



The Presbyterian Church of Llanerch

Celebrating The 18th Sunday after Pentecost and

Theological Education / Seminary Support Sunday in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Sunday, September 18, 2016

11:00 a.m.

Gathering

As you come to worship, take a few moments to bring yourself before God—your present state of mind and preoccupations, as well as your desire to meet God during this time.

[Our service begins when the voluntary begins, and we turn our attention toward God, in worship.]

The * indicates the parts of the service where the congregation is invited to stand; **bolded responses** indicate congregational responses.

VOLUNTARY "Listen, God Is Calling" --*Neno lake Mungu*
refer to Hymn 456, a text and tune from Kenya, as you hear this setting by Anne Krentz Organ

GREETING AND WELCOME

* CALL TO WORSHIP

You hear the cries of your people
for justice and mercy;
you answer our prayers
with the gift of your Son,
who bears our burdens
and sets us free.
Speak your truth to us;
purge and refine us; that we may love and serve you alone.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

* **OPENING HYMN** 761 *Beecher*
"Called As Partners in Christ's Service"

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS [read in unison]

Creator of the universe, casualty of our sin, breath of life, we come trembling before you for we have hoarded and bartered what has never been ours in the hope of securing our future. We have yearned for wealth more than we have yearned for you. We have squandered your trust and grieved your heart with our betrayal. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake. Amen.

* **SUNG RESPONSE 399** "God Welcomes All" Sung Twice --*Themba Amen*
"God welcomes all, strangers and friends; God's love is strong and it never ends."

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

As a potter holds a piece of clay, God holds and shapes our lives. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ has been released among you, and may it go with you!
And also with you!

Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT EPISTLES 1 Timothy 2: 1-7 [Page 208]

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Luke 16: 1-13 [Page 79]

The words of Scripture, inspired by God.
Thanks be to God.

A TIME OF WORSHIP ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN

SERMON

--Rev. David Stipp-Bethune

"No Slave Can Have Two Masters"

Response

* AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

--The Confession of Belhar

We believe that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people; that God, in a world full of

injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged; that God calls the church to follow him in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind; that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly; that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering; that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right. AMEN.

* HYMN 716 *Beach Spring*
"God Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND OUR LORD'S PRAYER

[Our Prayers of the People begin responsively as indicated below, then we'll use a common refrain after each of the petitions.]

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

[The minister continues, offering petitions; the conclusion of each petition will include the following refrain:]

God, in your wisdom,
hear our prayer.

...And hear us as we pray in the name of the one who prays for us, using as our words the words he taught us to use when we pray, saying:

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.

Our Offering

INVITATION TO PRESENT GOD'S TITHES, OUR GIFTS, AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "Meditation on *Beach Spring*" --Janet Linker

* SUNG RESPONSE #606 "Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow" --*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."

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Most Holy God, you bring us new life and growth, for we are all new creations in you. We give you thanks for hearts, souls, minds, and strength that strive to serve you by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We thank you for the gift of communities in which we can live, grow, serve, and learn, and that challenge us to listen for your direction. We give you thanks for those who dedicate their time, talent, and energy to disciplined learning and study that we all may learn from one another. May we live out our thanksgiving in a way that we serve the body of Christ and take up disciplined study for ourselves.

We thank you for calling us to one another, prompting us to receive instruction.

We give thanks that call and response, teaching and learning, mentoring and apprenticeship are happening throughout the world and in places we know and in places that surprise: construction sites, worshiping communities, taxis, office spaces, campgrounds, kitchens, and hospital rooms.

For our rich heritage of theological education, and for our commitment to equipping leaders through our seminaries to serve your church, we offer special thanks and praise. For faculty and those who offer instruction; for administrators; for clerical staff; for those who keep the grounds and for those who serve healthy meals; for students; for alumni; for members of boards; for all who provide for and support our seminaries, including our own worshipping community—bountiful God, we give thanks this day. Our prayers extend to those involved in education at institutions from other traditions as well, that all partners in the enterprise of education may bring you honor and glory.

All thanks and praise be to you, almighty God, for equipping us to build and sustain mentoring communities of learning and instruction that prepare us to hear and respond to your call in our lives. Amen.

Sending

* HYMN 722 *Canonbury*
"Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"

* ANNOUNCEMENTS

* BLESSING & CHARGE [continues on next page]

...Seek the lost.

Rejoice!

Feed the hungry.
 Rejoice!
 Honor and glorify our Sovereign God forever!
 Rejoice!

