



February 11, 2024 | 10:30 A.M.  
Transfiguration Sunday

PRELUDE

Le Banquet céleste

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ~John 6:56

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

*stand, in body, spirit, or voice*

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving!

All: **How good it is to sing praises to our God.**

One: For God is gracious, healing the brokenhearted, binding up their wounds.

All: **God's understanding is beyond measure. Praise the Lord!**

HYMN OF PRAISE 263

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

*all are seated*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: **Gracious God, it's tempting to give up and give in, to hide from the injustices of the world, to protect ourselves and our own, to turn off the evening news full of bad news. Forgive our sins of escape, of ignoring, of turning our backs on those in need. Forgive our sins of apathy when you call us to action. Renew us, Holy God, by your grace. Strengthen us to follow Christ's call. Amen.**

*There follows a moment of silence for prayers of confession.*

KYRIE

John Weaver

Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy. Christ, \_\_\_\_\_ have  
mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy. \_\_\_\_\_

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*stand, in body, spirit, or voice*

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

*all are seated*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *1 Corinthians 11:23-26*

Emanuel Nixon

One: The Word of God, for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

O Nata Lux (from *Lux Aeterna*)

Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

O nata lux de lumine,  
Jesu redemptor saeculi,  
Dignare clemens supplicum  
Laudes precesque sumere.

O Light born of Light,  
Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
with loving-kindness deign to receive  
suppliant praise and prayer.

Qui carne quondam contegi  
Dignatus es pro perditis,  
Nos membra confer effici  
Tui beati corporis.

Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh  
for the sake of the lost,  
grant us to be members  
of thy blessed body.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING *Matthew 17:1-7*

Rev. Steve Nofel

One: The Word of God, for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *We Are the Champions, My Friends*

Rev. Steve Nofel

*stand, in body, spirit, or voice*

HYMN OF RESPONSE 306

Fairest Lord Jesus

CRUSADERS' HYMN

stanza 1 *low voices*

stanza 2 *high voices*

stanza 3 *all, harmony*

*During the hymn, you may bring any prayer request cards to the front of the sanctuary, or signal an usher to assist you.*

*all are seated*

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### CALL TO PRAYER


One: The Lord be with you:  
All: **And with your spirit.**  
One: Lift up your hearts:  
All: **We lift them up unto the Holy One.**  
One: Let us give thanks unto our Host, our God:  
All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: . . . who forever sing to the glory of your Name:

### SANCTUS

from: *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*; Healey Willan

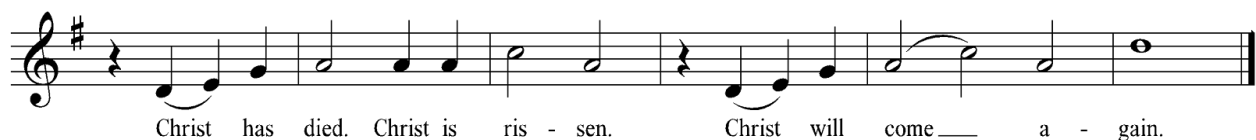


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts:  
Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo - ry be to  
thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

One: . . . Great is the mystery of faith:

### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Jackson Hill



Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Purple Ribbon List (February 1-2)*

Charles Banks 46 Male Black  
D'Shawn Johnson 25 Male Unknown  
Nigel Arrington 26 Male Black

*We hang a purple ribbon on the Park Avenue side of our building to remind us to pray for the victims, survivors, and perpetrators of these acts of violence in Baltimore City. If you would like to join in putting up a ribbon after worship, please signal an usher.*

All those who are unknown at this time.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: **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.**

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### SHARING THE BREAD

One: Because there is one loaf, we, many as we are, are one body; for it is one loaf of which we all partake. Jesus said, "I am among you as one who serves."

*The bread served for communion is gluten-free.*

*We eat the bread, individually, as it is served, as a sign of our personal relationship with God.*

*We wait to drink the cup, until after the hymn.*

### COMMUNION HYMN *see insert*

Here, O Our Lord, We See You Face to Face

MORECAMBE

### SHARING THE CUP

One: Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Cut off from me, you can do nothing."  
So let us join together in sharing the cup of life.

*We drink the cup, together, as a sign of our community in Christ Jesus.*

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All: **Holy God, we thank you for this feast of grace and life.  
As we have been served, help us to serve our neighbors.  
As we have been fed, help us to feed all who are hungry.  
As we have been loved, help us to love the world –  
because in Christ you have loved us. Amen.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION *Sisseton Learning Camps*

Marla Holt

### OFFERTORY

*If you wish to give online via, scan this QR code or visit [www.firstfranklin.org](http://www.firstfranklin.org).  
If you would like to give your offering by mail, please send it to the church office.*



AT THE OFFERTORY

Hallelujah (from *Christ on the Mount of Olives*)

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Hallelujah! unto God's Almighty Son.  
Praise the Lord, ye bright angelic choirs,  
In holy songs of joy.  
Come, proclaim His grace and glory!  
Hallelujah! unto God's Almighty Son.  
Praise the Lord in holy songs of joy.

