

April 28, 2024



**First Presbyterian
Church**
of Pittsburgh

WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:45 am

****Please stand as you are able***

Prelude: *“Praise His Greatness”*
arr. by Mark Hayes

Sean Baran, *piano*

Time of Welcome

Rev. Ernest L. Gardner III, *Transitional Pastor*

***Responsive Call to Worship (From Psalm 47)**

Trey McFarland

Leader: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

People: **For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.**

Leader: The LORD is king, he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed, he is girded with strength.

People: **Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!**

All: **Let us worship God!**

***Hymn:** *“The Church’s One Foundation” (located in this bulletin)*

Call to Confession

Donald Larter

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we celebrate how you called this congregation to continue her vision of extending the Great Commission into homes, classrooms, and the marketplace, to places far and wide, familiar and unfamiliar. But like the disciples before the resurrected Jesus, we have our doubts. By the power and authority of Jesus Christ set us free of those doubts, fears, or willful behaviors that would prevent your church from carrying out the Mission of God. By your Spirit transform us to hear your call afresh. That we will seek the welfare of Pittsburgh, and beyond, in joyous praise to your Son. Hear us now, we pray, as we continue our confession in silence...

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Donald Larter

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

People: **To this peace, we are called as members of one body.**

Leader: The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you. Thanks be to God!**

Children's Message

Donald Larter

(Children of ages preschool – 1st grade are invited to attend Children's Worship on the 3rd floor balcony at this time. Children are to be picked up immediately after service in the chapel behind the high pulpit.)

***Hymn:** "Come, Now Is the Time to Worship" (located in this bulletin)

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 8

Kathy Davis

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. ²Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

³When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, ⁴what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? ⁵Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, ⁷all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, ⁸the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. ⁹O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

The Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

Rev. Gardner

¹⁶Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: "Discerning the Great Commission"

Rev. Gardner

Pastoral Prayer and 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; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

*Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Call for the Offering (*Online giving available, scan code on back*)

Donald Larter

Anthem: "He Is Exalted"

Twila Paris

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high; I will praise him.

He is exalted, for ever exalted and I will praise his name!

He is the Lord, forever his truth shall reign;

heaven and earth rejoice in his holy name.

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication**

Donald Larter

***Hymn: "Alleluia, Sing to Jesus"** (*located in this bulletin*)

***Invitation and Charge**

***Benediction**

Rev. Gardner

Postlude: "Exultate Deo"

Robert Hebble

Sean Baran, organ

Ongoing/Upcoming Opportunities . . .

Annual Congregational Meeting – Today, Sunday April 28, 2024

The annual congregational meeting will be held today immediately following worship. The Annual Meeting of the Congregation provides us an occasion to reflect upon how God guides us to be part of the Redemptive Work of Christ. We hope you will join us!

Birthday Blessings to:

Pastor Ernest on May 4!

Volunteers Needed for Marathon Sunday, May 5

Marathon Weekend attracts over 35,000 runners, 4,000 volunteers, and nearly 60,000 spectators - - and it all begins DOWNTOWN! This year's marathon takes place on **Sunday, May 5**. Throughout the morning, we will have our building open to offer restroom access to visitors. We *need volunteers* to serve as **bathroom monitors** and other volunteers (those in the colored shirts) to stand with Rev. Gardner, and **pray with runners**, and others requesting spiritual support beginning at 5 am. If you can help, please contact Hannah at 412-471-3436 or hotoole@fpcp.org.

Virtual Marathon Sunday, May 5 @ 10:45 AM

Because of the logistical difficulties, worship will take place virtually on May 5th with the opening segment at 10:40 am.

A Note about This Morning's Music - - by Sean Baran

Twila Paris is a prolific Christian music singer, songwriter, author, and pianist. Since 1980, she has released 22 albums and amassed 33 number one Christian Radio singles. She has been named the Gospel Music Association Female Vocalist of the Year three years in a row and was inducted into the Gospel Music Association Hall of Fame in May 2015. **He Is Exalted** comes from her 1985 album *Kingdom Seekers*. "He Is Exalted" is ranked at number 66 from CCM Magazine's 2006 book CCM Presents: The 100 Greatest Songs in Christian Music and *Kingdom Seekers* is ranked at number 57 on The 100 Greatest Albums in Christian Music. The song's simple text is equally powerful in its conviction of faith. The melody and words create a soaring mood, reminding us that God reigns above us all and is worthy of our fullest praise.

