

Jesus



lives!



FPC Phoenixville

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

Rev. Douglas Hagler, Pastor145@comcast.net
Church #: 610-933-8816

Secretaryfpc145@gmail.com
FPC-Phoenixville.org

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

‡ April 7, 2024 ‡ 10:30 a.m. ‡

Prelude: *"Poor Wayfaring Stranger"*

arr. Bradley Sowash

Welcome

Jacqui Busch

Passing the Peace

Announcements

Karin Goodman

Minute for Mission

Meals on Wheels

Call to Worship (leader, people)

Jacqui Busch

Easter Sunday has come and gone, but the Easter season continues.

Let us prepare to meet the resurrected One again.

Disciples of Jesus, do not cower in fear in a locked room!

Let us throw open the doors to the risen Christ!

Christ gifts us with the Holy Spirit, a gentle breath on the cheek.

Let us worship God in spirit and truth!

* **Hymn #246:** "Christ Is Alive!"

(see page 14)

(Please be seated.)

Call to Confession

1 John 1:8-9 says, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Let us pray together in unison.

Prayer of Confession

Sometimes, Lord, we are like Job, who saw himself covered by dark, thick, clouds; and sometimes we are like Peter, crying out in fear because of the raging storm all around us.

Sometimes, Lord, the thick darkness is within us, the darkness of depression, the darkness of doubt, the darkness of worry, the darkness of fear.

Speak, Lord Jesus, with your strong, yet gentle voice. Let us hear the word that brings calm, shalom, and forgiveness, the word that assures us that you are present with us, the word that brings peace, and the word that convinces us that in the end your divine power will prevail.

(Silent prayer and reflection)

Assurance of Pardon (leader, people)

The one who calls us to this place
calls us to reconciliation through grace.

God will not deny a repentant heart or an open spirit.

Know that you are forgiven and walk in the new way
that is made known to you in God's love.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*** Gloria Patri**

(Children may come forward now for the children's message and bring their coats if participating in Sunday School.)

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

Sue Casey

Following the message, children may go to the upstairs classrooms, to the church nursery room, or they may stay with their family in worship.

Call to the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Jacqui Busch

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: Psalm 133

Jacqui Busch

¹Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.

²Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore.

³From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.

⁴The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens.

⁵Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high,

⁶who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?

⁷He raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

⁸to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people.

⁹He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the Lord!

Reading: John 20:19-31

Jacqui Busch

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send

you.”²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sermon: *“Presence, Peace, Power, and Purpose”*

Rev. Charlie Gross

***Hymn:** “Because He Lives”

(see page 15)

(Please be seated.)

Offering Prayer (leader, people)

The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it, even us.

Freely you have received, freely give.

Let us worship God by joyously giving our time, our talents, and our treasures, as a token of our love!

Offertory

Please see the QR code card in your pew if you wish to give via credit card, PayPal, or ApplePay.

*** 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: Doug Walker

(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: "He Lives"**

(see page 16)

*** Benediction**

Rev. Charlie Gross

Postlude: "I've Got Peace Like A River" arr. Mark Hayes

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Joys:

Concerns: Family & friends of Patty; Family & friends of Kathryn;
Patience

PRAYER CHAIN: Please send any prayer needs to the new email address, fpcprayerchain2@gmail.com. Your request will be distributed to FPC's prayer angels. Their silent efforts will be put to work to lift you up. The same email address can be used for anyone wishing to join the prayer team.

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Apr. 14th: 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

Apr. 21st: Acts 4:5-12; 1 John 3:16-24

TODAY'S GUEST PREACHER: Thank you to Rev. Charlie Gross for serving at FPC today. Here is a brief bio. He grew up in East Petersburg, PA and now lives there again. He married his high school sweetheart, Lisa, in 1973. They have three grown children and six grandchildren. Charlie went to Grove City College, Webster University, Goldey Beacom College, and Lancaster Theological Seminary. He was a Titan II Missile Combat Crew Commander in the U.S. Air Force, then attended pilot training and flew C-130s for twenty years. He retired in 1999 as a Lt Col in the Delaware Air National Guard. He entered the ministry in 1999 and served as the Associate Executive Presbyter and Acting Executive Presbyter for the Presbytery of Donegal. In 2011, he was called to pastor the West Grove Presbyterian Church. He retired in August 2019. Charlie loves travel, folk dancing at the Lancaster Liederkrantz, journaling, and spending time with his family. He started a podcast in 2020 titled, "*Encouraging Words by Charlie Gross*," (available on iTunes, Google, or at: <http://charliegross.com>). The podcasts are also available in book form at the same link.

TODAY’S MINUTE FOR MISSION: The MAC Committee has invited representatives from the Meals on Wheels organization to present a Minute for Mission today. Linda Keenan and Alma Zadrejko will share information about the local program. More details can be found on the Meals on Wheels of Chester County website, <https://mowcc.org/>.

IN MEMORIAM: Kathryn Grocki

A Celebration of Life service for Kathryn Grocki will be held in FPC's sanctuary on Wednesday, April 10th. Visitation with the family will begin at 10:00 AM and a worship service will follow at 11:00 AM. The burial will be in the Washington Memorial Chapel cemetery immediately after the service. Then, a luncheon will be held in FPC's Fellowship Hall.

