

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

JULY 23, 2017

CELEBRATING

& SERVING

THE LIVING LORD!

*The mission of the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown  
is to reflect the loving presence of Christ  
as we serve others faithfully, worship God joyfully and share life together  
in a diverse and generous community.*

In preparation for worship please take the opportunity to speak silently to God.  
At the close of the service let us greet one another with cheerfulness.  
Please be sure that your cell phone is turned off during worship.

July 23, 2017

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

## ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

### GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *When in Our Music God is Glorified*

McNeil Robinson

Welcome and Announcements

†\*Call to Worship

(from Psalm 139)

Leader: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.  
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.

**People: You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord,  
you know it completely.**

Leader: Where can I go from your spirit?  
Or where can I flee from your presence?

**People: If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,  
even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.**

Leader: Search me, O God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my thoughts.

**People: See if there is any wicked way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting.**

†\*Hymn 464: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

### CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Confession of Sin

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

\*congregation standing

† latecomers may be seated

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Pardon

†\*Congregational Response 579: *Gloria Patri*

**Glory be to the Father**

**And to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,**

**As it was in the beginning, is now,**

**And ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

†\*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

(As worshipers, we come from diverse experiences and points of view. We have different racial, educational, and economic backgrounds. Yet we are all one in Christ. We symbolize this as we exchange with one another, by words and gestures, signs of peace and reconciliation such as, "The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.")

### PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Linda Farlow, Reader

The First Lesson: Genesis 28:10-19

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Leader: God's Word is a lamp to our feet, and a light to our path.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

Voices in Bronze: Two Hymn Settings

arr. Susan Berry/Janet Van Valey

*When We Walk With the Lord*

*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

Evelyn Santiago, director

The Second Lesson: Romans 8:12-25

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Leader: God we thank you for your Word.

**People: The Story of your grace.**

\*Hymn 269: *O God of Bethel, by Whose Hand*

DUNDEE

Sermon: **HEART'S CRY**

The Reverend Randal L. Bremer

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*Confession of Faith: (*Apostles Creed*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## 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.**

## Offering of Our Gifts and Lives

Offertory: *Sing unto the Lord Ye Saints*

Peter Cornelius

Sing unto the Lord, ye saints, sing unto him your praises, and give thanks unto him, for his holiness, sing unto him and forever give thanks. For a night my weeping endure, in the morning cometh joy, after weeping in the morning is joy. Thou hast turned my sadness to dancing, thou hast put off my sackcloth, and with gladness hast thou girded me. I will praise thee and forever give thanks. For my God has lifted me up, and my foes rejoice not. Lord, I will extol thee, when I called thee, thou hast healed me. (From Ps. 30)

Sharon Rose Derstine, soprano

\*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

**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.**

## \*Prayer of Dedication

**GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME**

\*Hymn 552: *Give Thanks, O Christian People*

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

## \*Charge and Benediction

Because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

\*Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Albert L. Travis

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**IN MEMORIAM**

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God  
in loving memory of Patricia A. Thompson.

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**WELCOME:** If you are visiting with us today, please sign the Fellowship Pad at the end of your pew. We pray the hour will be meaningful to you and you will come and worship with us again. Everyone is cordially invited to a time of fellowship in the Longstreth Auditorium following the worship service.

**COFFEE HOUR:** This week's host: Madeline Valentine. Next week's host: Women's Association. Thank you to Annie Kotto for supplying the munchies last week.

**FPCG'S MONTHLY COLLECTION IN SUPPORT OF COMBATting HUNGER** is Sunday, July 30. As most of you know, your donation can either support the Centsibility Offering of the Presbytery or GACM's Food Cupboard. Thank you.

**TODAY'S MUSIC:** Our soloist today is dramatic soprano, Sharon Rose Derstine. A recent emigre to Germantown, Sharon is thoroughly enjoying participating in the music program of our church. She earned her BFA in voice performance at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh and her MM in opera performance at Temple University. She has sung locally, regionally, and in Europe. Last summer, Sharon performed the role of Ruth in *The Pirates of Penzance* with the Savoy Company at the International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival in Harrogate, England. Many thanks to Tony, the choir, and the wonderful folks at FPCG!

**JULY CHALLENGE OFFERING: THE PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA** invites you to join them in their 300-year celebration in raising \$300,000 for its ministry partners. This one-time offering will be equally distributed to eight local initiatives as they launch new efforts to elevate the education of children, disrupt the school-to-prison pipeline and promote restorative justice. Please see the Presbytery's website: [presbyphl.org](http://presbyphl.org) for more information. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

**LIFELINE SCREENING**, an organization which aids people in discovering health problems about which they may not be aware, will be conducting screenings at First Church on Monday, August 14. The group offers a five-test package to thoroughly check you for risk of stroke, cardiovascular disease and other chronic conditions. These tests help detect problems **before you have symptoms**. Information on cost and signing up can be found on the literature table.

