

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

FEBRUARY 11, 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.

February 11, 2018

Transfiguration of the Lord

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Adoration*

Florence B. Price

Welcome and Announcements

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

John Carter

†*Call to Worship

Leader: The mighty one, God the Lord,
speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

People: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

Leader: Our God comes and does not keep silence,
before him is a devouring fire and a mighty tempest all around him.

**People: He calls to the heavens above and to the earth,
that he may judge his people:**

Leader: "Gather to me my faithful ones,
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"

People: The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge.

*Hymn 462: *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

RATSBON

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

God of light and love, we cherish the religious experiences we've had. We need those times to energize us and renew our faith. Forgive us when we cling to those experiences, missing opportunities and challenges that help us grow in faith. Forgive us our spirits of timidity, our failure to move on, to come down from the mountain to do the ministry to which you called us. Forgive us for being so comfortable living in ruts and routine. Give us courage to seek out new vision for acting upon our faith. Through Christ who gives us light and life, 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

Serafim Santos, Reader

The First Lesson: 2 Kings 2:1-12

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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: *Fairest Lord Jesus*

Derek Hakes

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature, O thou of God and man the Son, thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown. Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing. Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels heaven can boast. Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations! Son of God and Son of man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forever more be thine!

The Second Lesson: Mark 9:2-9

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Leader: God we thank you for your Word.

People: The Story of your grace.

*Hymn 73: *Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory*

GENEVA

Sermon: . . . **FOR THEY WERE TERRIFIED** . . .

Christian Heyer-Rivera

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*Confession of Faith

In life and in death, we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the

brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. 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: *Immortal, Invisible*

Eric Thiman

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small, in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all praise we would render, O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

*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 75: *O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair*

DEO GRACIAS

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Frederick Swann

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 Transfiguration Sunday, the last Sunday before we enter into the season of Lent, our hymns and anthems focus on the story of Jesus going to the mountain to pray, along with three of his disciples, where he is transfigured. *Fairest Lord Jesus*, a Seventeenth Century German hymn whose author is unknown, is sung by the Chancel Choir in a fresh, “best selling” arrangement by Derek Hakes. The third stanza calls us to remember that Jesus “shines brighter” than anything we know or can imagine.

COFFEE HOUR: This week’s host: John Orandosh. Next week’s host: Open.

USHERS: The ministry of ushers on Sunday morning play a vital role in hospitality and welcoming people to First Church. Perhaps you are looking for a way to become more active in the life of First Church or want to meet new people, but are unsure about how to go about it. Ushering may be exactly what you are looking for. It's a once-a-month commitment that requires you to be helpful and have the spirit of hospitality. If this is you, then you need to speak to Mary Lundy and learn more about this ministry at First Church. You can speak to her today or by email(nastylady13@aol.com) or phone([215-927-4648](tel:215-927-4648)) or call the church.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR MARCH WINDOWS is Friday, February 16.

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, e-mail music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com or call 215-843-8811.

PUERTO RICO SUMMER WORK TRIP: The beginning stages for a work trip to Puerto Rico in the latter part of July are underway. Come to Longstreth Auditorium on Sunday, February 18 at 1 p.m. to hear what we are planning and whether you want to lend your heart and gifts to this endeavor. Lunch will be provided so RSVP’s are necessary. Please call or text Christian Heyer Riviera at 267-972-5662 **by Thursday, February 15.**

THE RACHEL CIRCLE, an arm of the Presbyterian Women USA, will hold it's monthly meeting at 11:00 a.m. in the Jennings Room on Monday, February 19. All women are encouraged and invited to attend. Please bring a sack lunch. Dessert will be provided.

SUNDAY MEMORIAL FLOWERS: To reserve, please contact Joan Harris at 215-843-8811 or joan.fpcg@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.

SUNDAY SUPPERS: *Sunday Suppers* is an organization focused on strengthening the health and well-being of families through the transformative power of family meals. In partnership with the Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry and the Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network, *Sunday Suppers* will present a five-month weekly program at First Church that centers around a family meal of fresh, local and healthy ingredients that are familiar, affordable and accessible. There will be an **open house** on **Tuesday, February 13 at 5:30 p.m.**, where families can experience a typical supper and decide if they want to sign-up for the entire five-month program, which will begin on Tuesday, February 20. **The program is free.** The evening will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a healthy snack, followed by an educational, age-appropriate program or activity. A full meal will follow that includes an appetizer and side dishes prepared by participants. Please contact Jackie at Jackie@sundaysuppersphilly.org or 215-203-6364 to sign up, volunteer or for more information.

Upcoming at First Church

Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday Service with Summit Presbyterian, 7 p.m.

Thursday, February 15

The Rev. Rebecca Segers first official day at FPCG!

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.

Thursday, March 29

Maundy Thursday Service at Summit Presbyterian, 7 p.m.

Commonwealth Youthchoirs

Saturday, March 3

Benefit Concert with Bratislava Boys' Choir, 7:30 p.m.

Asher's Legacy—CY Remembers Jack

At this concert held on Jack Asher's birthday, Commonwealth Youthchoirs will rename its scholarship fund the "Jack Asher Scholarship Fund." All proceeds will support singer scholarships. For more information please visit www.cychoirs.org or call 215-842-1769.

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

Sunday, February 11

- 9:00 AM Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Worship—Christian Heyer-Rivera preaching
- 11:30 AM Chancel Choir—Choir Room
- 11:30 AM Sunday School
- 11:30 AM *Animate* Series—Finney Room

Monday, February 12

- 5:00 PM *Animate* Series—Finney Room

Tuesday, February 13

- 12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Administrative Meeting—Finney Room
- 5:30 PM “Sunday” Suppers Open House—Longstreth Auditorium
- 7:30 PM Germantown Oratorio Choir—Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday

- 12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Program Meeting—Finney Room
- 3:00 PM Staff Meeting—Finney Room
- 5:30 PM Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
- 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service at FPCG with Summit Presbyterian Church

Thursday, February 15

- 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, February 16

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

Saturday, February 17

- 8:00 AM Keystone State Boychoir

Sunday, February 18

- 9:00 AM Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Worship—The Reverend Rebecca Segers preaching
- 11:30 AM Chancel Choir—Choir Room
- 11:30 AM Sunday School
- 11:30 AM *Animate* Series—Finney Room
- 3:00 PM Philadelphia Sinfonia Concert—Sanctuary

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-Elect	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

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