

ARCH STREET
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Baptism of the Lord
January 12, 2025 /10:45 a.m.

**"We are God's lighthouse:
a compassionate and inclusive community
that welcomes everyone to join us as
we do justice, promote equity,
show kindness, love mercy,
and walk humbly with God."**

ASPC's Mission Statement

Order of Worship

Prelude

Norma Jean Hughes

Work of the Community

Jim Ballengee

Song of Praise (*stand in body or spirit*) Holy Spirit Rain Down

Congregation

**Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down
Oh, Comforter and Friend
How we need Your touch again
Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down**

**Let Your power fall
Let Your voice be heard
Come and change our hearts
As we stand on Your word
Holy Spirit, rain down**

**No eye has seen, no ear has heard
No mind can know what God has in store
So open up Heaven, open it wide
Over Your church and over our lives**

Call to Worship

(from Isaiah 43)

Kevin L. Porter

Leader: Thus says the LORD, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

People: When we pass through the waters, God will be with us. The rivers shall not overwhelm us.

Leader: For the LORD, the Holy One of Israel is our Savior.

People: We are precious in the sight of the LORD, and honored; for God declares His love for us. Let us worship the LORD, the Redeemer of all!

Hymn (*stand in body or spirit & see insert*) Come, Thou Fount

Congregation

Invitation to Tell The Truth

Kevin L. Porter

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, in baptism You joined us to Christ in His death, that we might be raised with Christ to new life. But we cherish old ways, and fail to embrace the new. We confess we remain preoccupied with ourselves. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and allow the past to hold us hostage. In Your loving kindness, remember the promises You made to us in our baptism, and grant us Your mercy. Forgive our sinful ways, heal our brokenness, set us free from all that enslaves us, and raise us to new life in Christ...

A moment for silent reflection and confession

Leader: We entrust these prayers to you O God. Amen

All: Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Ordination and Installation of Officers

Kevin L. Porter

Passing the Peace *(stand in body or spirit)* Amen, Amen, Amen!

Congregation

Leader: Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Response of Thanksgiving Thank You, Lord

Congregation

**Thank You Lord (3x), I just want to thank you Lord.
Been So Good (3x), I just want to thank you Lord.
Saved My Soul (3x), I just want to thank you Lord.**

Scripture Reading Luke 3:15-17; 21-22 NRSV

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Leader: *The Word of God for the People of God*

People: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon

God-speak

Kevin L. Porter

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Table

Kevin L. Porter

Leader: *The Lord be with you*

People: **And also with you**

Leader: *Lift up your hearts*

People: **We lift them up to the Lord**

Leader: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God*

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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.

Distribution of the Elements

Kevin L. Porter and
Lawyer Chapman

Communion Music (see insert) Come to the Table

Offering of Self

Jim Ballengee

Offering Music (*stand in body or spirit*) I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

Benediction

Kevin L. Porter



We welcome the Rev. Porter to the Arch Street pulpit today and are grateful for his assistance with ordaining and installing new officers.



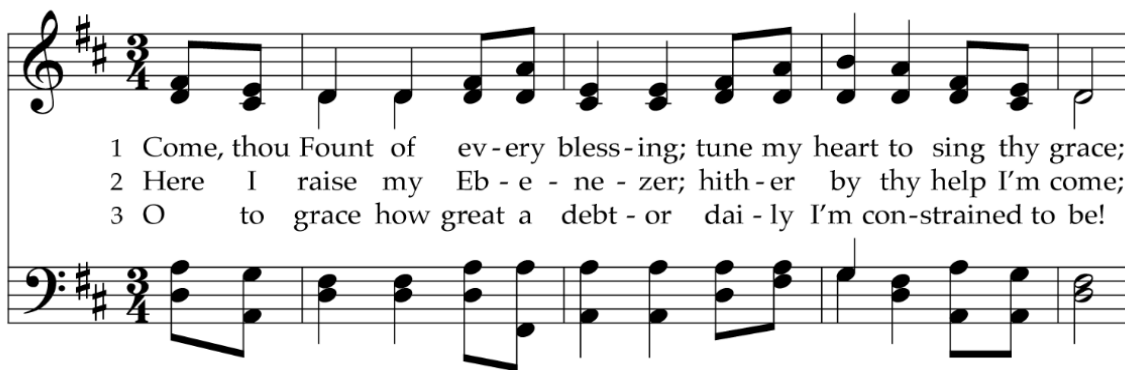
We continue to be grateful for Norma Jean Hughes, our temporary music director, while Dr. Dumpson is on sabbatical.



