

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

WORLD COMMUNION DAY
OCTOBER 1, 2017

ALIVE,
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.

October 1, 2017

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *This Is My Father's World*

Dale Wood

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Come to Zion* (Shaker melody)

Ted W. Barr

Come to Zion sin sick souls in sorrow bound. Lay your cares upon the altar where true healing may be found. Shout Alleluia, alleluia! Praise resounds o'er land and sea. All who will may come and share the glories of this jubilee.

*Call to Worship

From Psalm 19

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**People: Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.**

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.

**People: The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes.**

Leader: But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

**People: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

*Hymn 281: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

CWM RHONDDA

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

God of grace, love, and communion, we confess that we have failed to love you with all our heart, soul, and mind; and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We ignore your commandments, stray from your way, and follow other gods. Have mercy on us. Forgive our sin and raise us to new life that we may serve you faithfully and give honor to your holy name. Amen.

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.")

Gospel Choir: *There Is a Fountain*

Bishop Clarence McClendon

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins. And sinners plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains. The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day. And there may I though vile as he, wash all my sins away. When this poor lispng, stamm'ring tongue lie silent in the grave, then in a nobler sweeter song, I'll sing thy pow'r to save. He is the son of the living God. He's Jesus Christ the Holy One.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Lesson: Matthew 21:23-32

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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!

Sermon: **BY WHAT AUTHORITY?**

The Reverend Randal L. Bremer

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*Confession of Faith: *Nicene Creed*

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We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering of Our Gifts and Lives

Offertory: *Let All the World in Every Corner Sing*

Erik Routley

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King! The heavens are not too high, God's praise may thither fly; the earth is not too low, God's praises there may grow. The church with psalms must shout: no door can keep them out; but, above all, the heart must bear the longest part.

—George Herbert

*Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Lord's Table

*Communion Hymn 513: *Let Us Break Bread Together*

LET US BREAK BREAD

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise,
O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.

... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the
choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and
place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Congregational Response: *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Richard Proulx

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in 3/4 time. It consists of five lines of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord. God of pow-er and might. heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est, ho - san-na in the high-est. Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est." The score includes measure numbers 6, 11, 16, and 20.

Leader: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

Great is the mystery of faith.



Leader: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine ...

... Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours almighty Father, now and forever.

Congregational Response: *The Great Amen*



The Lord's Prayer (traditional version)

The Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

(We will come to the table to receive the elements of bread and wine/juice. Come forward using the center aisle, partake of the elements as you receive them, and return to your seat by the side aisle. Remember that the cups on the outside ring of the tray hold grape juice and the cups within the outside ring contain wine.)

Communion Meditation: *O Come, Every One that Thirsteth* (from *Elijah*) Felix Mendelssohn

O come everyone that thirsteth, O come to the waters: come unto him. O hear, and your soul shall live forever!

Prayer After Communion

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 442: *The Church's One Foundation*

*Charge and Benediction

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

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: Congregational Development and Fellowship Committee (CDFC). Next week's host: Open. **THANK YOU** from the CDFC to all who helped prepare the food, set-up and clean-up for last Sunday's barbecue. Kudos and blessings to the shoppers, grill masters and all those who contributed the delicious food!

COMPANY IS COMING! Our fall hosting session for families participating in the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) begins today. Guests will remain with us through October 29. IHN's professional staff provides these families experiencing homelessness the social services they need. We are privileged to provide them with housing and hospitality. Many hands make light work. St. Raymond's Catholic Church will buddy with us and provide volunteers during this first week. FPCG needs to provide volunteers beginning Sunday, October 8. Please sign up to donate a dinner, drinks and/or snacks. Hands-on opportunities include being a dinner and evening host from 6 to 8 p.m. and involves serving dinner and engaging with parents and children during or after the meal. Also needed are overnight hosts, from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. Arrangements can be made if you need to leave earlier. To volunteer and for more information, see Eileen Jones or Delores Solomon during coffee hour.