GRATITUDE JOURNAL: The journaling prompt for the **month of April** is “*How do you show kindness to nature?*” 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 during worship with a Minute for Gratitude!

SCRIP GIFT CARDS: April dates for Scrip Orders are on Mondays, the **8th** and **22nd**. To place an order, please call or text Lynne Williams at 610-955- 4749 (cell), or send an email to brettdrew@comcast.net. We will complete the order forms for you. Please make checks payable to “First Presbyterian Church DR”. Use the cards and the church gets a percentage. Thank you! *The Stewardship Committee*

GATHERING OF BLADES: On **April 20th**, the Men's Group will experience a Gathering of Blades. You are invited to join all at Angry Jack's Axe Throwing Club in Phoenixville. This event started as a Men's Group gathering, but anyone is welcome. Let [Pastor Doug](#) know by Friday, **April 12th**, so that he can make a reservation. The plan is to throw axes at either 1:00 PM or 2:00 PM - specific time TBA.

SPRING FLING BINGO: The time for Spring Fling Bingo is at hand. Friday, **April 12th**, at 6:00 PM in Fellowship Hall Come as yourselves or dress in your spring floral finest. Wear your favorite spring hat! We also welcome bunnies, baby animal costumes, or anything that makes you smile. It consists of 10 rounds, with both an adult and child prize for each round. Children/teens are welcome to bring a favorite joke to tell at intermission. Here's your chance to use the microphone! Keep it G-rated for good, godly fun! Please register by using this SignUp Genius link, <https://bit.ly/springflingbingo24> , or scanning the QR Code.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: The offerings for the “One Great Hour of Sharing” (OGHS) collection will be dedicated next Sunday, **April 14th**. There’s still time to contribute! Please remember to bring your special envelopes, or use one from the narthex, or bring your coins to fill a Sunday Schooler’s “fish box”. Together we can once again help change the lives of many. Thank you for your life-changing offering.

PUB THEOLOGY: The next Pub Theology night will be on Sunday, **April 14th**, 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 tings out. It’s fun and thought-provoking!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: All are invited to Zoom for Bible Study at 8:30AM **Sunday mornings**. The current book is “*Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws*”. A new topic will start on April 28 or May 5 with sessions likely going to the end of June. See Sue Casey for details.

MAC TREASURER: The MAC Committee is looking for a new treasurer. If you are called to serve, please email MissionsFPC@gmail.com.

BOOKS THROUGH BARS COORDINATOR: The Church Growth Committee is looking for a Books Through Bars Coordinator who will assist with finding volunteers for a monthly trip and assist with carpool arrangements. If you are interested or have any questions, contact Kristin at kristin.c.craven@gmail.com

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: Last May, we kicked off a Capital Campaign with the purpose of funding repairs to the sanctuary and roof. These repairs were necessary for us to safely return to worshipping together in the sanctuary, which we were able to do in time for last Easter. We appreciate all who have already donated and pledged. To date, \$75,988 has been pledged, of which \$68,220 has been received. This is approximately 43% of our goal of \$160,000. Every contribution helps secure the financial security and the future of First Presbyterian Church. If you have not yet pledged to this campaign, we ask that you prayerfully consider doing so in the coming weeks and months. It is not too late! This effort will continue through the month of May. You may find pledge cards and envelopes in the narthex and the church office. We thank you for your continued support and commitment to our church.

The Stewardship Committee

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**This Week in the Life of the Church**

**SUNDAY, April 7** (\*Childcare available)

8:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study with Sue Casey (Zoom)

10:30 a.m. \*WORSHIP – Rev. Charlie Gross, in-person and on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@fpcphoenixville7042>

10:45 a.m. Sunday School (Upstairs Classrooms)

12:00 p.m. Deacons’ Meeting (Zoom)

**Monday, April 8**

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

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

## **Tuesday, April 9**

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

7:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

## **Wednesday, April 10**

Kathyrn Grocki's Life Celebration

- 10:00 a.m. Visitation with the Family (Sanctuary)

- 11:00 a.m. Memorial Service (Sanctuary)

  - Followed by the burial and then a luncheon in Fellowship Hall

2:00 p.m. Trumpet Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

7:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

## **Thursday, April 11**

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, April 12**

6:00 p.m. Spring Fling Bingo (Fellowship Hall)

## **Saturday, April 13**

1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Private Party (Fellowship Hall)

## **SUNDAY, April 14** (*\*Childcare available*)

8:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study with Sue Casey (Zoom)

10:30 a.m. \*WORSHIP – Rev. Doug Hagler, in-person and on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@fpcphoenixville7042>

10:45 a.m. Sunday School (Upstairs Classrooms)

12:00 p.m. Children's Choir (Choir Room)

12:00 p.m. Men's Group (meet in the main office)

12:00 p.m. Women's Circle (Parlor)

## OFFICE HOURS

|             |                    |
|-------------|--------------------|
| Mondays:    | 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM  |
| Tuesdays:   | 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM |
| Wednesdays: | 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM |
| Thursdays:  | 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM  |
| Fridays:    | by appointment     |

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**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 the sanctuary 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.