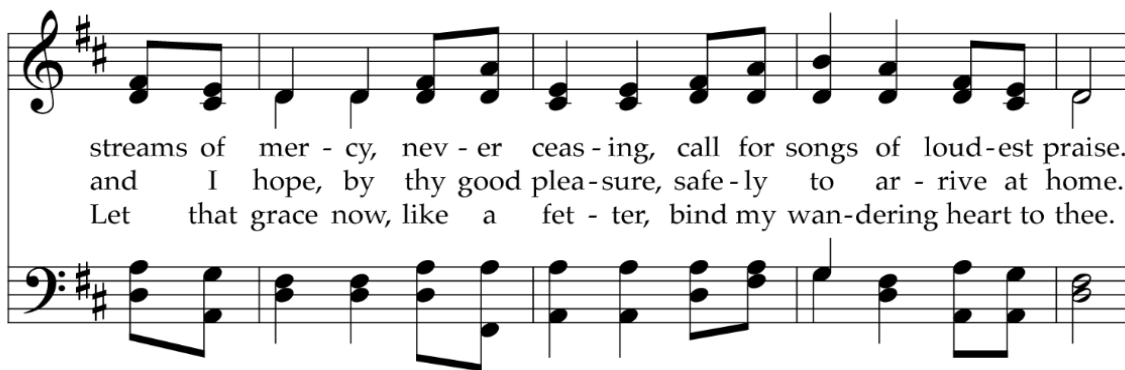
Rev. Kevin L. Porter is a native of Philadelphia, introduced and nurtured in faith through the Sunday School of the Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church, where he was confirmed and encouraged to pursue higher education.

He received his BA from Harvard University and his Masters of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. He has a strong commitment to building community in the midst of diversity, a great love for Philadelphia, and a deep appreciation for the Presbyterian Church (USA). He joined the staff as the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery in 2012 and is the Director of Adult Ed and Community Life at the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown.

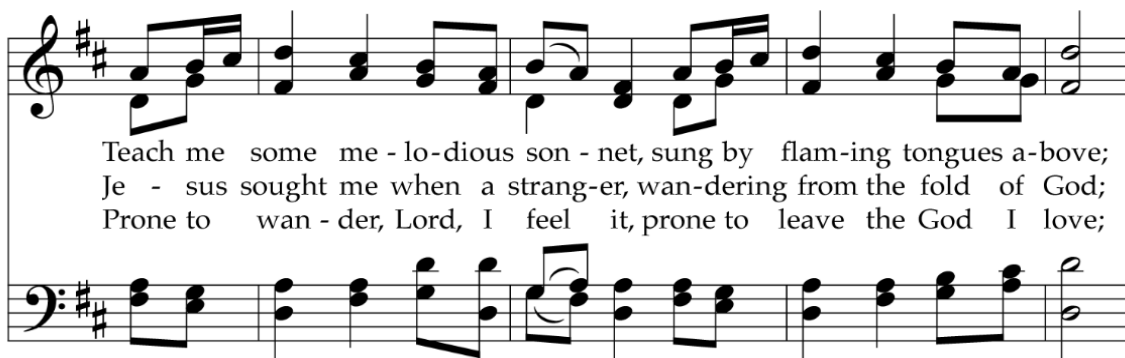
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



