

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

OCTOBER 22, 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.

October 22, 2017

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Rock of Ages*

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 99

Leader: The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

**People: The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.
Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he!**

Leader: Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity;
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

People: Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!

Leader: O Lord our God, you answered them; you were
a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings.

**People: Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain;
for the Lord our God is holy.**

†*Hymn 263: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Confession of Sin

Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications. If thou, Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared. I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope. My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: I say, more than they that watch for the morning. Let Israel hope in the Lord: for with the Lord there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption. And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities. Amen.

*congregation standing

† latecomers may be seated

Assurance of Pardon

Silent Meditation

†*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

Sam Whyte, Reader

The First Lesson: Exodus 33:12-23

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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!

Anthem: *We'll Shout and Give Him Glory*

Mack Wilberg

I'm on my way to Zion, the new Jerusalem. We'll shout and give him the glory, for glory is his own. I feel the work reviving, reviving in my soul. We'll shout and give him glory, for glory is his own. Oh, how I love my Savior! Because he first loved me. We'll shout and give him the glory, for glory is his own.

The Second Lesson: Matthew 22:15-22

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Leader: God we thank you for your Word.

People: The Story of your grace.

*Hymn: *A Wonderful Savior is Jesus My Lord*

See Insert

Sermon: **WILL THE LORD GO WITH US?**

The Reverend Randal L. Bremer

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*Confession of Faith (*Apostles Creed*)

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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: *Saints Bound for Heaven*

Wilberg

Our bondage it shall end by and by. From Egypt's yoke set free, hail the glorious jubilee, and to Canaan we'll return by and by. Our Deliv'rer he shall come by and by. And our sorrows have an end, with our three-score years and ten, and vast glory crown the day by and by. And when to Jordan's floods we are come. Jehovah rules the tide, and the waters he'll divide, and the ransom'd host shall shout, "We are come." Then with all the happy throng we'll rejoice. Shouting glory to our King, till the vaults of heaven ring, and thro' all eternity we'll rejoice!

*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 420: *God of Grace and God of Glory*

CWM RHONDDA

*Charge and Benediction

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

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*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Promenade in G Major*

Robinson

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 hosts: Gayl and Herb Henze. Next week's hosts: Rachel Circle. The CDFC thanks Gloria, Charles and Lois Bethea for supplying the munchies last week.

COMPANY IS HERE! Today begins our last week of hosting IHN guests. We remain in need of volunteers to support all areas of the program. Can you provide two hours of service as a dinner provider or evening host? Can you provide juice boxes or snacks for the children? Or, consider spending the night as an overnight host. To volunteer or have your questions answered, see Eileen Jones or Delores Solomon during coffee hour.

OCTOBER CHALLENGE: THE PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

supports the peacemaking and reconciliation efforts of the church at every governing body level and provides an opportunity to witness God's gift of peace in the world. Gifts given to the Offering through a congregation are divided in the following manner: 25% retained by congregations for support of their own peace and reconciliation efforts; 25% retained by mid-councils (12.5% presbytery/12.5% synod) for support of their own peace and reconciliation efforts; and 50% to the Mission Agency to provide assistance and resources for congregations to promote the peace of Christ.

TODAY'S MUSIC: Mack Wilberg, conductor of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, has arranged many favorite hymns as choral anthems. His *Four American Hymns* draw on the rich folk traditions of New England and the rural South. No. 1 (*Saints Bound for Heaven*, from *Southern Harmony*, 1835) and No. 3 (*We'll Shout and Give Him Glory*, from *The Olive Leaf*, 1878) are sung in worship today. The Chancel Choir is joined by Gayle Martin and Ted W. Barr in these stirring arrangements with four hand piano accompaniment. Gayle and Ted, who inaugurated the Linda Leube Memorial Concert Piano in a May recital, will be taking that program on the road for audiences in New York and Connecticut this week. The Children's Choir, under the leadership of Evelyn Santiago, will sing during worship next week.

FPCG'S MONTHLY COLLECTION IN SUPPORT OF COMBATTING HUNGER is next Sunday. As most of you know, your donation can either support the Centsibility Offering of the Presbytery or GACM's Food Cupboard. Many thanks in advance.

THE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S RACHEL CIRCLE is collecting used prescription and nonprescription glasses and sunglasses for children and adults. The 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 a table in the hall.

