be on Saturday, Nov. 18th. 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.

Bulletin Announcements

All announcements for the Sunday bulletin must be given to Maggie in the church office no later than noon on Wednesdays.

This Week in the Life of the Church

Sunday, November 12 (*Childcare available.)

10:30 a.m. *WORSHIP – In person and via YouTube

10:45 a.m. *Sunday School classes (upstairs classrooms)

12:00 p.m. Holiday Card Writing (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, November 13

9:00 a.m. People to People Clothing Ministry (Fellowship Hall)

6:30 p.m. Zumba Class (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting - Zoom

Tuesday, November 14

5:30 p.m. Parish Life Committee Meeting (Parlor)

6:30 p.m. Zumba class (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 p.m. Personnel Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 15

12:30 p.m. Church Growth Committee Meeting (Panera, Collegeville)

7:30 p.m. Handbell choir rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, November 16

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, November 17

9:00 a.m. Women, Infants & Children (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, November 18

9:30 a.m. Zumba Class (Fellowship Hall)

10:30 a.m. Books Through Bars (meet in church parking)

Sunday, November 19 (**Childcare available.*)

8:00 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

12:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting (parlor)

Nursery & Sunday School: The church nursery is located on the 2nd floor of the main building in room 209 and is available for children ages infant-3 years. All children 3 years and older are invited to attend Sunday School during worship (children will depart fellowship hall for their classrooms immediately following the Children's Sermon), with ages 3-5 in room 210, ages 6-8 in room 208, and grades 5 and older in the third-floor class-room. Sunday School is from 10:45am–11:45am.

Restrooms: The church restrooms are located on the first & second floors of the main building. Ushers can help direct you to the restrooms.

For Hearing Assistance: If you wish to use a wireless assistive listening device to better hear the service, see one of the ushers.

Large Print Bulletins are available from an usher.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee requests names from the congregation to form the Nominating Committee **Members At Large**, to serve during the calendar year 2024 until the 2025 Congregational meeting.

The Nominating Committee is composed of two Elders appointed by Session, one of which must be currently serving on Session; one Deacon representative appointed by the board, and **four at-large members of the congregation**. The congregation votes on these four nominations. It is this new Nominating Committee that will find the next slate of officers.

Please submit names to the church office no later than Sunday, Dec. 3rd.

Thank you from the 2023 Nominating Committee:
Adam Smith and Karin Goodman



Christmas Poinsettias



Now is the time to start thinking about decorating our church for Christmas --- and everyone has a chance to share in it. The Worship and Music Committee would like to encourage everyone to think about ordering a red poinsettia that will be used to beautify the Sanctuary for worship during the Christmas season.

As in the past, you may give a poinsettia in memory of a loved one, to honor a person, or to express appreciation for someone who has played a special part in your life or in the life of the church. Or you may just want to help to make our worship space beautiful for Christmas and then take the plant home to enjoy! **The cost for each poinsettia is \$10.25.** Please drop off or send the order form and payment to the church office by **November 19th**. Thank you for your participation! We look forward to seeing a beautiful display on Sunday, December 3rd!

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Number of plants ordered: _____ @ \$10.25 each.

Total cost: \$ _____

I will pick up my poinsettia:

- ☐ after the 10:30 am service on December 24th.
- ☐ after the 9:00 pm service on Christmas Eve.

Acknowledgement for bulletin: (please print)

Given by: _____

[in memory of] [in honor of] _____

[in appreciation for]

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

Diane Legnini, Director of Music

Sarah Shulman, Praise Team Leader

Maggie O'Malley, Office Manager & Communications Coordinator,

Secretaryfpc145@gmail.com & FPCcommunications@comcast.net

Jeff McLaughlin, Children & Youth Coordinator,

fpcchildrenandyouth@gmail.com

Church Treasurer: fpctreasurer145@gmail.com

Church Telephone: 610-933-8816

Website: FPC-Phoenixville.org

Elders on Session

Ken Brown

Kevin Carrabine

Kathryn Grocki

Roger Warwick

Jewell Baker (Clerk)

George Cockerill

Jeff McLaughlin

Adam Smith

Karin Goodman

Cassy Gulden

Jill Kleppinger

Jeanie Osterhoudt

Deacons

Jen Johnson

Kathy Thais

Gail Schnaedter

Ellen Williams

Kristin Craven

Gail Landazuri

Mona Sabia (Chairperson)

Paulette Mark

Lucinda Parrish

Lynne Williams

Bob Wittrock