

The Presbyterian Church of
Llanerch

Doing Justly • Loving Mercy • Walking Humbly with God



Service for the Lord's Day

April 28, 2024 • Fifth Sunday of Easter • 11:00 AM

Welcome to the Presbyterian Church of Llanerch

Through the Spirit of Christ, we are brought together and joined as one community in the worship of God. Whoever you are, from wherever you have come, you are welcome here.

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.

If You Are New Here

We are especially glad to welcome you if you are visiting with us this morning. We invite you to the Fellowship Hall following the worship service, where there are coffee and snacks served alongside friendly conversation.

Children in Worship

Children (and their wiggles) are always welcome in worship. A Wiggle Room is available in the Chapel—to the left of the pulpit.

Prepare for Worship

As you come to worship, you are invited to take a few moments to bring yourself before God, to prepare yourself in heart, mind, soul and strength. Please be considerate and silence all electronic devices.

The * indicates parts of the service where the congregation is invited to stand; *italicized portions* are spoken by a worship leader, **bolded portions** indicate congregational responses.

Connect with Us

Get connected with our weekly announcements in your email inbox! Visit llanerchpres.org/connect

Session

Donna Helms, *clerk*
Paul Gibson
Katherine Hiebert
Gabrielle Vivanco
Craig Kane
Joan Sheppard

Gathered as a Community

Welcome

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Voluntary

Psalm 127

Emma Lou Diemer

“Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain”

* Opening Sentences

The world belongs to God,

the earth and all its people.

(A globe is brought to the table.)

Your light shall break forth like the dawn,

and your healing shall spring up quickly.

(The Christ candle is lit.)

The bread of God comes to us from heaven,

the bread which gives life to the world.

(A loaf of bread is set on the communion table.)

Come, everyone who thirsts:

Take the water of life as a gift.

(A pitcher of water is placed on the baptismal font.)

Love and faith come together.

Justice and peace join hands.

(The Bible is placed on the stand.)

Open our lips, O God,

and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

* Gathering Prayer

* Hymn 23

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

AUSTRIAN HYMN

The hymn tune is number 81.

Prayer of Confession

(Please offer in silence your personal confession.)

*Before God, with the people of God,
I confess to turning away from God
in the ways I wound my life,
the lives of others
and the life of the world.*

**May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.**

Amen.

**Before God, with the people of God,
we confess to turning away from God
in the ways we wound our lives,
the lives of others
and the life of the world.**

*May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.*

Amen.

Promise of Restoration

Friends, believe the good news:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!**

* Sung Response 226 verse 6

SHADES MOUNTAIN

♪ All heav'n is singing,
"Thanks to Christ whose passion
offers in mercy
healing, strength, and pardon.
Peoples and nations,
take it; take it freely!"
Amen! My Master! ♪

* Affirmation of Faith

Adapted from *Belonging to God: A First Catechism*

Who are you?

**I am a child of God,
created by God,
and loved by God from the very beginning.**

Who are we?

**We are children of God, a family of faith,
living joyfully in the Spirit.**

What does it mean to be children of God?

**Through Jesus Christ,
we belong to God who loves us and who calls us God's own.
Nothing can separate us from the love of God. Amen.**

* Sharing in Peace

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Life of the Community

Children's Moment

Hymn 399

God Welcomes All

THEMBA AMEN

Listening to the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Acts 8:26-39

[NT page 127]

Holy wisdom, holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. William H. Searight

Responding in Faith

* Hymn 301

Let Us Build a House

TWO OAKS

All Are Welcome

Gathering of Intercessions and Thanksgivings

All who have gathered for worship are welcome to share in the collection of prayers. If you have a prayer request you would like to share, please offer it when called upon by the Worship Leader.

Prayers of the People

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

During the prayer: *God of mercy,*
hear our prayer.

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.

Invitation to Offering

As those who have been claimed and set free by the grace of Jesus Christ, we respond with gratitude, offering him our lives, our spiritual gifts, and our material goods.

Plates are passed during the Offering for those who wish to give monetary donations by check or cash. You can give online at llanerchpres.org/giving

Offertory

Psalm 91

Emma Lou Diemer

“My refuge and my fortress; my God is whom I trust.”

Dedication of Offering

*Heaven and earth are yours, O Lord,
and of your own we give to you.*

* Dedicatory Response 232 verse 4

EASTER HYMN

♪ Sing we to our God above,
Alleluia!
Praise eternal as God's love.
Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host,
Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! ♪

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sent into the World

* Hymn 772

Live into Hope

TRURO

* Charge and Blessing

*May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you,
this day and forevermore.*

Alleluia! Amen!

* Voluntary

The Rejoicing

Charles Callahan

Worship Notes

This Morning's Worship Leaders

Rev. William Scaright

Georgia Marshall Schrom

Announcements

Bible for Beginners – Every Sunday after Worship

Our weekly Bible discussion returns today following the Friendship Hour. Everyone is invited to join the discussion.

Current Series: *The Letters of Paul, One At a Time.*
April 28 – Second Thessalonians.

Pastor Bill's Book Club

Let's talk about hope this month. Everyone is invited to a discussion of *The Book of Hope*, by Jane Goodall, Douglas Abrams, and Gail Hudson. Sunday, April 28 at 9:30am.

Get in Touch

If you need to connect with us, here are the best ways.

Pastor's email: pastor@llanerchpres.org

Office email: llanerchpres@verizon.net

Office Phone: 610-789-1639

The office is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 12 noon – 5 PM.

Visit Pastor Bill at Panera Wednesday from 11:00am – 1:00pm.

It's almost time!

We will be celebrating the 115th Anniversary of the Presbyterian Church of Llanerch on Sunday, May 5th during worship. Rev. Dr. Andrew L. Rosencrans will be our special guest. Catered luncheon to follow. More information will be coming soon.

Baby Diapers and Wipes Collection

We will be collecting baby diapers (any size) and diaper wipes on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12th for delivery to Chester Eastside.

The Presbyterian Church of Llanerch

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Pastor

William H. Searight

Communications Coordinator

Kelly DiIorio

Minister of Music

Georgia Marshall Schrom

Ministers

All Members of the Congregation

This Week's Activities

Today, 04/28

- 9:30 AM Pastor Bill's Book Club
10:00 AM Handbell Choir rehearsal
11:00 AM **Service for the Lord's Day**
Fifth Sunday in Lent
Rev. William Searight will be preaching
12:00 PM Friendship Hour, Fellowship Room
12:15 PM Children's Choir rehearsal
1:00 PM Bible for Beginners, Social Hall

Thursday, 05/02

- 7:30 PM Scouts, Social Hall

Friday, 05/03

- 8:00 PM AA Meeting, Social Hall

Next Sunday, 05/05

- 10:15 AM Handbell & Senior Choir rehearsal
10:30 AM Children's Choir rehearsal
11:00 AM **Service for the Lord's Day**
Sixth Sunday of Easter
115th Anniversary Celebration
Rev. Dr. Andrew L. Rosencrans will be preaching