



FPC Phoenixville

First Presbyterian Church of Phoenixville
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Socialize with us!



@FirstPresbyterianChurchOfPhoenixville



@fpcphoenixville



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

Morning Worship
‡ February 16, 2025 ‡ 10:30 a.m. ‡

Where indicated by the asterisk (), please stand if you choose.*

We are wholly inclusive, growing together in Christ through creativity and friendship. We lift up the vulnerable as God's love brings us together.

Prelude: *“Brethren We Have Met To Worship”*

J. Carter

Welcome

Rev. Doug Hagler

Passing the Peace

Announcements

Sarah Shulman

Call to Worship (leader, people)

Terri Camilari

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it!

**We are wholly inclusive,
growing together in Christ
through creativity and friendship.
We lift up the vulnerable
as God’s love brings us together.**

Cry out with joy to the Lord!
Worship God with gladness!
Come into God’s presence with singing!

***Hymn #36:** *“For the Fruit of All Creation”*

(see page 13)

(Please be seated.)

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the Body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us captive. In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from the traps we make. Fulfill the promises of our baptism, so that we may rise to new life and live together in grace.

(Silent prayer and reflection)

Assurance of Pardon

As a voice from heaven said to Jesus, so, in Christ, God speaks to us:
You are my child, my beloved; with you I am well pleased. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Gloria Patri (Hymn #581)**

(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

Sarah Shulman

(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: "Break Thou the Bread of Life"

Prayer for Illumination

Terri Camilari

As God has spoken through the prophets, God continues to speak to us.

Listen for what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Reading: Genesis 47:13-25

Terri Camilari

¹³ Now there was no food in all the land, for the famine was very severe. The land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished because of the famine. ¹⁴ Joseph collected all the money to be found in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan in exchange for the grain that they bought, and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house. ¹⁵ When the money from the land of Egypt and from the land of Canaan was spent, all the Egyptians came to Joseph and said, "Give us food! Why should we die before your eyes? For our money is gone." ¹⁶ And Joseph answered, "Give me your livestock, and I will give you food in exchange for your livestock, if your money is gone." ¹⁷ So they brought their livestock to Joseph, and Joseph gave them food in exchange for the horses, the flocks, the herds, and the donkeys. That year he supplied them with food in exchange for all their livestock. ¹⁸ When that year ended, they came to him the following year and said to him, "We cannot hide from my lord that our money is all spent, and the herds of cattle are my lord's. There is nothing left in the sight of my lord but our bodies and our lands. ¹⁹ Shall we die before your eyes, both we and our land? Buy us and our land in exchange for food. We with our land will become slaves to Pharaoh; just give us seed, so that we may live and not die and that the land may not become desolate."

²⁰ So Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh. All the Egyptians sold their fields, because the famine was severe upon them, and the land became Pharaoh's. ²¹ As for the people, he made slaves of them from one end of Egypt to the other. ²² Only the land of the priests he did not buy, for the priests had a fixed allowance from Pharaoh and lived on the allowance that Pharaoh gave them; therefore they did not sell their land. ²³ Then Joseph said to the people, "Now that I have this day bought you and your land for Pharaoh, here is seed for you; sow the land. ²⁴ And at the harvests you shall give one-fifth to Pharaoh, and four-fifths shall be your own, as seed for the field and as food for yourselves and your households and as food for your little ones." ²⁵ They said, "You have saved our lives; may it please my lord, we will be slaves to Pharaoh."

Reading: Luke 8:1-15

Terri Camilari

^{8:1} Now after (a woman anointed his feet) Jesus went on through one town and village after another, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, ² as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, ³ and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who ministered to them out of their own resources.

⁴ When a large crowd was gathering, as people were coming to him from town after town, he said in a parable: ⁵ "A sower went out to sow his seed, and as he sowed some fell on a path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. ⁶ Some fell on rock, and as it grew up it withered for lack of moisture. ⁷ Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. ⁸ Some fell into good soil, and when it grew it produced a hundredfold." As he said this, he called out, "If you have ears to hear, then hear!"

⁹ Then his disciples (including the women who supported him) asked him what this parable meant. ¹⁰ He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to others (I speak) in parables, so that

'looking they may not perceive
and hearing they may not understand.'