~*Franz Xaver Huber (orig. German)*

*stand, in body, spirit, or voice*

DOXOLOGY 591

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Phil Adams

One: God of light and glory, we gather as your faithful to worship Christ who is your human image. We praise you for all great gifts and return these our tithes and offerings for the furtherance of your kingdom of life and love. Transform us, heart and soul, so that your radiance might shine forth from our lives. Help us to use these offerings wisely in pursuit of sharing the light of the gospel and the glory of your Son Jesus Christ, through whom we pray. Amen.

*remain standing for*

HYMN OF SENDING 73

Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory

GENEVA

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

Toccata (from *Suite Gothique*)

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

*It is the custom of this congregation to remain in the sanctuary for the postlude.*



To be kind to our earth, we have a limited number of printed copies of the annual report.  
Please consider using a digital copy of the report.

The 2023 Annual Report can be found online at  
[www.firstfranklin.org/2023AnnualReport](http://www.firstfranklin.org/2023AnnualReport)

## LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Steve Nofel, *preacher*  
Jason Kissel, *Minister of Music & Arts/Organist*

Mike Johnson and Stephen Hollaway, *ushers*  
Emanuel Nixon, *liturgist*

## THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Clarence Baney	Don Juedes	Meredith Piplani	Steve Roach	Christina Stewart
Anne Culbertson	Kirk McAuliffe	Jacob Plaisted	Doug Savin	Jan Trammell-Savin
Jake Elfner	John McLucas	Daveen Rim	Betty Schroll	Randy Veale
Zhenya Gnezdilova	Alex Mendelsohn	Ben Riniker	Marianne Shick	
Jim Harvey	Laura Oldham		Sandra Smith	



## FIRST & FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Rev. Mark Phillips, *Pastor Elect*  
Jason Kissel, DMA, *Minister of Music & Arts/Organist*  
Deborah McCrimmon, *Director of Christian Arts & Education*  
Arts Laureate, *Audio Engineer*

## SESSION

CLASS OF 2023	CLASS OF 2024	CLASS OF 2025
Becca Hollaway	Paul Fowler	Dave Pierson
John McLucas	Alex Mendelsohn	Marianne Shick
	Allie Pyan	Kris Stinson

## DEACONS

CLASS OF 2023	CLASS OF 2024	CLASS OF 2025
Marla Holt	Anne Culbertson	Ryan-Paul Johnson
Randolph Veale	Michael Johnson	

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- The Schulman Family
- George and Anna as they move on to other jobs and great thanks for their time of service to us.
- The Family and Friends of David Freeman
- Carl & his wife Margaret in their grief over the death of their daughter.
- Remembering those killed in the Holocaust
- Kyle, and his fellow military troop as their base was under attack by Iranian militants this week.
- Prayers of joy for Betty & Jim Schroll's 49th anniversary.
- A blessing and safe travel to those heading to Cuba.
- In thanksgiving for Onyeka's parents who celebrated 44 years of marriage on Feb. 2nd.
- Thanksgiving for the choir and the ministry of Jason, Kathie and all our musicians.
- Prayers for Sue & Ed Dickey. Sue has entered hospice.
- Safe travels to Dom as he moves to Brooklyn this week.

SAFETY NOTE: No staff or representative of First & Franklin will ever contact you about giving money or any other forms of payment to support individuals or families who may be on the prayer or birthday list. Please always take caution if you are asked to donate by anyone online or over the phone. If there is ever a question about whether something is legitimate, please contact the church office immediately.



## CHURCH CALENDAR

*current as of February 8*

Feb. 14 Wed. 6:00p-6:45p | Ash Wednesday Service (SA)  
~~Feb. 15 Thu. 6:30p | Building & Grounds Committee (canceled)~~  
Feb. 15 Thu. 7:00p-9:00p | Choir Rehearsal (RC)  
Feb. 16 Fri. 12:00p-1:00p | Al-Anon (BH)  
Feb. 17 Sat. 10:30a-1:30p | 12-Step NA Meeting (RC)  
Feb. 17 Sat. 1:00p-3:00p | Food Pantry (BH)  
Feb. 18 Sun. 9:00a-10:00a | Sunday School (BH)  
Feb. 18 Sun. 10:30a | Worship (SA) - Rev. Michael Cuppett, preaching  
Feb. 18 Sun. 11:30a | Annual Congregational Meeting (SA)

**BH** Backus House | **RC** Reid Chapel | **SA** Sanctuary

For more information about these events, visit [www.firstfranklin.org](http://www.firstfranklin.org) or call the office at (410) 728-5545.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOMING REV. MARK PHILLIPS:** On January 14, 2024, the congregation of First & Franklin called Rev. Mark Phillips to be our new pastor. If you were not able to meet Mark on the weekend of Jan. 13/14, you can watch a fun interview, read a bio, and watch his sermon from the Sunday service. Visit [www.firstfranklin.org/WelcomeMark](http://www.firstfranklin.org/WelcomeMark) We will be hearing more from Rev. Phillips in the coming weeks before he officially joins us on Sunday, April 21.