VOLUNTARY "On What Has Now Been Sown" *Darwall's 148th*, setting by Barbara Harbach

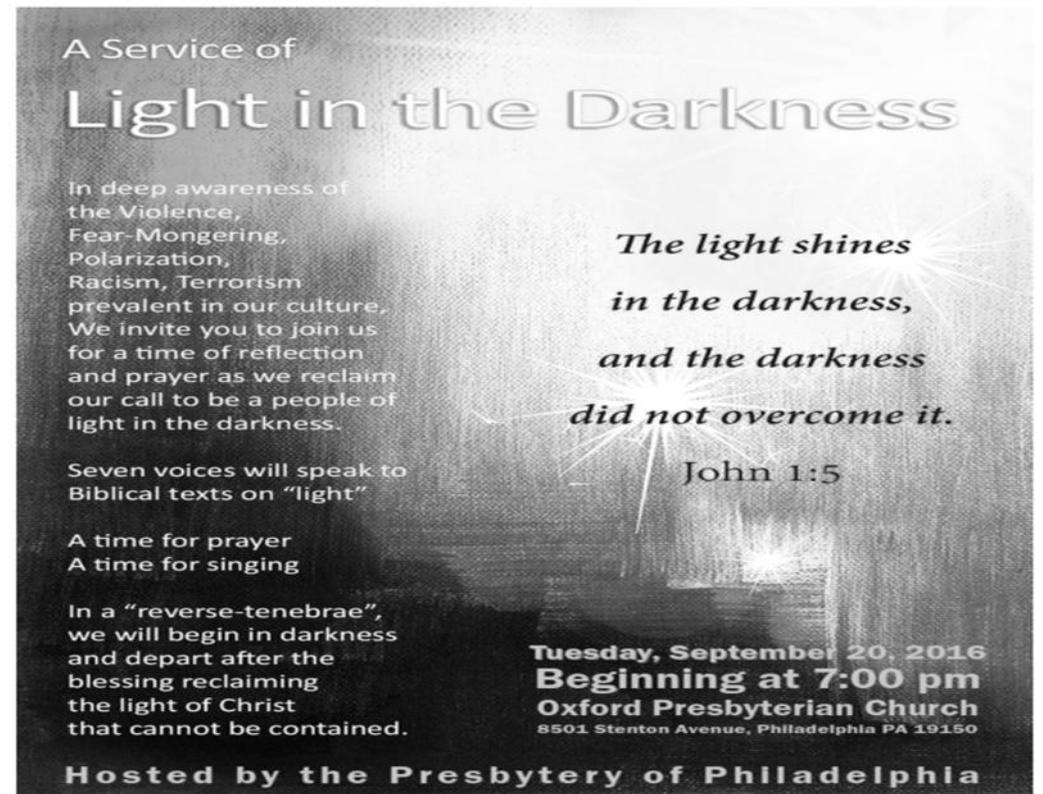
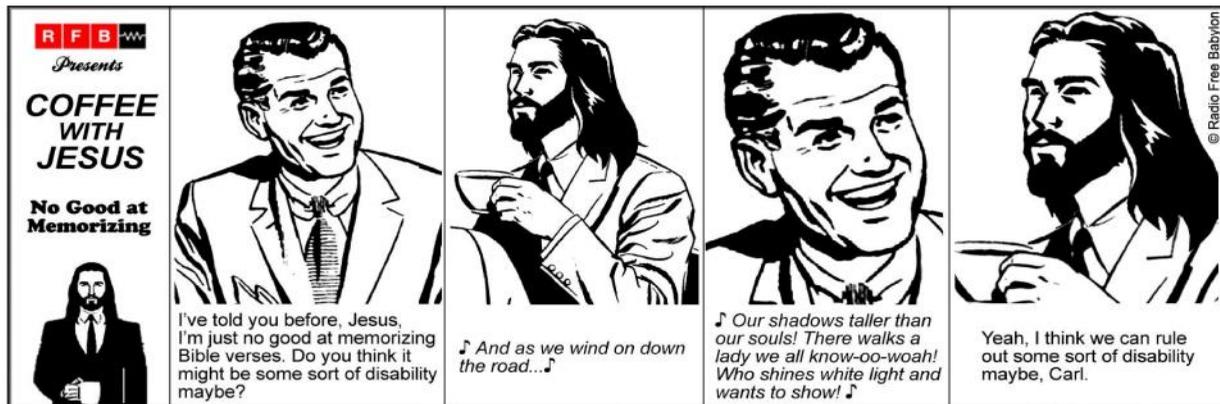
While our worship service ends, our Christian service is just beginning...

The flowers for This Morning's Worship Service are generously shared with us in loving memory of Harold H. Rahn, Jr. by Mary Anne Rahn and Paul & Phyllis Gibson & family.

Leading This Morning's Worship Service Are: Georgia Marshall Schrom, Minister of Music; Rev. David Stipp-Bethune, Pastor.

Service Notes for This Morning's Worship Service:

1. Our Call to Worship and Prayer of Forgiveness were adapted from materials in the Feasting on the Word worship Companion: liturgies for Year C, edited by Kimberly Bracken Long.
2. Our Prayers of the People, our Prayer of Dedication were included in materials for celebration Theological Education in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) provided by the Theological Education Seminary Support Network.
3. Our Affirmation of Faith this morning was taken from our denomination's newest confession, The Confession of Belhar. The 222nd General Assembly ratified its inclusion to our Book of Confessions at its recent meeting in Portland. Written by a South African denomination in the mid 1980's this statement has been reaffirmed and adopted as a confessional document to which we are obligated as Presbyterians. We will continue to explore the Confession of Belhar in the weeks to come.