¹¹ "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

¹² The ones on the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. ¹³ The ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe only for a while and in a time of testing fall away. ¹⁴ As for what fell among the thorns, these are the ones who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. ¹⁵ But as for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart and bear fruit with endurance.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sermon

Rev. Doug Hagler

***Hymn #171: “A Sower Came from Ancient Hills”**

(see page 14)

(Please be seated.)

Offering Prayer

Let us praise God, rejoicing in the one who scatters the proud, lifts up the lowly, and fills the hungry with good things, and let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Offertory: “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

arr. M. Howell

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

***Doxology (Hymn #606)**

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

(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 #541: “God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

(see page 15)

***Benediction**

Rev. Doug Hagler

Postlude: *“Trust In You”*

by Lauren Daigle
Praise Team

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**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

**Joys:**

**Concerns:** Ann & Paden (mother & son), Lew, Lili

**PRAYER CHAIN:** Please email prayer needs to [fpcprayerchain2@gmail.com](mailto: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:**

**Mar. 2nd:** Judges 4:5-10; Luke 9:28-36

**Mar. 5th:** 1 Corinthians 15:45-49; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18  
*(Ash Wednesday)*

**Mar. 9th:** Ezekiel 37:1-14; John 3:1-8

**WOMEN’S CIRCLE—TODAY!:** FPC's Presbyterian Women's Circle will meet today! The group will continue their study of *“Let Justice Roll Down: God’s Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation.”* All women are invited! Bring your lunch/snack to the parlor after the worship service and enjoy some learning. Extra study guides are available for drop-in visitors. Questions? Please contact Jewell Baker for more details.

**FEBRUARY DINNER FOR EIGHT(ish):** We hope you enjoyed your Dinner for Eight(ish) last month! Once again we are looking for people who are interested in hosting and/or attending a Dinner for Eight(ish) at the end of February, and we will be asking again for March as well. To sign-up, please scan the QR Code, visit [https://bit.ly/ FebDinner4Eight](https://bit.ly/FebDinner4Eight), or fill out a physical form in the office or Narthex. Our faithful 'computer' Pastor Doug will assign everyone to one of our hosts. This is a great way to meet and get to know new people at FPC!



**FOOD DRIVE for PACS:** During the month of March, FPC will be collecting food and money for the Phoenixville Area Community Services (PACS). Their mission is to be the lead resource for food insecurity in our community. Food donation boxes will be positioned throughout the church. Monetary donations can be dropped off in the church office or during a Sunday service. Visit the PACS website for a list of specific items needed - <https://www.pacsphx.org/pacs-hot-list>. Plan now and consider using scrip cards to purchase your donations.

**THE FUTURE OF FPC:** Thank you to everyone who was able to join us last Sunday (the 16th) for **Discovering Our Congregation's Future** led by Rev. Dr. Erin Cox-Holmes, our Presbytery Executive. After consulting with Erin and congregational leaders at FPC, it has been decided that we do not currently need a "part 2" in this process. Those who gathered did an excellent job, and we found that we have a lot of alignment as a congregation in our understanding, values, and goals. The Deacons also wanted March 2nd as a day to meet, and Parish Life wanted to focus on providing food for Ash Wednesday. Erin decided to condense the material last Sunday, presenting aspects of both part 1 and part 2. All told, we are in a good place to continue moving forward with lots of feedback from the congregation. If you have any questions feel free to contact Pastor Doug. Also, keep your eyes open for when we share what was learned.

**BOOKS THROUGH BARS (BTB):** FPC will be pairing their BTB volunteer efforts with Overbrook Presbyterian Church. Our monthly trips will now be the FIRST Saturday of the month starting on **March 1st**. We will leave the FPC at 12:30, volunteer from 1:30-3:30, and return to FPC by 4:30. BTB sends free books to incarcerated people. BTB volunteers help with every part of processing all the requests, from data entry to soliciting book donations to library organization. Registration to volunteer is available via SignUp Genius - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050F4AADA722A1FB6-54244196-books>, or call Maggie in the main office (610- 933-8816) for assistance with sign-up.



**SCRIP UPDATE:** Beginning in March, we will be taking a pause from ordering gift cards. The Stewardship Committee will be considering when and how to resume this fundraiser in the coming weeks and months. Know that we appreciate all of the members who have faithfully taken part in this program throughout the past 16 years.