## SOCIALIZE WITH US!



@FirstPresbyterianChurchOfPhoenixville



@fpcphoenixville



@fpcphoenixville

**STAFF**

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**ELDERS ON SESSION**

**Class of 2024**

Jewell Baker  
George Cockerill  
Jeff McLaughlin  
Adam Smith

**Class of 2025**

Karin Goodman  
Cassy Gulden  
Jill Kleppinger  
Jean Osterhoudt

**Class of 2026**

Ken Brown  
Jacqui Busch  
Eileen Naughton  
Doug Walker

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

**Class of 2024**

Kristin Craven  
Gail Landazuri  
Mona Sabia  
OPEN

**Class of 2025**

Paulette Mark  
Lucinda Parrish  
Lynne Williams  
Bob Wittrock

**Class of 2026**

Rebecca Barkley  
Jen Johnson  
Amy Mincavage  
Gail Schnaedter

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LET US PRAY

Lord of Resurrection, open our hearts this day to the presence of Jesus Christ. Erase our excuses for unbelief, and exchange them for strong witness to the power of your mercy and love. Give us courage and challenge us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. In his name, we pray. AMEN.

MinistryMatters.com

Hymn #246: "Christ Is Alive"

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1995
 MUSIC: *Musica Sacra*, c. 1778
 Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company

TRURO
 LM

Hymn: "Because He Lives"

1. God sent His Son, they called Him Je - sus, He came to love,
 2. How sweet to hold a new-born ba - by, And feel the pride,
 3. And then one day I'll cross the riv - er, I'll fight life's fi -

heal, and for - give; He lived and died to buy my
 and joy he gives; But great - er still the calm as -
 - nal war with pain; And then as death gives way to

par - don, An emp - ty grave is there to prove my Sav - ior lives.
 sur - ance, This child can face un - cer - tain days be - cause He lives.
 vic - tory, I'll see the lights of glo - ry and I'll know He lives.

Refrain

Be - cause He lives I can face to - mor - row, Be - cause He

lives all fear is gone; Be - cause I know

He holds the fu - ture. And life is worth the liv - ing just be - cause He

lives.

RESURRECTION
 Irregular meter

TEXT: Gloria Gaither and William J. Gaither
 MUSIC: William J. Gaither

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Hymn: "He Lives"

1. I serve a ris - en Sav - ior, He's in the world to - day;
 2. In all the world a - round me I see His lov - ing care,
 3. Re - joice, re - joice, O Chris - tian, lift up your voice and sing

I know that He is liv - ing, what - ev - er men may say;
 And tho' my heart grows wea - ry, I nev - er will de - spair;
 E - ter - nal hal - le - lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ the King!

I see His hand of mer - cy, I hear His voice of cheer,
 I know that He is lead - ing thro' all the storm - y blast,
 The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find,

And just the time I need Him He's al - ways near.
 The day of His ap - pear - ing will come at last.
 None oth - er is so lov - ing, so good and kind.

Refrain
 He lives, He lives, Christ Je - sus lives to - day! He walks with me and
 He lives, He lives,
 talks with me a - long life's nar - row way. He lives, He lives, sal -
 He lives, He lives,
 va - tion to im - part! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives with - in my heart.

TEXT and MUSIC: Alfred H. Ackley

ACKLEY
 Irregular meter

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The **Nominating Committee** requests names from the congregation for consideration for the next class of Session members (Elders) and the next class of members of the Board of Deacons. When selecting names to be submitted to the Committee, please consider the qualifications and duties of the elders of the church as described in the Book of Order.

Elders should be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel, both within the church and in the world. Elders, together with the ministers exercise leadership, government and discipline, and have responsibilities for the life of a particular church.

The office of Deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, warm sympathies, and sound judgment should be chosen for this office. It is the duty of deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress.

Please submit names to be consider for nomination to Karin Goodman or to the church office by Sunday, April 21st.

ELDER

DEACON

See page 13 for the current lists of Elders and Deacons.

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25

Based on John 20:19-31 (NIV)



Y J M N P S M B J D J Y D J S
 C X I T A T F M L H O Y W A X
 W X R K N Y G X P O F O M E D
 X M A D V Y G E A X C O R E H
 R X C C J V D R L X H K V S A
 T L L U V E D A E T N E E D M
 T K E S H E H I R C I N S D S
 O X S C W B A S S L O C Y N T
 G R U O L K N Z E C L R G D N
 E O H D Q Z D B H J I I D E P
 T S I U J J S A S R S P F E Z
 H N T F E K D P I A M I L B D
 E T W U S N K D D U L G E E E
 R S R N U K P S E S L V H N S
 R P T V S V D O U B T I N G B

JESUS	TOGETHER	DOUBTING	RECORDED
MIRACLES	SIGNS	SHOWED	BELIEVED
DOORS	LIFE	HANDS	DISCIPLES
TOUCHED	THOMAS	SIDE	LOCKED

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