The Church's One Foundation

D A G A D

1 The chur-ch's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth;
 3 Though with a scorn-ful won - der the world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war,

F# G D A

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
 by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more,

D G D Bm Em

From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,

D Gmaj7 Em7 Asus A D

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.

5 Yet she on earth has union with God the Three in One,
 and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
 O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
 like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

F Gm F C F Dm C F

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus! His the scep - ter, his the throne;
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in so - row now;
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Heaven - ly High Priest, here on earth our help, our stay;
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, you the Lord of lords we own:

Gm F C F Dm C F

Al - le - lu - ia! His the tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone.
 Al - le - lu - ia! He is near us; faith be - lieves nor ques - tions how.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Hear the sin - ful cry to you from day to day.
 Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your foot - stool, heaven your throne:

Am Dm7 Gm7 C7 F Dm Gm Csus C

Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood.
 Though the cloud from sight re - ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er,
 In - ter - ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er, hear our plea,
 you with - in the veil, have en - tered, robed in flesh our great High Priest:

F Gm F C F Bb F/C C7 F

Je - sus, out of ev - ery na - tion, has re - deemed us by his blood.
 shall our hearts for - get his prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?
 where the songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 by your Spir - it, lift us heaven - ward, in the Eu - char - is - tic feast!

Come, Now Is the Time to Worship

D(no3)

D G/D

Come, now is the time to wor -

D A D/A Asus

ship; come, now is the time to give

Em D/F# G2 D

your heart. Come

G/D D

just as you are to wor - ship;

A Asus Em D/F#

come just as you are be-fore your

Gsus D(no3) D

God. Come.

G D2 D G

One day ev-ery tongue will con-fess you are God. One day ev-ery

D2 G

knee will bow, still the great-est treas-ure re-mains

Bm Em Asus A *Last time to Coda*

for those who glad - ly choose you now.

Coda D(no3)

Come. Come.

First Church Staff

Church Office: 412-471-3436
320 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
www.fpcp.org – info@fpcp.org

TRANSITIONAL PASTOR
Rev. Ernest L. Gardner III
egardner@fpcp.org
ext. 222

OFFICE MANAGER
Cheryl Swartz
cswartz@fpcp.org
ext. 220

MINISTER OF MUSIC
Sean Baran
sbaran@fpcp.org
ext. 212

PASTOR EMERITUS
Rev. Thomas M. Hall II

MINISTERIAL ASSISTANT
Hannah O'Toole
hotoole@fpcp.org
ext. 210

MAINTENANCE STAFF
Tom Fitzgerald, *supervisor*
tfitzgerald@fpcp.org

**WEDDING
COORDINATOR**
Megan McFarland
mmcfarland@fpcp.org

Louis D. Pack

Norm Brozell

PIPER IN RESIDENCE
George Balderose
george@bagpiping.org

ACCOUNTANT
Kate Williams
kwilliams@fpcp.org
ext.230

**VOLUNTEER SOUND/
VIDEO TECHNICIANS**
Victor Ndinyah
Doug Williams
Dan Conner
Keith and Amy Burris
David Charlton

SECURITY
Mary Caswell
mcaswell@fpcp.org

CELLAR
Joanne Galinowski
Beatrice Webb

Our Sanctuary is open to visitors Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm and Fridays, 9:00 am - Noon
Call to Schedule a Tour!

You can reach the Church Office Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Call: 412-471-3436 | Email: info@fpcp.org | www.fpcp.org.

Visiting Us Today?



Scan Code to Connect with Us!

Giving Online?



Scan Code to Give!

Need Validated Parking?

Sundays only, get your parking ticket stamped at the FPCP Welcome Center in the Narthex (front lobby). See the person in the payment booth at Mellon Square, Oliver Avenue or Smithfield Street garage to pay \$1 for parking.

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