

The Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair

Sunday, April 28, 2024
5th Sunday of Easter



10:00 a.m.

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

WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

*"Who am I? They often tell me
I would step from my cell's confinement
[and] bear the days of misfortune
equally, smilingly, proudly...
Am I then really all that which other[s] tell of?
Or am I only what I know of myself,
restless and longing.., like a bird in a cage, struggling for breath...?
Who am I? This or the other?
Am I one person today, and tomorrow another?...
Who am I? They mock me, these lonely questions of mine.
Whoever I am, thou knowest, O God, I am thine.*

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, "Who Am I?"
in *Letters and Papers from Prison*

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Prelude

Anne Marie Juliano, piano

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 22:27-31)

Pastor Greg Horn

One: Hear this good news! One way or another, all the ends of the earth
shall remember and turn to the LORD;

All: and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

For dominion belongs to the LORD our Living Savior; our God rules
over all the nations.

**To the LORD, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
and I shall live for him.**

Future generations will be told about the LORD,
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn!

*Opening Hymn 268 *Crown Him With Many Crowns!*

Diademata

(verses 1, 2, and 4)

Prayer of Confession and Preparation (unison)

Amy Bortey

**Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you.
Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you. We pursue
success, realizing it will never be enough. We desire more possessions,
knowing they are empty. We turn toward the world and hope we will
find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it.**

Forgive us, we pray; may our wandering hearts find rest in you alone.

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.

Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness (responsive)

One: Hear the good news!

All: In Christ, we are new creations!

We are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and show God's grace.

The old life is gone, thank God! A new life has begun.

Know you are forgiven, and be at peace.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*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.)

Time for Children

Laurie Kroll, Millie Tourtelot

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

Presentation of Bibles to PCUM Third Graders

Spencer Carlough Hadley Reilly
Peter John Henry, Jr. William Rogers
Cora Johnson

*Children, receive the Word of God.
Learn its stories and study its words.
Here God reveals who we are.
Here God leads us, strengthens us, and gives us purpose.
Here God tells us that we belong to one another,
for we are the people of God.*

Unison Prayer

Dear God, as the PCUM family presents Bibles to our third graders today, we pray that they and all the children of this community grow always in faith and knowledge. Bless their reading, encourage their questions, and inspire them to become courageous followers of Christ. Thank you for the gift of Scripture, and for the joy of learning about you together. Amen.

*Hymn 456

Listen, God is Calling (Neno lake Mungu)

Swahili hymn, Kenya

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading (p.154 of NT)

Acts 8:26-39 (NRSV)

²⁶Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.)

²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.'

³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' ³¹He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.'

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth.'

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Who Were You Then? Who Are You Now?"

Pastor Greg Horn

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn 649**

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

Columbian Harmony

Prayer of the People

We Worship With Our Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

A Prayer of Saint Patrick

John Rutter

Chancel Choir

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me,

Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me.

***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 69

Here I Am, Lord

Schutte

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

GO WITH GOD – TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

*The flowers decorating the chancel this morning
are given by Bonnie McKenna to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Cerene MacConnachie.*

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 warmly 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 (adjacent to sanctuary). Ask an usher for directions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES for all children preschool through 7th grade are located in the North Wing. Ask the ushers or Christian Education leaders for directions. If you are sending your kids to Sunday School for the first time and have not yet registered your child, please step out briefly with your children as they are dismissed to Sunday School to fill out an emergency contact form before returning to the sanctuary.

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CELEBRATION OF THOSE CALLED AS ELDERS & DEACONS – Ordained and installed today to the office and ministry of Elder are **Michelle Lim, Elizabeth Valle, Jerry Browning,** and **Andrew Bortey.** Installed (and previously ordained) today to the office and ministry of Elder are **Jean Anne Rose** and **Tom Williams.**

Ordained and installed to the office and ministry of Deacon are **Vern DeVries** and **Jeanette Hodgson.** Installed (and previously ordained) today to the office and ministry of Deacon is **Sally Walker.** Presenting the newly-elected leaders on behalf of the Session is Elder Amy Bortey.

EXPLORE MEMBERSHIP AT PCUM! This spring's Membership Exploration Group for all who are interested in joining this congregation will start in May. If you are interested, please indicate on your Ritual of Friendship Pad today or/and contact Pastor Greg Horn. The Membership Exploration Group consists of a series of fun, relationship-building 90-minute gatherings after worship on Sundays—scheduled to accommodate everyone in the class. Topics include “My Story/Your Story” and “What is Christianity/Presbyterianism.” Lunch and childcare always provided!

PCUM'S MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP meets Wednesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. All teens and tweens 6th–8th grade are warmly invited to come out to have fun, share dinner, and meet old and new friends. Contact Garrett Pahl (garrett@pcum.org) and Sierra Joy (sierra@pcum.org).

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.

VOLUNTEER TO SERVE HUNGRY NEIGHBORS – Join fellow PCUM volunteers to serve hungry neighbors here in Montclair on the 4th Saturday of the month and in Newark on the 3rd Saturday of each month. **Sign up at** www.pcum.org/serve-others.

PCUM NOW OFFERS ZELLE as a new option for online giving to support the life and work of this church's ministry. Zelle is accepted by major banks and known for its easy platform for sending and receiving money. And Zelle charges NO FEES! (to you or to the church, though your bank may assess a fee). You can use Zelle to give in two easy ways—through your bank's online banking website or through the Zelle app. Zelle is easy to use, and we recommend contacting your bank for more information about setting up and starting to use Zelle. To give to PCUM with Zelle, **please use the email address treasurer@pcum.org** as the recipient, and note the purpose of the offering (pledge, non-pledge, Easter, deacons, etc.).

MONTCLAIR MUSIC CLUB announces the Young Artists Concert Monday, May 6th, 7:30 pm in the church sanctuary. Every May this special program honors the outstanding young talent of MMC teachers as well as others in our area. Please join us to hear flutist Karri Li with pianist Ryan Bridge, pianist Vivian Zhang, and pianist Calvin Xu. These accomplished young musicians have earned numerous awards and won many competitions. We are excited to have them share their 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
53 Norwood Avenue
Upper Montclair, NJ 07043
973-746-3854
pcum@pcum.org
www.pcum.org
Facebook/Instagram:
[@PCUMontclair](https://www.facebook.com/PCUMontclair)



Pastor & Head of Staff:
The Rev. Gregory A. Horn
Parish Associate: The Rev. Caroline Unzaga
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

Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair

Ordination and Installation of Church Leaders

Introduction

Pastor Greg Horn

Presentation of the Candidates for Ordination and Installation

Elder Amy Bortey

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, **Michelle Lim, Elizabeth Valle, Jerry Browning, Andrew Bortey, Jean Anne Rose** and **Tom Williams**
and
as Deacons, called by God through the voice of this congregation, **Vern DeVries, Sally Walker** and **Jeanette Hodgson** 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