THE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S RACHEL CIRCLE of our church is collecting used prescription and nonprescription glasses and sunglasses for children and adults. Glasses will be cleaned and repaired for distribution to those in developing countries who lack the funds to buy them on their own. You will find a collection box on/by the literature table. Members of the Rachel Circle thank you in advance for your contributions.

PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA 300TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: October 7, 2017 at Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church. FPCG has been asked to display an artifact from our history. Any Suggestions? Would you be interested in joining the Presbytery-wide Choir? See 300thworship@presbyphil.org for more information.

FIND A HOME FOR YOUR HEART IN ONE OF OUR CHURCH CHOIRS! Weekly rehearsals provide opportunities for fellowship as well as spiritual and musical growth. Rehearsal days and times are as follows: Gospel Choir, led by Sara Carter Blandford, Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary; Children's Choir, led by Evelyn Santiago, Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Room; Voices in Bronze, our handbell choir led by Evelyn Santiago, Thursday at 7:45 in the Choir Room; Chancel Choir, Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Sanctuary and at 11:30 a.m. in the Choir Room; Oratorio Choir, our community concert choir, Tuesdays from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Sanctuary beginning October 31. For more information or to participate, e-mail music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com.

A GRAND VISION: VIOLET OAKLEY AND THE AMERICAN RENAISSANCE at the Woodmere Art Museum, 9/30/17—1/21/18, focuses on the artist's rarely seen public commissions. Studies for commissions that span Oakley's fifty-year career will include the *Great Women of the Bible* series here at First Church. For more information, visit woodmereartmuseum.org or call 215-247-0476.

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

Sunday, October 1

World Communion Day

Arrival of IHN

- 9:00 AM Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Worship with Communion—The Rev. Randal L. Bremer preaching
- 11:30 AM Chancel Choir—Choir Room
- 11:30 AM Sunday School
- 11:30 AM Adult Education—Finney Room
- 11:30 AM Pastor Nominating Committee—Upstairs Office
- 4:00 PM Song Recital/Inauguration of Barbara L. Russell Memorial Piano
Jennings Room

Monday, October 2

- 5:00 PM Adult Education—Finney Room

Tuesday, October 3

- 12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Administrative Meeting—Finney Room

Wednesday, October 4

- 12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Program Meeting—Finney Room
- 3:00 PM Staff Meeting—Finney Room
- 4:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Sanctuary, Choir Room
- 7:00 PM Session—Finney Room

Thursday, October 5

- 6:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Primary Room, Longstreth Auditorium
- 6:30 PM Gospel Choir—Sanctuary
- 6:30 PM Children's Choir—Choir Room
- 7:45 PM Handbell Choir—Choir Room

Friday, October 6

- 9:00 AM GACM Staff Meeting—Finney Room
- 6:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble Group—Choir Room
- 6:30 PM Elementary School Youth Group

Saturday, October 7

- 8:00 AM Keystone State Boychoir
- 9:00 AM Congregational Development and Fellowship—Finney Room

Sunday, October 8

- 9:00 AM Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Worship—The Reverend Randal L. Bremer preaching
- 11:30 AM Chancel Choir—Choir Room
- 11:30 AM Sunday School
- 11:30 AM Adult Education—Finney Room
- 11:30 AM Pastor Nominating Committee—Upstairs Office

**Song Recital Today at 4 p.m. to Celebrate the Inauguration
of the Barbara L. Russell Memorial Piano**

Featuring: SOPRANO Evelyn Santiago, MEZZO SOPRANO Margaret Mezzcappa,
PIANIST Ted W. Barr and VIOLIST Geraldine Rice

The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown receives state arts funding through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

A free-will offering is requested.

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

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 the Handbell and Children's Choirs	Evelyn Santiago
Director of Christian Education	Christian Heyer-Rivera
Parish Visitor	Heidi Mercado-Littles
Building Manager	Terry Boyer
Administrative Assistant	Joan Harris
Bookkeeper	Cindy Osborne
Sextons	Tanieya Matthews, Robert Patterson, Harold Whaley

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