

Order of Worship for the Lord's Day

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Eleven o'clock

April 28, 2024

THE CHURCH GATHERS

Thought for Meditation

Anne Lamott

I do not understand the mystery of grace—only that it meets us where we are and does not leave us where it found us.

Prelude

ed. David N. Johnson

Baroque Suite: Air-Andante-Moderato-Allegretto

Welcome and Announcements

Fred Holbrook

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Introit

Adoramus te, Christe

Theodore Dubois

*Call to Worship

Everyone is welcome in this space—all who thirst; all who are weary.

We gather together, trusting in God's promises of new life.

Come, all who are seeking and who yearn for forgiveness.

The Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ has washed over us, and our gracious and holy God beckons and blesses us.

Drink deeply of these living waters.

We give glory to God, giving thanks for life-giving water.

*Hymn 19 God of Great and God of Small

GOD OF GREAT AND SMALL

THE CHURCH CONFESSES AND SEEKS ASSURANCE

Call to Confession

Mary Jane Winter

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you made us in your image, with a mind to know you, a heart to love you, and a will to serve you. But our knowledge is imperfect, our love is not constant, and our obedience is incomplete. Day by day, we fail to grow into your likeness. In your tender love, forgive us through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

(A moment of silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

Response *(sing twice)*

Bless the Lord

Hymn 544



Assurance of Grace and Pardon

God pardons our sins and forgives our disobedience. God does not stay angry forever. Instead, God delights to show mercy.

God has compassion on us and welcomes us back into the fold.

We give thanks to God, for God is good!

*Grateful Response *(sing once)*

Hymn 243



*Passing of the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Children may join Ms. Hannab and Rev. Paul at the door near the font.

THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR GOD'S WORD

Moment for Mission

CrossOver Ministries

Julie Bilodeau

Prayer for Illumination

Andrew Beals

Scripture Lesson

Psalms 22:25-31

The Message

Here in this great gathering for worship I have discovered this praise-life. And I'll do what I promised right here in front of the God-worshippers. Down-and-outers sit at God's table and eat their fill. Everyone on the hunt for God is here, praising him. "Live it up, from head to toe. Don't ever quit!" From the four corners of the earth people are coming to their senses, are running back to God. Long-lost families are falling on their faces before him. God has taken charge; from now on he has the last word. All the power-mongers are before him—worshiping! All the poor and powerless, too—worshiping! Along with those who never got it together—worshiping! Our children and their children will get in on this as the word is passed along from parent to child. Babies not yet conceived will hear the good news—that God does what he says.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

The Summons

arr. Tom Trenney

(The text is found at Hymn 726.)

Scripture Lesson

Acts 8:26-39

Pew Bible, p. 892

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: *'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.'* The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about

Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more and went on his way rejoicing.

Sermon

Out of Order

Kate Fiedler

Prayer of Commitment

THE CHURCH RESPONDS IN FAITH

*Affirmation of Faith

from the Iona Community

We believe that God is the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people. We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ. We believe that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. We believe that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker. We believe that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells. We believe that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

*Hymn 23

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

PLEADING SAVIOR

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Fred Holbrook

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Offering of Our Lives

As expressions of faith and commitment, the congregation is invited to bring their pledges and offerings to the baskets found at the front of the sanctuary.

Offertory

Ubi caritas

Rihard Dubra

Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ's love has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him. Let us revere and love the living God. And may we love each other with a sincere heart. Where charity and love are, God is there. Likewise, when we come together let us be united as one; let us be careful, lest we be divided in intention. Let us stop all quarrels and strife. And let Christ dwell in the midst of us. Where charity and love are, God is there. May we also see, along with the blessed the glory of your face, O Christ. And let there be immeasurable joy both now and for evermore. Where charity and love are, God is there. Amen. (Original 10th C. Latin text: author unknown; English translation: Ron Jeffers; alt. Jeff Riehl)

*Doxology

tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn 546

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

SICILIAN MARINERS

***Benediction and Response**



Postlude Hornpipe G. F. Handel

* Please stand as you are able.

The flowers are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of The Rev. James A. Payne, Jr.

In Our Prayers

Bell Tolling for Richmond City Gun Violence Victims: Our bells continue to toll each Monday in remembrance for the gun violence victims in the city of Richmond. As of April 21, there were 11 victims. Please keep the victims’ families and friends in your prayers.

Pray for the Churches and Religious Institutions of Metropolitan Richmond: For a spirit of unity, mutuality, cooperation, reconciliation, reform, and common ministry within the faith community.