FREE MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING conducted by the Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual Disability. This interactive training will keep you engaged as it teaches the basic skills needed to identify, understand, and respond to signs and symptoms of behavioral health challenges and crises. It will be held on Saturday, November 18 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Jennings Room. Complimentary breakfast and lunch will be served. All participants will receive a certification in Mental Health First Aid. Space is limited, so please call the church office to register. For more information, please pick up a flyer from the literature table or speak with Sara Greene, who has already been certified. This event is being sponsored by the Mission and Outreach Committee and the Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry. Do not miss this opportunity! It is worth the investment of time because it just may help you to identify and assist a family member, co-worker or neighbor who is in crisis.

BRIGHTEN UP SOMEONE'S DAY: Please consider contributing food items to the *Brighten Up Someone's Day* box by the church office. The requested food items will change periodically and all donations will be given to the GACM food pantry. The current request is for canned fruit and vegetables, and non-perishable hot and cold cereal. Many thanks in advance for your donations.

500th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION: On Sunday, November 5 at 11:30 a.m., join us for an overview of the Reformation by our guest speaker, Douglas Swank, a second-year student at The Lutheran Seminary in Mt Airy. Rev. Randy has graciously agreed to suspend the adult education class on this Sunday.

FIND A HOME FOR YOUR HEART IN ONE OF OUR CHURCH CHOIRS!

Rehearsal days and times are as follows: Gospel Choir, led by Sara Carter Blanford, 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, Thursdays at 7:45 in the Choir Room; Chancel Choir, Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Sanctuary and 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.

THE WOODMERE ART MUSEUM is presenting a large-scale exhibition of the work of Violet Oakley (1874–1961), the first in more than three decades. The exhibition focuses on the artist's public commissions, rarely seen because of their fixed locations in civic buildings, churches, schools, and private residences. Studies for commissions will include her work at the Pennsylvania State Capitol and the *Great Women of the Bible* series here at FPCG. Join art historians and guests from Woodmere on Wednesday, November 1 from 2-4 p.m. in the Jennings Room. The exhibition runs September 30, 2017–January 21, 2018. For more information, visit woodmereartmuseum.org or call 215-247-0476. Visit Woodmere for free on Sundays.

October Session Highlights

Installation of Officers – Andrea Overton and John Orandosh, who were unable to attend the July 17 installation service, were installed as Ruling Elder and Deacon, respectively. Andrea and John were asked the constitutional questions and answered them affirmatively as did the ruling elders present representing the congregation.

Property – Chair Marc DiNardo reported that construction in the basement is progressing. Also, leaking steam pipes have been repaired, gutters on the west side near the choir room are being replaced and some plumbing issues in the kitchen will be tackled once the basement renovations are complete. Marc was seen high on a ladder installing new security lights near the back door to Longstreth.

Administration & Finance – Joe Leube reports that the 2018 Pledge goal is \$340,000. Joe outlined the 2018 Stewardship Campaign. The 2018 FPCG budget was discussed but not acted upon as several committees have not submitted their preliminary budgets. FPCG has applied for a loan through the Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program (PILP) to cover a portion of the basement renovation.

Worship – Chair Randy Rosensteel announced that the October 1st Song Recital was well attended and that the PA Council for the Arts grant has been matched. Since Christmas is on a Monday this year the plan is to have two services on Sunday December 24: Regular worship at 10:00 and a Christmas Eve service that evening. Session discussed the possibility of encouraging *all* to sign the pew pads, not just visitors. Dick Liberty will be asking folks to be Advent Candle readers. The Messiah Concert is scheduled for December 3rd.

Christian Education – Karlyne Staten has been hired as a nursery attendant. CE will sponsor a movie night ("Luther") and a Sunday School speaker to help enhance our knowledge of Martin Luther and the Reformation.

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

Sunday, October 22

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

Monday, October 23

5:00 PM Adult Education—Finney Room

Tuesday, October 24

12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Administrative Meeting—Finney Room
3:30 PM Orgina Rose Dance Group—Youth Lounge

Wednesday, October 25

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
6:30 PM Mission and Outreach Committee—Jennings Room

Thursday, October 26

3:30 PM Orgina Rose Dance Group—Youth Lounge
6:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Primary Room, Longstreth Auditorium
6:30 PM Gospel Choir—Sanctuary
6:30 PM Children's Choir—Choir Room
7:00 PM Property Committee—Finney Room
7:45 PM Handbell Choir—Choir Room

Friday, October 27

5:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble Group—Choir Room
6:30 PM Dinner and "Luther" screening

Saturday, October 28

8:00 AM Keystone State Boychoir
9:00 AM Readers' Choice

Sunday, October 29

9:00 AM Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
10:00 AM Worship—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
1:30 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Sanctuary
2:00 PM American Rebirth Tour Dance Fundraiser—Longstreth Auditorium

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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