UPCOMING EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS IN OUR CONGREGATION:

- September 18th: Sunday School begins! We celebrate Theological Education/Seminary Support Sunday!
- September 25th: Kick off for "Church Has Left the Building"
- October 2nd: World Communion Sunday! Worship includes the Lord's Supper!
- October 9th: Pulpit Exchange. Rev. Stipp-Bethune will be preaching at Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church; and Rev. Kurt Pleim will be leading worship and preaching at Llanerch! Blessing of the Animals Service.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP OUR MINISTRY... and take part in it:

PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP WITH US:

11 a.m. on Sunday Mornings

PARTICIPATE IN HELPING OTHERS:

We receive gifts for CHESTER EASTSIDE MINISTRIES food and outreach ministries on the third Sunday of each month. **Our next offering is THIS VERY Sunday, September 18th!** Please bring your gifts to worship and include them in the special dedication during worship!

PARTICIPATE IN THE PRACTICE OF PRAYER:

Our congregation believes and attests to the power of prayer. We pray "together" in church and we pray "together" as individuals. Here are some of the things we are praying:

For the victims of natural and human-caused disasters--especially those affected by the devastating flooding in South Louisiana; | for the victims of violence and terrorism, all over the world and in our own country | For Lila McCleary's brother, who had brain surgery and is recovering, and for Lila who is in West Texas for a visit; | For Gerard Schrom's father (who suffered a fall at his home in Florida) | For Jeanne Twining (who is in failing health) | For Michelle Siegle (Eleanor Siegle's daughter-in-law who suffered a massive stroke), | For Jack Bellwoar and for Gail | For Steven Joachim (Eleanor Siegle's great-grandson) | For Phoenix Hoyle, June Hoyle's grandson (June is our Preschool Director) | For Cindy Guilfoil (who is undergoing chemotherapy for cancer) | For Kelly Diorio's Mother (who is fighting lung cancer) | For Matthew | For Ben | Thanksgiving and safe-keeping for first responders, good neighbors, helping people, and disaster planning | For our congregation in our New Beginnings discernment small group meetings | For our congregation, our elders and deacons, our pastor | Our Church Staff: Kelly Dilorio, Georgia Schrom, David Pokorny, and Rev. David Stipp-Bethune | Our Preschool staff, students, and families | For the Families, Friends, Communities enduring violence and bloodshed--that justice may roll down like waters.

By adding these prayers to your personal prayers, we engage God together.

WE REALLY DO WANT TO HEAR YOUR FEEDBACK:

Our hope and prayer is that our worship services, programs, and ministry opportunities are both meaningful and helpful to you, and we'd appreciate knowing how well or how not-so-well that we're doing. Comments, feedback, and helpful criticisms are welcome—please make notes or suggestions, and sign them. You can drop them off, mail them to the church office, or e-mail them to the church office or pastor. Please be aware we can only consider signed responses. Thank you for your help.



The Presbyterian Church of Llanerch

www.llanerchpres.org | E-mail: llanerchpres@verizon.net | Phone: 610.789.1639

Street Address: 211 Lansdowne Road; Havertown, Pennsylvania 19083

Pastor

Rev. David Stipp-Bethune

Communications Coordinator

Kelly Diorio

Minister of Music

Georgia Marshall Schrom

Ministers

Members of the Congregation

OUR MISSION

The Presbyterian Church of Llanerch is an inclusive Christian community whose members have been: saved by God's grace, united by God in Jesus Christ, and given by God as a light to the nations. Our mission is patterned after the example of Jesus Christ, who came "not to be served but to serve." To that end, we seek to think with the mind of Christ, to love with the heart of Christ, and to act as the Lord requires, doing justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly with our God.

WELCOME!

We are grateful that you are choosing to worship with us! Worship at "Llanerch" is our signature event each Sunday, and we hope and pray that you find today's service meaningful and that you experience authentic fellowship with our faith community. Child care for younger children is provided in our nursery (ask one of our ushers if you need directions) and a time of fellowship with coffee and treats follows our worship service. Information about our ministry and activities is included in our bulletin and in the brochure in your pew. You may also connect with us online at www.llanerchpres.org or find us on Facebook (The Presbyterian Church of Llanerch). Our pastor is Rev. David Stipp-Bethune and can be contacted through the church office, or the Pastor's Study at 610-789-1820, or via e-mail: revdrstipp@msn.com.

KNOW YOU ARE MOST WELCOME TO JOIN US IN THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES:

Today	09/18 <i>We celebrate the 18th Sunday after Pentecost and Theological Education/Seminary Support Sunday! Sunday School begins this morning!</i>
NEXT Sunday	09/25 The 19 th Sunday after Pentecost. And we kick off our "Church Has Left the Building" Program Emphasis!
09/27	Session meets at 7:00pm.



Direct your phone or tablet computer to our Church's website by scanning the image on the left.



Search for "The Presbyterian Church of Llanerch, then click on "Like."