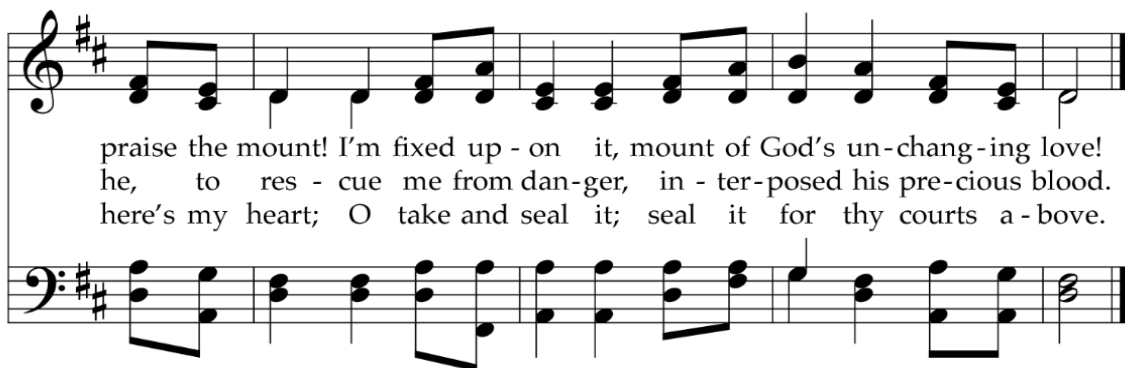
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;
3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang - ing love!
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

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Come to the Table

식탁에 와서



*1 Come to the ta - ble, all you who praise God.
 2 Come eat this bread now, my bro - ken bod - y.
 3 All is now read - y, like the first ta - ble.



Laid in a sta - ble, God's gift of love:
 My vow re - mem - ber: I am your Lord.
 Pray for the Spir - it; lift up your hearts.



Je - sus our Sav - ior poured out his life's blood.
 Drink of this wine, the cup of sal - va - tion,
 Christ has a - ris - en, our Lord and Sav - ior.



Our sins for - giv - en, God's gift of love.
 for you are mine, and I am your Lord.
 With great thanks - giv - ing, lift up your hearts.

KOREAN

- 1 식탁에 와서 찬양드리세,
 사랑의 선물 나누시네
 주님의 몸과 주님의 피를
 우리를 위해 주시었네
- 2 너희를 위한 나의 몸이니
 받아서 먹고 기념하라
 이 잔은 나의 새 언약이니
 죄사함 위해 흘린 피라
- 3 주님의 성령 임-하시네,
 거룩한 주의 살-과 피
 나를 새롭게 바꿔주시네
 새생명 주심 감사하세

*Stanza 1 may be sung by a leader.

This Korean text accomplishes a rare feat in a Lord's Supper hymn by dealing with the full range of Christ's life from the Nativity to the Resurrection. The first and third stanzas are in the voice of the congregation, while the middle stanza recalls Christ's words of institution.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communing Together

TODAY, Immediately Following Worship - 1:30 p.m.

We welcome all ASPC members, visitors and friends of all ages to join as we gather for lunch immediately after church today for a time of extended fellowship and getting to know one another better in the Social Hall. Lunch and drinks will be provided. We will wrap up by 1:30 pm, but feel free to join in even if you can only linger a short time. For more information contact Kristen Lynch (kwlynchpenn@gmail.com).

The Good Book Club

Wednesday, January 15, 2025, 12:10 p.m.

The Good Book Club is studying two Hebrew prophets, Elijah and Elisha. God called them both to urge God's people to remain faithful when tempted to worship and follow false lords. Please join us as we discover how God empowered them to master their doubts and fears, how they overcame tremendous obstacles and life-threatening opposition, and what their witness shows us today about faithful service to God. We will be meeting via Zoom. To connect with us, go to our website at archstreetpres.org and click on the Good Book Club link every Wednesday for a Spirit-led conversation. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Pulsifer (mikepulsifer@comcast.net) or Bill Smith (smithbrackett@verizon.net).

