

LENT 2025

*Restore
Unto
Me
the
Joy...*

DOYLESTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



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March 23, 2025

10:30 am

All Are Welcome in God's House

March 23, 2025

10:30 am

Third Sunday in Lent

The Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

(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.)

Prelude

We Gather Together

arr. Healey Willan

*Call to Worship

based on Psalm 51:8a, 12 & John 15:11

Let me hear joy and gladness.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you,

and that your joy may be complete.

Let us worship God!

*Hymn 393

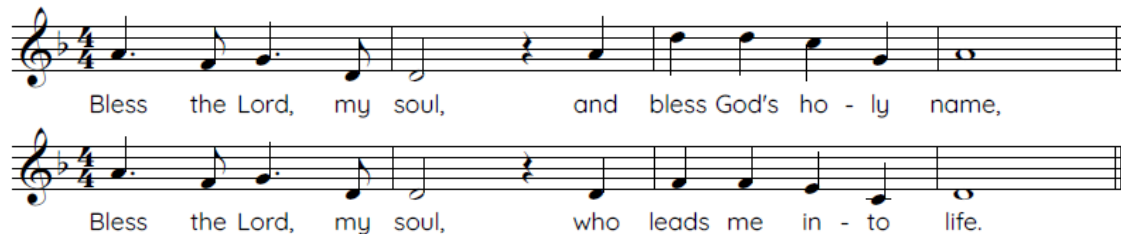
O Day of Rest and Gladness

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Opening Prayer

Litany of Lent

Sung Response:



Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name,
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

For forty days and nights the rain fell, and the waters covered the face of the earth.
Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

For forty years the people wandered, seeking the land of God's promise.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

(Sung Response)

Moses spent forty days on the mountain, learning the commandments of God.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness to hear the voice of God in the silence.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

(Sung Response)

Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh: Repent, or in forty days you will perish. Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days and was tested by the devil.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

(Sung Response)

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

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

Eternal God, as we are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ, so give us the grace of repentance **that we may pass through the grave with him and be born again to eternal life.**
For he is the One who was crucified, dead, and buried, and rose again for us, Jesus our Savior. Amen.

*The Sharing of the Peace of Christ

The Peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you. **And also with you.**

Time with the Children

Katy Schafer

(After the message, children ages four through sixth grade may leave for Children's Worship Time. Parents may pick up their children in Room 202 and 207, located across the bridge, following worship.)

First Scripture Lesson: Psalm 30

Pew Bible, NRSV (OT), p. 573

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

Anthem

How Can I Keep from Singing?
Chancel Choir

arr. Sarah Quartel

My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentations, I hear the real though far off tune that hails a new creation. Through all the tumult and the strife I hear it's music ringing. It sounds an echo in my soul, how can I keep from singing? While though the tempest loudly roars, I hear the truth, it liveth. And though the darkness 'round me close, songs in the night it giveth. No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging. Since love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing? I lift my eyes, the cloud grows thin; I see the blue above it, and day by day this pathway smooths since first I learned to love it. The peace of love makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing; All things are mine in love and joy! How can I keep from singing?

(Ushers will collect prayer request cards during this time.)

Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

Gracious God, our way in the wilderness, guide us, by your Word, through these forty days, and minister to us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may reformed, restored, and renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Second Scripture Lesson: Philippians 1:1-11

Pew Bible, NRSV (NT), p. 196

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

Sermon

"Joy is a Defiant Act"

Rev. Dr. Mac Schafer

*Affirmation of Faith

— from "A Brief Statement of Faith"

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. 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.

Prayers of the People and 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

If With All Your Hearts from *Elijah*

F. Mendelssohn

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

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn 546

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

SICILIAN MARINERS

*Benediction

Postlude

Psalm 19

Marcello

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Welcome to Worship at Doylestown Presbyterian Church! Whether in-person or joining us from home, we are glad that you are with us!

Assisting: Jamie Neal, Seminarian **Lay Leader:** Naomi Darville

The **flowers** today are given in loving memory of Bill and Larry Melsky and Lorraine Melsky Broomall by Sue and Tom Haldeman; and in loving honor of our mom, Kay Benkert, on her 85th birthday and in loving memory of our dad, Bill Benkert, by Brynne, Michael, Lauren, and Jules Hunter.

Join for **coffee, tea, and refreshments** on the bridge between worship services each Sunday.



Be a bridge for Christ and a beacon of His love.

www.dtownpc.org 215-348-3531