Announcements & Opportunities

Your children are always welcome! Children ages infant to three years old, are welcome in the nursery from 9:15 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Children four years old through second grade, may be in the nursery from 10:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. during worship. Children in the third grade and older are encouraged to sit with their families during worship.

Second Presbyterian is hosting the reception following Jim Payne’s memorial service. There will be NO Fellowship Time today. All are invited to stay for the service.

Fair Trade Coffee and Tea Sales Next Sunday in the Chapel following worship. Each bag sold supports farmers working through co-ops around the world. \$9.00 per bag for coffee; \$5.00 per box for tea. Buy it for yourself, as gifts, or for the shower ministry.

May Church School for All Ages

- Adults at 9:30 a.m.**
- ♦ The Forum Class: *Fracture: Mental and Behavioral Health in the Wake of the Pandemic*
 - May 5: Grace: Freewriting for Health & Collegiate Recovery
 - May 12: Community: A New Mission in Community Support
 - May 19: Prevention: Leadership Metro Richmond
 - ♦ Faith & Literature Class (Pastor’s Classroom and Zoom) *Pigeon Feathers and Other Stories* by John Updike

Children at 9:30 a.m.: Music Time with Ms. Laura followed by Church School

Youth at 9:30 a.m.: Waffles, Connections, and Bible Study (Youth Suite)



If you are visiting, or seeking a church home, we invite you to explore all that happens in life and ministry in this church. Speak to one of the pastors for more information and be sure to sign the Friendship Register, which is found in the pew. We also invite you to leave us your address, phone number, and/or email that we might contact you.



How to give: In addition to checks, you may use the church’s website (www.2presrichmond.org) at the GIVE tab; the church’s app: 2ndpresrva; or by scanning the QR code to the left.

Calendar for the Week

<p>Today, April 28 9:30 am Church School for all ages 10:00 am Choir rehearsal 11:00 am Worship 1:00 pm Payne memorial service followed by reception</p>	<p>Wednesday, May 1 6:00 pm MAC meeting 6:15 pm Handbell rehearsal 7:15 pm Choir rehearsal</p>
<p>Monday, April 29 10:30 am Walk-In Ministry 12:00 pm AA 1:00 pm Lectio Divina (Zoom)</p>	<p>Thursday, May 2 12:00 pm Women’s Bible Study</p>
<p>Tuesday, April 30 9:00 am Shower Ministry</p>	<p>Saturday, May 4 2:00 pm Wedding (Hillmar)</p>
	<p>Sunday, May 5 9:30 am Church School for all ages 10:00 am Choir rehearsal 11:00 am Worship 12:15 pm Fellowship Time</p>

CHURCH STAFF

Ministers: All the members of the congregation

<p><i>Interim Pastor:</i> Fred Holbrook <i>Associate Pastor:</i> Kate Fiedler <i>Christian Faith, Life & Arts:</i> Hannah Garrity <i>Children’s Minister & Director of Urban Engagement:</i> Paul Nalla <i>Director of Music:</i> Jeffrey Riehl <i>Organist:</i> Kathy Toole <i>Handbell Director:</i> Chuck Todd <i>Building Administrator:</i> Gene Roland <i>Office Manager:</i> Dorothy DeJong <i>Administrative Assistant:</i> Willa Jacob <i>Production Director:</i> Bo Jacob</p>	<p><i>Pastoral Care Minister:</i> Mary Jane Winter <i>Theologian-in-Residence:</i> Roger Gench <i>Commissioned Pastor for Mission & Advocacy:</i> Marvin Daniel <i>Pastor Emeritus:</i> Ben Sparks <i>Walk-In Coordinator:</i> Elva Mapp <i>Sexton:</i> Kerry Randolph <i>Security:</i> Cliff Anderson <i>Mission Co-Workers:</i> Karla Koll, San Jose, Costa Rica; Cindy Corell, Haiti; Betsey & Eric Moe, CEDEPCA, Guatemala</p>
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Our missionaries are partially supported by the regular benevolent giving of our church.



**Second Presbyterian Church
OF RICHMOND VIRGINIA**
ESTABLISHED 1845
P.C.(USA)
 5 NORTH FIFTH STREET | RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219
 804 649 9148 | WWW.2PRESRICHMOND.ORG

We welcome all whom God calls into life, worship, work, and leadership of this church without regard to gender, cultural heritage, skin color, socio-economic status, gender identity, sexual orientation, or other life circumstances.

Second Presbyterian Church
OF RICHMOND VIRGINIA

April 28, 2024

WE ARE CALLED
to be a witness to and for the world of the new reality that God has made available to all people in Jesus Christ. We seek to know Christ and to make Christ known in downtown Richmond and throughout the world.