

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE, JANUARY 14, 2018
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.

January 14, 2018

Second Sunday After Epiphany

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: Two Spirituals Charles Callahan
Steal Away to Jesus
He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty* John Carter

†*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.**

Leader: Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.
You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

**People: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

Leader: For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

**People: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.**

*Hymn 430: *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

DARWALL'S 148TH

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people. You have called us to be the church, to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to our lonely and confused world. Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, isolated than involved, callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving. Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins. Remove the obstacles preventing us from being your representatives to a broken world. Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit. This we pray in Jesus' powerful name. Amen.

*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.")

Children in grades five and younger may now leave for their classes.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Sheila Heyer-Rivera

The First Lesson: Exodus 18:5-6, 9-23

Page 62 OT

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

People: Thanks be to God!

Solo: *Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child*

Spiritual/arr. Burleigh

Sometimes I feel like a motherless child a long ways from home. Sometimes I feel like I'm almost gone a long ways from home.

Jesse Padgett, baritone

The Second Lesson: Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-16

Page 182 NT

The Third Lesson Luke 8:1-3

Page 62 NT

Leader: God we thank you for your Word.

People: The Story of your grace.

*Hymn 421: *The Church of Christ in Every Age*

WAREHAM

Sermon: **HERE TO SERVE**

The Reverend Dale Williams

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*Confession of Faith (*Nicene Creed*)

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.

Prayers of the People

The Reverend Kevin L. Porter

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: *Precious Lord*

Spiritual/arr. Ringwald

Precious Lord, take my hand, bring me home through the night, through the dark, through the storm, to thy light. I have been to the mount, I have seen the promised land: precious Lord, take my hand. Precious Lord, take my hand, bring thy child home at last, where the strife and the pain all are past; I have dreamed a great dream that thy love shall rule our land: precious Lord, take my hand. Precious Lord, take my hand, take thy child unto thee, with my dream of a world that is free. For that day when all flesh, joins the glory thou hast planned, precious Lord, take my hand.

*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 563: *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

LIFT EVERY VOICE

*Charge and Benediction

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

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

*Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *I've Got Peace Like a River*

Callahan

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.

THE MUSIC: On this Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend, our hymns and service music have been selected to reflect Dr. King's "great dream" and to inspire us to service in our community and beyond. Through donations of food to the Crisis Ministry, tomorrow's meal packing event, random acts of kindness and generosity, First Church members and friends are living out what it means to be disciples of the Christ Child in Bethlehem. In the words of Howard Thurman, the work of Christmas has begun: "to feed the hungry. . . to rebuild the nations. . . to bring peace among brothers. . . to make music from the heart." Lift every voice and sing!

THE REVEREND REBECCA SEGERS: We are extremely excited to share with you that, at a special meeting called on Sunday, January 7, the congregation voted to call Reverend Rebecca Segers to serve as the next Senior Pastor/Head of Staff of The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown. We firmly believe that Reverend Segers has the skills, gifts and experience to lead FPCG. She will begin her work with us on Thursday, February 15.

COFFEE HOUR: This week's host: Congregational Development & Fellowship Committee. Next week's host: Open. Thank you to the Pastor Nominating Committee and Eileen Jones for supplying the munchies last week.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY OF SERVICE AT FPCG: Please join us tomorrow from 9 a.m. to noon for our second annual meal packing event in support of *Rise Against Hunger*. Each meal we pack consists of rice, soy, vegetables and 23 essential vitamins and minerals, and costs \$.29 cents. A donation of \$10 provides 34 meals! Last year we raised over \$7,200, which allowed us to pack more than 26,000 meals. If you have not already donated, please consider doing so as our hope is to meet or exceed last year's results. We are also requesting, in addition to meal-packing volunteers of all ages, 10 to 15 helpers to arrive at 7:30 a.m. to assist in unloading supplies. If you cannot work the entire 9 to noon shift, any amount of time you can volunteer is much appreciated. A light lunch will be served. Contact Chris Scott or Gloria Bethea if you have any questions.

RACHEL CIRCLE: Because the *Rise Against Hunger* event will take place on Monday, January 15, the monthly meeting of the Rachel Circle of the Presbyterian Women USA will take place on Monday, January 22 at 11:00 a.m. in the Jennings Room. All are welcome and encouraged to bring their lunch. Dessert and beverages are provided.

GERMANTOWN AVENUE CRISIS MINISTRY will resume regular hours beginning Tuesday, January 16: Social Services, Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Food Cupboard, Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

DEADLINE FOR JANUARY 28 BULLETIN: Please note that the deadline for the January 28 bulletin is **Wednesday, January 17 at 10 a.m.** Thank you.

THE SESSION HAS CALLED A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING for Sunday, January 21, after worship, for the purpose of approving financing and cash flow for the Youth Lounge Renovations. Further information will be distributed prior to the meeting for your review.

ENERGY WORSHOP with state representative Stephen Kinsey on Thursday, January 25 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Jennings Room. Rep. Kinsey and his staff will provide information on state programs and services. Flyers with detailed information can be found on the literature table.

SPECIAL COFFEE HOUR on Sunday, January 28 for the dedication of our newly renovated Youth Lounge. Please join us.

SPRING CONCERT: The Germantown Oratorio Choir will perform the Brahms *Requiem* and *Alto Rhapsody* on Sunday, March 18, at 4 p.m. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. For more information or to participate, call 212-843-8811 or e-mail music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com.

PARISH VISITOR HEIDI MERCADO-LITTLES will be in Chile from January 10 through March 9, 2018. If you have any pastoral concerns during her absence, please contact your Deacon or the Church Office. Thank you.

Upcoming at First Church

Monday, January 15

Rise Against Hunger Meal-Packing Event, 9 a.m. to noon

Tuesday, January 16

GACM resumes regular hours

Sunday, February 18

Philadelphia Sinfonia Concert, 3 p.m.

March 17-24

University of Maryland Service Group

Sunday, March 18

Germantown Oratorio Choir presents

Brahms Requiem, 4 p.m.

Keystone State Boychoir Events

Saturday, January 27

All-day Boychoir Festival and 2:30 p.m. Concert

Saturday, March 3

Joint Concert with Bratislava Boys' Choir, 3 p.m.

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

Sunday, January 14

- 9:00 AM Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Worship—The Reverend Dale Williams preaching
- 11:30 AM Chancel Choir—Choir Room
- 11:30 AM Sunday School

Monday, January 15 **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

- 9:00 AM *Rise Against Hunger* Meal Packing Event (9 a.m. to noon)
Longstreth Auditorium

Tuesday, January 16

- 12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Administrative Meeting—Finney Room
- 7:30 PM Germantown Oratorio Choir—Sanctuary

Wednesday, January 17

- 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 Property Committee—Finney Room

Thursday, January 18

- 6:00 PM Administration and Finance Committee—Finney Room
- 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, January 19

- 5:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble Groups—Choir Room

Saturday, January 20

- 8:00 AM Keystone State Boychoir

Sunday, January 21

- 9:00 AM Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Worship—The Reverend David Cassie preaching
- 11:30 AM Chancel Choir—Choir Room
- 11:30 AM Sunday School

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

Pastor	Rebecca Segers
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

The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

35 West Cheltenham Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Phone 215-843-8811

FAX 888-333-5032

www.fpcgermantown.org