## July Session Highlights

- The Session heard from FPCG 's newest deacon, Carolyn Tarver. Carolyn comes to us as a "new" Presbyterian. Her most recent church membership was with the Disciples of Christ in Dallas. Carolyn says she felt welcomed at FPCG when she inquired about using the building for an event. Carolyn has jumped in enthusiastically to volunteer at the Crisis Center and the church office. We are excited to welcome her to the Board of Deacons.
- Incoming ordained elders Randy Rosensteel and Marc DiNardo were also present at the meeting and were welcomed back into the Session fold!
- The May 21<sup>st</sup> Congregational Meeting and the confusion caused by the wording of the ballots was discussed. Also reviewed were irregularities with the meeting's early adjournment and the vote counting process.
- Elder Lois Bethea presented a joint motion from the Administration and Finance Committee and the Property Committee to remediate issues in the youth lounge, gym and one of the basement restrooms. The proposal for the renovations comes from ServPro and the estimate to complete these long overdue repairs and improvements is approximately \$80,000. Lois explained that the financing for this project will come from three sources: fund raising, a generous donor and the Sarah McLean YWCA fund. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.
- Clerk of Session Maddy Valentine handed out a schedule of the next three celebrations of the Lord's Supper: August 6<sup>th</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup> and December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Session was reminded that all ordained elders, not only ruling elders, are encouraged to participate in serving communion.
- Joe Leube and Bob Seed will serve as FPCG commissioners to the Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup> Presbytery meeting at the Church on the Mall, Plymouth Meeting.

# Freedom School's 2017 "Big Trip" to



**Friday August 11, 2017**

Our day begins with a self-guided tour of the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum. We will then walk to the famous



where an all access pass will enable you to view figures from World Leaders, Pop Culture, Film & TV, Kong Skull Island, Ghostbusters, Marvel 4D, Sabor Latino and more...

*Scholars will have breakfast on the bus.  
We will stop for dinner before returning home.*

**COST:** Scholars \$45, Child Guests \$85, Adults \$125

(Travel via luxury motor coach. Buses load at 6:45 AM.)

**Depart 7:00 AM      Return 7 PM**

***Harambee! on the bus!***



**Reserve your seat with a \$20 deposit ASAP.**  
Call Contina Lundy, 215-512-8824, with questions.

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## WINDOW ON THE WEEK

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### **Sunday, July 23**

- 9:00 AM Handbell Choir—Choir Room
- 10:00 AM Worship—The Reverend Randal L. Bremer preaching
- 11:30 AM Sunday School
- 11:30 AM Adult Education—Finney Room
- 11:30 AM PNC Meeting—Upstairs Office

### **Monday, July 24**

- 5:00 PM Adult Education—Finney Room

### **Tuesday, July 25**

- 1:00 PM Commonwealth Youthchoirs Staff Meeting—Primary Room
- 6:30 PM Worship and Music Committee—Upstairs Office

### **Wednesday, July 26**

- 3:00 PM Staff Meeting—Upstairs Office
- 6:30 PM Mission and Outreach Committee—Jennings Room
- 7:00 PM Property Committee—Finney Room

### **Thursday, July 27**

### **Friday, July 28**

- 3:30 PM Drop-in Center

### **Saturday, July 29**

- 9:00 AM Readers' Choice
- 10:00 AM Open Gym

### **Sunday, July 30 Freedom School Sunday**

- 9:00 AM Handbell Choir—Choir Room
- 10:00 AM Worship—Peter Ahn preaching
- 11:30 AM Sunday School
- 11:30 AM Pastor Nominating Committee—Upstairs Office
- 11:30 AM Deacons Meeting—Primary Room

# Church Officers

## Elders

### 2018

Marc DiNardo  
Robert Seed  
Ted Walkenhorst

### 2019

Joseph Leube  
Delores Solomon  
Deborah Thompson

### 2020

Gloria Bethea  
Andrea Overton  
J. Randall Rosensteel

Clerk of Session:  
Madeline Valentine

## Deacons

### 2018

Don Carlin  
Vera Harrison  
Dani Howard

### 2019

Ruth Cato  
Diane Filter  
Dick Liberty

### 2020

Randy Clever  
John Orandosh  
Carolyn Tarver

## First Church Staff

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Interim Pastor	Randal L. Bremer
Director of Adult Education and Community Life	Kevin L. Porter
Director of Urban Ministry	Eileen Jones
Director of Music	F. Anthony Thurman
Director of the Gospel Choir	Sara Carter-Blanford
Director of Christian Education	Christian Heyer-Rivera
Parish Visitor	Heidi Mercado-Littles
Building Manager	Terry Boyer
Administrative Assistant	Joan Harris
Bookkeeper	Cindy Osborne
Sextons	Tanicya Matthews, Robert Patterson, Harold Whaley

## The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

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[www.fpcgermantown.org](http://www.fpcgermantown.org)