**PEOPLE TO PEOPLE NEWS:** Thank you to everyone who donated or bid on our MaxSold Auction. We realized about \$945 from this recent auction. Thank you to everyone who donates or helps to raise funds with the Garage Sales (the next one is March 29th). With these funds, People to People (P2P) coordinated with Church Housing, a low-income housing non-profit organization in Phoenixville. Three families that were affected by a fire were provided with a total donation of \$1,500. Also, in working through Orion, P2P was able to assist a father and 3 children leaving St. Mary's Shelter with a donation of \$1,000 to secure an apartment enabling him to maintain custody. These supports have all transpired in the last week because of our church's People to People Ministry and your help. Thank you! We are making a difference in the lives of our neighbors!

## **IN THE COMMUNITY**

Take advantage of this month's film series at The Colonial Theatre, Celebrating Black Artists. For more information, please visit <https://thecolonialtheatre.com/>, click on FILMS and use the dropdown to select "Classic Films".

- **TODAY! February 23** - Body and Soul: "Body and Soul a silent film by the legendary Oscar Micheaux, one of the most influential filmmakers of the early 20th century brought to life with live organ accompaniment by the talented Tedde Gibson."
- **TODAY! February 23** - To Sir with Love: "To Sir, with Love tells the heartwarming story of a teacher who inspires change in a group of unruly students."

**JOB OPENING:** St. Mary's Transitional Housing residents need childcare for early weekday mornings and some weekends. This will allow parents to attend school and work extra hours for overtime. The shelter is located at 209 Emmett Street, Phoenixville. If interested, please contact Kate at [kate@stmarysfs.org](mailto:kate@stmarysfs.org).

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

### **SUNDAY, February 23** (*\*Childcare available*)

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

10:30 a.m. \*WORSHIP SERVICE with 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. Women's Circle

### **Monday, February 24**

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

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

### **Tuesday, February 25**

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

7:30 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### **Wednesday, February 26**

10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Music Ministry (Sanctuary)

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Better Days Ahead open office hours (Fellowship Hall Office)

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

### **Thursday, February 27**

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

10:00 a.m. People to People Food Ministry (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

### **Friday, February 28**

No events scheduled.

### **Saturday, March 1**

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

12:30 p.m. Books Through Bars (meet in the church lot)

**SUNDAY, March 2** (\*Childcare available)

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

10:30 a.m. \*WORSHIP SERVICE with Rev. Doug Hagler, in-person and on YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/@fpcphoenixville7042>

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

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**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 classroom. 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.

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**STAFF**

Rev. Douglas Hagler, [Pastor145@comcast.net](mailto:Pastor145@comcast.net)  
Cell: 415-300-7912

Diane Legnini, Director of Music  
Sarah Shulman, Praise Team Leader

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Sarah Shulman, Director of Children & Youth Ministry,  
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Church Treasurer: [fpctreasurer145@gmail.com](mailto:fpctreasurer145@gmail.com)

## 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



## CHURCH OFFICERS

| Class of | Elders                                                                  | Deacons                                                               |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2025     | Sue Casey<br>Karin Goodman<br>Cassy Gulden<br>Jill Kleppinger           | Paulette Mark<br>Jean Osterhoudt<br>Lucinda Parrish<br>Lynne Williams |
| 2026     | Ken Brown<br>Jacqui Busch<br>Eileen Naughton<br>Doug Walker             | Rebecca Barkley<br>Jen Johnson<br>Amy Mincavage<br>Gail Schnaedter    |
| 2027     | Elizabeth Carrabine<br>Gail Landazuri<br>Jeff McLaughlin<br>Jess Murphy | Terri Camilari<br>Kristin Craven<br>Laura Hobbins<br>Sandra Schrack   |



## *Let Us Pray*

Dear God, thank you for the story of the sower.  
 Help us to understand Your word, believe in You,  
 and follow You. Make our hearts good soil,  
 ready to receive Your word and bear good fruit.  
 In Jesus' name, Amen.

# Hymn #36: "For the Fruit of All Creation"

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be done.  
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For the gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.  
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will be done.  
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are  
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de -  
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con -

sleep - ing, fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
 spair - ing, in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will be done.  
 found us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Originally called "Harvest Hymn," this text is much more comprehensive than that title implies. It also deals with stewardship, thanksgiving, and God's endless gifts that continue to astound us. It is set to a familiar Welsh tune whose name means "throughout the night."

