

The Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair

Sunday, April 27, 2025
2nd Sunday of Easter



10:00 a.m.

*If you are able, please stand.
Please turn off cell phones.

WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

"We cannot attain the presence of God because we're already totally in the presence of God. What's absent is awareness."

Richard Rohr, *What the Mystics Know*

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Prelude

Hymn to Joy

Beethoven

Anne Marie Juliano, piano

*Call to Worship (based Psalm 118)

Laura Phillips

One: God of peace, we enter this holy room knowing the gospel's cornerstones of grace and mercy are often rejected in our world.

All: Yet we understand that rejection is not the end of the story.

We know that the designers and rulers of the world do not have the last word.

We know from experience that the Gospel of Grace lives, O God, because you live.

Despite powers and principalities, despite the world's meanness and cruelty,
this is the day that the Lord has made. Let us be glad in it!

Hope has survived the harshness and hardness – and is blossoming even now.

Grace is the ground upon which we walk.

Let us rejoice and be glad. Let us worship God!

*Opening Hymn 470 *There Is a Longing in Our Hearts*

Anne Quigly

Invitation to Confession and Worship

Friends, any child who knows they are perfectly loved need not fear their shadows. As much as we are tempted to hide, telling the truth together reminds us that we trust in God's grace and the grace of this community of the Risen Christ. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession and Preparation (unison)

Holy God, we have found ourselves in fear, locked in rooms of inaction and indecision, unsure of our worthiness, unclear where we are called or what we could offer. We have lost ourselves in anxiety so loud we have not heard your voice. We have not recognized you showing up in daily life or on the move in the world. We have believed in the finality of your death and assumed all is left to our own meager efforts.

God of new life, restore hope in us. Help us to breathe again. Grant us eyes to see your beloved people in the tumult around us and ears to hear your good news through all the noise. Even as we have looked away, even as we have hidden in fear, come to find us. Call us forth from our locked rooms to walk with you in the world you so love.

our silent prayers of preparation and confession

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;
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 701 (seated)

Lord, Prepare Me

Sanctuary

Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

Pastor Greg Horn

***We Give God Glory** (Hymn #582)

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen. (sing 3 times)
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

Welcome & Life of the Church

(Please fill out the Friendship Pad completely and pass it along.)

The Sacrament of Baptism (insert)

Finley Marshall Fertig

Introduction

The Presentation

Elder Laura Phillips

Questions to One Being Baptized

Questions to His Church Family

We Proclaim Our Faith – The Apostle's Creed (insert)

The Act of Baptism

Welcoming the Newly Baptized

Baptism Solo

Improvisation on "Amazing Grace"

arr. W. Fertig

Wyeth Fertig, piano

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Time for Children

Sierra Joy, Garrett Pahl

(All children are invited forward. Afterward, all children may attend Sunday School.)

Scripture Reading (p.695 of OT)

Psalms 118:14, 22-29 (NRSV)

¹⁴The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.
²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. ²³This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. ²⁵Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success! ²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. ²⁷The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. ²⁸You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. ²⁹O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading (p.141 of NT)

John 20:19-29 (NRSV)

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"He'll Be Right Back!"

Pastor Greg Horn

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

We Worship With Our Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Living Hope

Phil Wickham

Chancel Choir

*Hallelujah! Praise the one who set me free! Hallelujah! Death has lost its grip on me.
You have broken every chain. There's salvation in your name. Jesus Christ, my living hope.*

*We Give Praise to God (Hymn #606)

Doxology

***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.***

Ordination & Installation of Leaders (insert)

Presentation

Questions to Leaders

Questions to the Congregation

The Laying on of Hands & Prayer of Ordination

(All ordained elders, deacons and ministers of Word & Sacrament are invited forward for the laying on of hands.)

Declaration of Ordination and Installation

*Closing Hymn 251

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

Tanzanian melody

(verses 1 & 5)

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

GO WITH GOD – TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

*The flowers decorating the chancel this morning
are given to the glory of God by Erin & Joe Walter,
in loving memory of Robert and Emelil Mudd.*

WELCOME and thank you for your part in this service of worship. If you are a visitor here at the Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair (PCUM), you are especially welcome. May you sense in this place the presence and the love of God in Christ. After worship, you are invited for refreshments and conversation in Fellowship Hall.

PLEASE ASK AN USHER for anything you might need, and please help fellow worshipers by exiting and entering the sanctuary at times other than during prayers or scripture readings.

CHILDCARE for toddlers and a nursery for younger children are always available during worship in the North Wing, located off Fellowship Hall. Please ask an usher for directions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES for all children preschool through 7th grade are located in the North Wing. Ask the ushers for directions. Parents of kids participating in Sunday School for the first time: please step out briefly with your child(ren) as they are dismissed to register them and complete an emergency contact form.

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RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM this morning is Finley Marshall Fertig, son of Michelle & Todd Fertig and brother of Ellis and Wyeth Fertig. Presenting Finley for baptism on behalf of his church family and the PCUM Session (elected board) is Elder Laura Phillips.

Representing Finley’s church family and his circle of loved ones committing themselves to his support and nurture in life and faith are Louis Cuttitta and Cathy Murry, and standing with him are his mother Michelle, brother Wyeth, and (virtually) sister Ellis. The “baptism rose” on the chancel table is given by Michelle, Ellis, Wyeth, and Finley in loving memory of Todd Fertig.