Weekly Worship Service

Sunday, January 19, 2025, 10:45 a.m.

Please join us in person for our weekly worship service. However, if you are unable to attend, please join us via live stream using this link: <https://bit.ly/4ikxLbH>. We look forward to seeing you!

Church in the Alehouse Book Club

Tuesday, January 21, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Please join us on Tuesday, January 21, for our first Church in the Alehouse Book Club meeting. The location will be shared at a later date. At the first meeting, we will discuss book choices. If you are interested in participating and can't be at the first meeting, feel free to share your ideas with Joanna (joanna7200@gmail.com). For more information, please contact Joanna (joanna7200@gmail.com) or Kristen (kwlynchpenn@gmail.com).

Looking for Hand Sanitizer?

For your convenience, there is hand sanitizer on the information tables in the back of the sanctuary.

ORIENTING TO ARCH STREET
For more information see archstreetpres.org

Children are Welcome at Arch Street Presbyterian Church

We have a lot to learn from children and from one another as we raise them. Children and their shuffling choruses are always welcome in worship. Young children are also welcome to participate in our Children's Ministry where they play and learn stories of our faith.

E-Newsletter

Are you looking to keep up with the life, work, and ministry of Arch Street Presbyterian Church? Consider signing up for our weekly e-newsletter. Contact Femi Jordan (fjordan.aspc@gmail.com) with your preferred email address or call 215-563-3763.

Give Online

While society tells us to hold tightly to our money, God begs us to be gracious. We believe in our mission at Arch Street Presbyterian Church and hope you do, too. We want to make it as easy as possible for you to give financially. Go to archstreetpres.org and click on "Give" in the top right corner. If you have questions, please contact Femi Jordan at 215-563-3763 or fjordan.aspc@gmail.com.

Parking

Stop inside for a placard (on the radiator cover in the narthex) to place on your windshield and take advantage of the FREE PARKING available on 18th Street: the West side, between Arch and Cherry Streets. This arrangement is on Sundays from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Femi Jordan at fjordan.aspc@gmail.com.

Prayer Cards

Arch Street Presbyterian Church is a praying community. We hold on to each other through prayer even when we are apart from each other. Are there joys or struggles you want this community to share with you? Please write your prayer(s) on the card provided in the pews and drop it in the offering basket so that we might walk alongside you on your journey. The ASPC staff, deacons and other leaders pray over these cards throughout the week.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located in the hallway right outside of the sanctuary and social hall. From the sanctuary, exit through the double doors to the left of the pulpit.

Arch Street Presbyterian Church
1724 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-563-3763
www.archstreetpres.org

WELCOME TO ARCH STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are grateful you have chosen to join us for worship. Arch Street Presbyterian Church has a rich history and a vital future before it. We aim to be an inviting, caring, and committed congregation in the heart of Center City Philadelphia. If you wish to learn more about this congregation or get involved at a deeper level, please reach out to us via our website. Someone from our pastoral staff will reply to you. You can also find more information about us at www.archstreetpres.org.

Ministers All Members of the Church
Don Lincoln, Bridge Pastor

Elders Lawyer Chapman, chapmanlawyer76@gmail.com
Angela Haynes, filliadei71@gmail.com
Jessica Johnson, jessicamariejohnson@gmail.com
Theos McKinney, theosmckinney@gmail.com
Kim Pearson, kim@kimpearson.net

Deacons Jennifer Atchison, Jennifer.s.atchison@gmail.com
Rosetta Chapman, rchapman003@comcast.net
Patricia Covington, pelscc2000@aol.com
Daria DiCicco, daria.dicicco@gmail.com
Christine Greco, christine.c.greco@gmail.com
Cassie McKinley, cetomkins91@gmail.com

Minister of the Arts J. Donald Dumpson,
Donald@DiverseArtsSolutions.com
Manager of Operations Femi Jordan, fjordan.aspc@gmail.com

A/V Engineer David Juro
Sexton Jeimy Zelaya Ruiz