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1970, alt.  
 MUSIC: Welsh melody, c. 1784  
 Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company

AR HYD Y NOS  
 8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4

# Hymn #171: "A Sower Came from Ancient Hills"



1 A Sow - er came from an - cient hills and cast good  
 2 A Sow - er walked through - out the land and, ev - ery -  
 3 The Seed was bur - ied deep in death be - neath a  
 4 O Christ, you come a - mong us still, the Sow - er



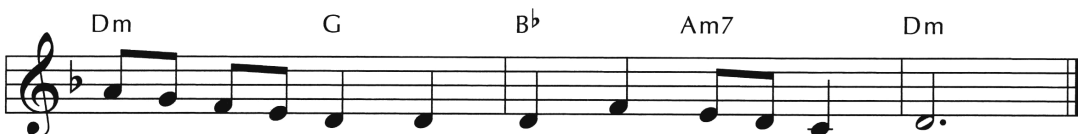
seed a - broad: his field, ten thou - sand hu - man hearts; his  
 where he trod, he sowed his life be - cause he was him -  
 blood - red sky, and deep - er still was bur - ied hope for  
 and the Seed. As once you sowed the truth of God in



seed, the word of God. And some who lis - tened would not  
 self the Seed of God. But then, a - top a bar - ren  
 those who watched him die. But then, in Jo - seph's gar - den  
 glow - ing word and deed, im - plant your Word in wait - ing



hear, and some who heard for - got. But some re - ceived in  
 hill, be - neath a dark - ening sky, they threw God's Seed on  
 fair, as dawn broke o'er the land, the Seed, from three days'  
 hearts, and let it there take hold, un - til it bears in



fer - tile soil the truth the Sow - er taught.  
 ston - y ground and left it there to die.  
 si - lent sleep, a - woke at God's com - mand!  
 fruit - ful lives a har - vest hun - dred - fold.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

All three synoptic gospels record both the telling and the explanation of Jesus' parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:3-8, 18-23 / Mark 4:3-8, 14-20 / Luke 8:5-8, 11-15). Because the seed equals "the word," Jesus (as the Word made flesh) becomes the Seed in this expansion of the parable.

# Hymn #541: "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

*Unison* *Harmony*

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing coun - sels  
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen wings pro -  
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils  
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's ban - ner

guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en - fold you:  
 tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you:  
 thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a - round you:  
 float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be - fore you:

*Unison*

God be with you till we meet a - gain.

A North American Congregational minister wrote this text as a Christian expansion of the root sense of "good-bye": God be [with] ye/you. The tune, named for a cousin, was composed by one of the few 20th-century British composers to make a major contribution to hymnody.

TEXT: Jeremiah Eames Rankin, 1880, alt.  
 MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

RANDOLPH  
 9.8.8.9  
 (alternate tune: GOD BE WITH YOU, 542)

# LENT IS COMING SOON!

Save the Dates

Mark your calendar for Ash Wednesday, **March 5th**. As we have in the past, we will share a simple meal and worship service that includes communion and the imposition of ashes. Join us for the meal at 6:00 PM and for worship starting at 7:00 PM.

In addition, the Phoenixville Area Clergy Association (PACA) has organized Wednesday evening Lenten worship services at various churches throughout the Phoenixville area, starting on March 12th and finishing on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for the start time. All are welcome to come hear the Word, pray, sing, and reflect with fellow community members. These are free events. However, if so inclined and able to make a donation, all free-will offerings will be used to support the missions of PACA that address human service needs in the Phoenixville area. Stay tuned for more details.

## THE SCHEDULE

**March 12th** at FPC: Rev. Mark Young preaching

**March 19th** at Grimes AME: Rev. Doug Hagler preaching

**March 26th** at Grace Crossing: Rev. Russ Crouthamel preaching

**April 2nd** at St. John's: preacher TBA

**April 9th** at FUMC: Rev. Dan McDowell preaching

*Note: live stream services will be dependent upon the technical capabilities that are available at the time of worship.*

Questions about these services and/or PACA can be directed to Rev. Doug Hagler at [pastor145@comcast.net](mailto:pastor145@comcast.net) or 610-933-8816.



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