BAPTISM IN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) celebrates the truth that God’s love claims us even before we are able to respond in faith. In the PC (USA), baptism itself does not bring about salvation, but is an outward sign pointing to God’s love for us and free gift to us of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The waters of baptism represent the washing away of all brokenness that separates us from God, our dying and rising with Christ, and an adoption into the covenant family of Christ’s Body, the church. The entire congregation, on behalf of the worldwide Christian church, assumes responsibility for nurturing the baptized children in the Christian life.

CELEBRATION OF THOSE CALLED AS ELDERS & DEACONS – Installed (and previously ordained) today to the ministry of Elder in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair are **Rob Bigelow, Victoria Herzberg, Rob Pahl, and Harriet Salem.**

Ordained and installed to the office and ministry of Deacon is **Laurie Kroll.** Installed (and previously ordained) today to the ministry of Deacon are **Barbara Baker** and **David Rowley.**

Presenting the newly-elected leaders on behalf of the Session is Elder Laura Phillips.

PIZZA & MOVIE NIGHT FRIDAY – Kids and parents! At 6:00 p.m. Friday evening, May 2nd, families with children 2nd grade & younger (older siblings are welcome!), are invited to a FREE evening of movie-watching, fellowship and fun for kids and families! Meet other parents while your children play with church friends under the supervision of the Children's Ministries staff. Pizza and salad for everyone, as well as a short child-friendly film screening. RSVP to Millie Tourtelot at millie@pcum.org.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP meets Wednesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. All teens and tweens 6th–8th grade are invited to come out to have fun, share dinner, and meet old and new friends.

SAVE THE DATE: PCUM'S YOUTH BANQUET will be Wednesday, May 21st, from 7-8:30 pm! All rising 6th through 12th graders are invited to a night of food and fun at PCUM! More details coming soon!

SIGN UP TO HELP PREPARE & SERVE COFFEE HOUR – Hospitality is a priority of this church family. Sign up to help on the Coffee Hour Calendar in the Deacons' Corner or online at www.pcum.org.

VOLUNTEER TO SERVE HUNGRY NEIGHBORS – Join fellow volunteers serving hungry neighbors for an experience that feeds everyone! PCUM prepares and serves an evening meal in Montclair every 4th Saturday of the month and lunch in Newark the 3rd Saturday. *Sign up at pcum.org/serve-others.*

DEDICATE FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP – You can honor loved ones by dedicating flowers for any Sunday morning worship service. The suggested donation for two standard bouquets is \$80. Sign up on the Flower Calendar in the Deacons' Corner or online at www.pcum.org.

MONTCLAIR MUSIC CLUB announces the annual Young Artists program, May 5th, 7:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary. Every May this special program honors outstanding young talent of MMC teachers as well as others in our area. Please join us to hear the string trio with violinist Gabriel Anker, violinist Liana Branscome and violist Elijah Spies; violinist Gabriel Anker and collaborator Ryan Bridge; soprano Abby Brodnick with collaborator Mary Pinto; pianist Jason Ruan and pianist Sathvik Subramanian. These accomplished young musicians have earned numerous awards and won many competitions. We are excited for them to share their great talent with us. Free and open to the public. Donations welcome. Reception immediately following the program.



Thoughtful, Nourishing Worship ✝ *Vibrant Ministry to Children & Youth*

Relationships ✝ *Participation* ✝ *Service to Others and to the World* ✝ *Relevance and Authenticity*

The Presbyterian Church
of Upper Montclair
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Upper Montclair, NJ 07043
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Pastor & Head of Staff:

The Rev. Gregory A. Horn

Director of Music Ministries:

Anne Marie Juliano

Director of Christian Education: Millie Tourtelot

Co-Youth Leader: Garrett Pahl

Children's Programs/Co-Youth Leader: Sierra Joy

Church Administrator: Denise Silecchia

Livestream Techs: Tres Williams, Jerome Nelson

Custodian: Jimmy Abad

The Baptism of
Finley Marshall Fertig

Questions to the One Being Baptized

Do you desire to be baptized?

Do you trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple seeking his Presence and showing his love wherever you may be?

Questions to the Church Family

Do you, the brothers and sisters in Christ of this child of God,
representing the church universal in every time and place,
promise, through your prayer and example,
to support and encourage Finley from this day forward?

We do.

Do you, the people of the church, *promise*
to tell Finley the good news of the Gospel,
to show him the reality of God's love in your words and actions,
to pray for him that he may continue to grow in the love
and teaching of Jesus Christ, and
by your friendship and your commitment to Christ's church,
to strengthen his family ties within the household of God?

We do.

***The Community Says What It Believes**

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 Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father
Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair

Ordination and Installation of Church Leaders

Introduction

Pastor Greg Horn

Presentation of the Candidates for Ordination and Installation

Elder Laura Phillips

Constitutional Questions to elected Church Leaders

1. Do you trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
2. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?
3. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?
4. Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and continually guided by our confessions?
5. Will you be governed by your church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?
6. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?
7. Do you promise to further the peace, unity and purity of the church?
8. Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

for Elders: Will you be a faithful Elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

for Deacons: Will you be a faithful Deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

The Constitutional Questions to the Congregation

1. Do we, the members of this church, accept as Elders, called by God through the voice of this congregation, **Rob Bigelow, Rob Pahl, Victoria Herzberg and Harriet Salem**
and
as Deacons, called by God through the voice of this congregation, **Barbara Baker, David Rowley and Laurie Kroll** to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?
2. Do we agree to encourage them, to pray for and support them as they carry out their ministry, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us—serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

The Laying on of Hands

(All ordained Elders, Deacons and Ministers of Word & Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) are invited forward for the laying on of hands.)

The Prayer and Declaration of Ordination and Installation