

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BROOKLYN

Founded in 1822

An intentionally inclusive community of faith

Join us for worship at FPC.CHURCH or on the church Facebook page

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020 at 11 a.m.

Morning Worship

Prelude

Jesus Loves Me

Steffy Jolin, soloist

Please rise as you are able in body or spirit

Δ Call to Worship (*responsive*)

Elder Patty Watwood

One: Love, without it we are like clanging cymbals,

All: Love!

One: We can speak like prophets, but we still have to

All: Love!

One: We can build great buildings, but we need to

All: Love!

One: We can preach and pray, thank God everyday, but we must

All: Love!

One: Be patient and kind, with no envy in mind,

All: Love!

One: Don't be rude or resentful; don't insist on your own way,

All: Love!

One: How can we live without it?

All: Love!

One: How can we sing without it?

All: Love!

One: Who can serve God without it?

All: Love!

One: We just stopped by today so that God could remind us to

All: Love!

Our opening hymn is The Gift of Love

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
And have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain,
As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,
And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within,
The profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
By this we worship, and are freed.

LIFE IN CHRIST FAMILY AND HOME

522 THE GIFT OF LOVE

If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.
1 Corinthians 13:3

1. Though I may speak with bravest fire,
2. Though I may give all I possess,
3. Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,

And have the gift to all inspire,
And striving so my love profess,
Our spirits long to be made whole.

And have not love, my words are vain,
But not be giv'n by love within,
Let inward love guide every deed;

As sounding brass, and hopeless gain,
The profit soon turns strangely thin,
By this we worship, and are freed.

Text: Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933
Tune: GIFT OF LOVE, LM; Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933
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Δ Prayer of Confession

Kenny Komala

Every week, as we worship together, we have the opportunity to admit to ourselves, to each other, and to God that we do not always live and love as we are called. In this time of confession, this time of opening our hearts, let us remember that God is compassionate and just, eager to offer grace and love. Let us pray, first in silence.

SILENCE

Let us pray:

Love is patient;
for our quick-temperedness:
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Love is kind;
for our indifference towards others:
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Love is not envious;
for our petty jealousies:
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Love is not boastful;
for our pretentiousness:
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Love is not arrogant;
for our opinionated views -
Lord, have mercy:
Christ, have mercy:

Love is not rude;
for our crass behaviour:
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Love does not insist on getting its own way;
for our false sense of our own importance:
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Love is not irritable;
for our resentful behaviour:
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Love does not rejoice in wrong-doing;
for our rejoicing in all the wrong things:
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

May God show us mercy,
forgive us our sins against love
and lead us to life that lasts:

Amen.

~ Open Source Spirituality Blog

Δ Words of Assurance

Mr. Komala

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure,
and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and
thus set free to love and to serve.

How then are we called to live?
The Lord Jesus Christ said you shall love the Lord your God with
all your heart, mind, soul, and strength. This is the first and greatest
commandment and a second is like it. You shall love your neighbor
as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the laws and the
prophets.

Gloria Patri

Glory to God
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.
World without end, without end, amen.
World without end, without end, amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, amen!

Welcome

The Rev. Adriene Thorne

Δ The Peace

Rev. Thorne

The love of God surrounds us.
We rejoice in that love.
Let us greet one another in the love of God and the hope of Christ.
May the peace of God be with you always. **And also with you.**

Music:

Love, Love, Love Is the Key
Thera and Linden Shamey, Petal St. Rose,
Cassie Slowik, and Gracie Loscalzo

This morning's readings is from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians chapter 12 verses 31b-14:1a. Listen for a word from God.

12:31b And I will show you a still more excellent way.

13 If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast,[a] but do not have love, I gain nothing. 4 Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. 9 For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; 10 but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. 12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly,[b] but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. 13 And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. 14:1a Pursue love.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Christian New Testament Reading

Zayn Silva

This morning's reading is from the gospel of Mark, chapter 12, verses 28-31; Listen for a word from God.

28 One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" 29 Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 30 you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Anthem

"Worth" (previously recorded)

Sermon

Remade by Love

Rev. Thorne

The Offering

Lukus Estok

Invitation:

Love is a powerful force in the world, stronger than hatred or fear or greed. It is the love of Jesus that gets inside of us, that inspires us and makes us able and excited to share generously the gifts we have received from God. Our gifts are one way that we love one another and the world around us, a world so loved by God.

We can receive your financial offering electronically this morning via PayPal or with a credit card at FPC.CHURCH. Scroll down to find the donate section. Depending on how you are viewing worship, you may need to open a new browser window or leave the worship stream momentarily. Thank you for your gifts.

Offertory

As the Deer

Ewura Esi Arthur, soloist

Δ Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

Δ Prayer of Dedication

Mr. Estok

God of love, take this offering - our lives and these gifts and cause them to work in your world for the healing and reconciliation of all people to you - bring us back to love. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Rev. Dr. April Stace

If you have joys or concerns you would like to share with our community, please write your prayers in the chat box at FPC.CHURCH or on Facebook.. Everyone will be able to see your prayer and in this way, we will be in prayer with and for one another.

Music during Prayer: *Love Divine, All Love Excelling*
Ken Thomson; Photos: Jim Johnson

Δ Benediction

Rev. Thorne

Go forth from this moment in joy to serve the Lord.
May God's love pour into you this day and move through you to those you meet. May the grace of God, the love of Jesus, and the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, rest, rule, and abide now, henceforth and forevermore. Amen.

△ Closing Hymn 638 (African American Hymnal) Andrew Leonard, soloist

Till We Gather Again

Till we gather again, God be with you

Till we gather again, God be with you

May He give you His love, give you His kindness, keep you in perfect peace.

God be with you till we meet again.

#Benedictions

CLOSING OF SERVICE

TILL WE GATHER AGAIN 638

*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
John 14:27*

Till we gath-er a - gain, God be with
you. Till we gath-er a - gain, God be with
you. May He give you His love,
give you His kind - ness, keep you in per - fect peace.
God be with you till we meet a - gain.

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Postlude

Announcements



Prayer Requests

*“This is the confidence we have in approaching God:
that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.”
(1 John 5:14 NIV)*

Julian Podd and his parents Matt and Molly for strength and comfort

Thelma McNish, Mother of Elder Gladys McNish

Cuthbert Hutchinson, brother of Elder Dianne Hutchinson

Sybil Collins

Rachelle Taylor and family

Elizabeth Johnson, daughter of Donna Johnson

Bernice Adorno and family on the loss of her brother-in-law,

Livingstone Malcolm

Health care workers in our community including:

Esperanza Sodusta, Elder Edna Asknes and Elder Aluko Hope

Jackie Jefferson and family on the loss of her nephew

All those grieving the loss of work, loved ones and options.

Our world is changing daily, and yet we still believe in the power of prayer.

We still desire to pray with and for our community. If you have a prayer request – a joy or a concern, please send your prayers to us at info@firstchurchbrooklyn.org.

We will add prayers to our worship bulletin each week and keep your prayers in our hearts and on our lips for the week to come. Thank you to Phil Schaffroth for sharing this idea for prayer with us.