

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 2024

10:30 am

Gathering as God's Family

The Chimes

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Forlana (from Five Bagatelles)
Mark Vandersall, Clarinet; Mina Choi, Piano

Gerald Finzi

Call to Worship

— based on Psalm 71

In you, O Lord, I live!

In you, O Lord, we grow!

All my life long, you have been with me.

Through all the years ahead, we will lean on you.

When I was young, you taught me.

As we grow old, you will bless us.

*Hymn 32

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

Prayer of Confession

God,

**we often fall short of all that we can be because we are passive
in our Christian life, we hold back,
we simply do not give ourselves entirely.**

Too often we turn a deaf ear to your calling us to work in this world.

Forgive us, and restore us to your goodness.

**Then, with a renewed spirit, send us forth to search for all who sit
in the shadowed corners of our world,
yearning for someone to come and find them,**

even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, came to find us.

In the name of Jesus we pray silently...

(a moment for Silent Reflection and Confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear the Good News of the Gospel!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

** Those who are able, please stand*

***Bolded** text invites the congregation to respond*

*Affirmation of Faith

— from the “Brief Statement of Faith”

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!” With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Congregational Response 581

Gloria Patri

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)

**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.**

Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 4:1-5,10

Pew Bible, NRSV (OT), p. 51

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

(Ushers will collect prayer request cards during the anthem.)

Anthem

For This Joy

Susan LaBarr

Chancel Choir and Mark Vandersall, Clarinet

*Praise for the sun, who by day gives us warmth and enlightens;
praise for the moon, who the darkest night cheerfully brightens;
each glittering star shining from ages afar, driving away all that frightens.
Praise for the sky under heaven that widely contains us;
our fertile earth, and her harvest that gently sustains us;
birds on the wing, lifting their voices to sing, free us from all that restrains us.
Our tender hearts, which so wondrously in chambers deeping,
(Can) cherish the joys of new love and, at death’s call, the weeping.
Sorrow and pain turn to rejoicing again; love now in memory keeping.
Praise for this joy in our hearts as we sing of creation!
Wondrous are all things from firmament down to foundation!
Sing in glad celebration!*

Time with the Children

*(After the message, children ages four through sixth grade may leave for Children’s Worship Time.
Parents may pick up their children in Room 203 and 207, located across the bridge, following worship.)*

New Testament Lesson: 1 Timothy 4:12-16

Pew Bible, NRSV (NT), p. 209

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

“Who Is Holding You Back?”

Rev. Dr. Tom Kort

*Hymn 697

Take My Life
verses 1, 5, and 6

HENDO

Concerns of the Church

(Persons nearest the center aisle are asked to sign and pass the Act of Friendship pad toward the outside aisle. Please keep the cover open as the pad is returned.)

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)

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.

Offering of Our Gifts and Lives

(To give online or via text message, click the "Give" tab at the top of our website.)

Offertory

Prayer

T. Dubois

*Congregational Response 606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn 462

I Love to Tell the Story

HANKEY

*Benediction

Postlude

Our Father (from Sonata No. 6)

Felix Mendelssohn

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Assisting: Rev. Becca Bateman and Rev. Pauline Sexton **Lay Leader:** Galen Hays

The **flowers** are given today in loving memory of Katie Lamb, our precious daughter and sister, on the occasion of her birthday, by Rick Lamb and Jonathan and Megan Craig.

Congregational Meeting. The Session has called for a Congregational Meeting to take place on Sunday, **February 4** immediately following the 10:30 worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to: Elect Deacons and Ruling Elders for upcoming classes, approve changes to 2024 Terms of Call for eligible pastors, receive the 2023 financial report and the 2024 operating budget, and, amend the congregational by-laws to update some of the language. Keep watch in your email for details soon.

Beyond Update. Thank you all for your engagement and participation in Beyond, our 2024-2025 stewardship initiative! We have received 263 pledges totaling \$2,813,880. Compared to the previous initiative, 126 pledges increased, 32 pledges are new, and 51 stayed the same. While the total pledges and total commitment is a decrease from before (279 pledges totaling \$3,441,060) our DPC community can plan for and carry out our many important ministries in the two years ahead.

In the spirit of worship, we remind you:

- To please silence your cellphones.
- If you need to enter or exit the sanctuary during the worship service, please do so by way of the rear of the sanctuary and side aisles.

SESSION

Moderator - Tom Kort **Clerk** - Doug Barnett

Class of 2024

Doug Barnett
Tanner Benson
Glenda Childs
Judy Chang Cody
Jenny Danzis
Jim Kmetzo
Caroline Rawlings
Janice Thomas
Katie Toner

Class of 2025

Dave Buday
Christo Claassens
DeeDee Cox
Amy Edenson
Honor Ford
Kim Keller
Bob Maxwell
Kristen Roland

Class of 2026

Diane Alexanderson
Frank Fabian
Sue Haldeman
Jamie Hansen
Julie McCormack
Marty Starner
Mark Strasburg
Marilyn Weichman

BOARD OF DEACONS

Moderator - Mark Chaikin

Class of 2024

Mark Chaikin
John Gwynne
Kathy McQuate
Mike Paradiso
Dennis Parenti
Linda Schumann
Evan Spadt
Krista Spadt
Eileen Telly

Class of 2025

Sharon Cummings
Dot Fabian
Trip Fisher
Alyssa Lewis
Nancy Nelson
Carol Tettemer

Class of 2026

Michele Hoffman
Anne Hutchinson
Sibele Johnson
Amy Pujols
Kristin Shields

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. J. Thomas Kort, *Transitional Pastor*

Rev. C. Rebecca Bateman, *Associate Pastor for Education and Family Ministries*

Rev. Pauline J. Sexton, *Pastoral Care Assistant*

Kira Adelman, *Nursery Worker*

Mina Choi, *Director of Youth Choir and Bells, Organist*

Megan Craig, *Interim Youth Director*

Sharon Cummings, *Children's Worship Time Instructor*

Ed Davila, *Custodian*

Marco Derro, *Maintenance Engineer*

Chris Graham-Rawlings, *Member Engagement Coordinator*

Elaine Keckeissen, *Office Manager*

Geri McMullin, *Director of Sunshine Singers (volunteer)*

Christian Menno, *Director of Communications*

Jason Moore, *Director of Music and the Arts*

Lina Richards, *Director of Finances and Operations*

Candi Young, *Children and Youth Connections Coordinator*



Doylestown Presbyterian Church, A Matthew 25 Congregation

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Web **www.dtownnpc.org**, Instagram **@dtownnpcyouth @dtownnpckids**

Be a bridge for Christ and a beacon of His love