**LENT @ FIRST & FRANKLIN:** Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14. We will hold a candlelight service in the Sanctuary at 6 pm that evening. There will be quiet music, reflections from church elders, and the opportunity to receive ashes as a sign of our mortality and of our faith.

The timing of Lent this year coincides with a particular time of transition for our church. Bridge Pastor Steve Nofel is already committed full-time to serving another congregation, and Pastor-Elect Mark Phillips will not join us until after Easter. For this reason, we will not hold our usual Wednesday evening services this year. Instead, we hope all members and friends will set aside some time each Wednesday for Lenten meditations which Steve and Mark have written for us. These beautiful, short contemplative readings will allow us to ponder and pray as a church family, even when we're not together in person. The first will be distributed on Ash Wednesday; on that day, we will have the option of both reading at home and attending the service at 6 pm.

Please check your inbox every Wednesday for the pastoral meditations, and "blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love."

**ADULT EDUCATION:** Have you ever been in a Sunday service and wondered, why is there a baby's face tucked at the top of that window? Or, why is that one window always dark? Or, who are all the women in such exquisite glass garments? Maybe you are just captivated by how art can deepen and enrich your faith? Well, Adult Ed has just the series for you!

Starting on February 18th, Adult Ed will kick-off a new multi-part series: *Faith in Flux*. This series will explore the intersection of faith, art, and architecture through the beautiful stained glass windows of First & Franklin church. Much in the way flux prepares the pieces of the leaded stained glass to be joined together, our examination of the Lenten themes in the windows will prepare our hearts for Easter. After Easter, we will dive into the second part of the series which will focus on women in the bible, many of whom are memorialized in glass right in our sanctuary.

**THE SPIRE SERIES:** Mark your calendars and plan to join us for our upcoming concerts this spring. More information about the concerts and tickets are available at [www.firstfranklin.org/SpireSeries](http://www.firstfranklin.org/SpireSeries).

- Friday, Mar. 8, 7:30p - Karen Slack, soprano | Mark Markham, piano
- Friday, Apr. 12, 7:30p - Svet Stoyanov, percussion | Marina Piccinini, flute
- Thursday, May 23, 7:00p - BSA Armstrong Honors Recital
- Sunday, Jun. 2, 3:00p - Paul Bisaccia, piano - *Annual Prelude to Pride Concert*

Our upcoming program featuring Karen Slack (soprano) and Mark Markham (piano) is a varied program which showcases Karen's tremendous artistic and vocal abilities. As Mark Markham notes, "The opening song, which gives the program its title, *Dream Variations*, is based on a text by Langston Hughes and set by Undine Smith Moore. Its first line tells us everything we need to know - "To fling my arms wide in some place of the sun." It sets the tone for a program of love, loss and dreams, with the seasons as a backdrop."

And, how's this for a teaser, Mark says "It just might be the first time that a Tina Turner hit is heard on a classical voice recital, but it works, and Karen Slack is the perfect singer to deliver it."

**FOOD PANTRY UPDATE:** Saturday, February 3, after a 2 week hiatus, the Food Pantry Outreach Ministry at First & Franklin was back in action. We distributed 50 grocery bags and 50 produce bags for a total of 100 bags between 1-3pm. There was no Food Pantry on Saturday January 20th due to the aftermath of the snow we had the day before - January 27th was our scheduled week off from the ministry. June of 2024 will be our 4th Anniversary since the beginning of the pandemic.

**CLEAN WATER FOR CUBA:** Are you a 'hands-on' person who'd like to work on a project that's guaranteed to be life-changing? Please consider joining our team, Partners of Taguasco, to assist in installing a water purification system with our partners in Taguasco, Cuba.

### **How to join?**

In order to begin the Taguasco water project this year, you'll need to attend the next training session at Living Waters for the World's "Clean Water University", April 23 to 27, 2024.

So far, three individuals from partner churches have confirmed and another is interested, so you'll be in good company. We also have support from our denomination, Living Waters for the World, and from the PC(USA) Cuba Partners Network to help us start, grow, and sustain this project.

### **Want more information?**

Please contact the church office or Betty Schroll.

### **Registration Deadline:**

February 15, 2024