

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE, APRIL 15, 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.

April 15, 2018

Third Sunday of Easter

## ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

### GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Children of the Heavenly Father* Dale Wood

Welcome and Announcements

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

†\*Call to Worship From Psalm 4

Leader: People of God, the Lord has called you here today.

**People: We have come seeking love, hope and healing.**

Leader: Rejoice, for the light of Christ shines on us.

**People: Our hearts are full of gladness,  
as we praise the One who promises new life!**

\*Hymn 145: *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!* MARION

### CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession (Acts 2, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2)

**Loving Lord, even as the wounds of Jesus remind us of the healing and the hope Christ offers us this Easter season, we face our own wounds and fall into doubt and despair. Help us face the realities that separate us from you and from one another, O God. Guide our feet onto paths of health and wholeness, that we may walk closely with you and with those who love and care for us.**

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.**

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\*congregation standing

† latecomers may be seated

†\*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

Dani Howard, Reader

The First Lesson: Psalm 4

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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!**

A Time For Children

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

Anthem: *Stay With Us*

Egil Hovland

Stay with us, Lord Jesus. It soon is evening and night is falling. Jesus Christ, the world's true light, shines where the darkness cannot overcome it. Let your light pierce the darkness and fill the church with its glory.

The Second Lesson: Luke 24:36b-48

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Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **A GOLDEN TICKET**

The Rev. Rebecca Segers

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

\*Hymn 356: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

\*Affirmation of Faith: (from *The Second Helvetic Confession*)

**What is faith? Christian faith is not an opinion or human conviction, but a most firm trust and a clear and steadfast assent of the mind, and then a most certain apprehension of the truth of God presented in the Scriptures and in the Apostles' Creed, and thus also of God himself, the greatest good, and especially of God's promise and of Christ who is the fulfillment of all promises. For Paul said: "For faith is sure subsistence, of things hoped for, and the clear and certain apprehension." And again he says that all the promises of God are Yes through Christ and through Christ are Amen. The same apostle calls faith efficacious and active through love. It also quiets the conscience and opens a free access to God, so that we may draw near to him with confidence and may obtain from him what is useful and necessary. The same faith keeps us in the service we owe to God and our neighbor, strengthens our patience in adversity, fashions and makes a true confession, and in a word, brings forth good fruit of all kinds, and good works. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

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: *Simple Gifts*

Shaker Song/arr. Aaron Copland

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free, 'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be, and when we find ourselves in the place just right, 'twill be in the valley of love and delight. When true simplicity is gained, to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed, to turn, turn will be our delight, till by turning, turning we come 'round right.

Jesse Padgett, baritone

\*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 376: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

HYFRYDOL

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*

Robert Hobby

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**IN MEMORIAM**

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

**W E L -**

**COME:** 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:** The serene music of Norwegian composer Egil Hovland compliments the inspiring and reassuring text of Luke 24:29 in the choral anthem today. Hovland studied with Aaron Copland at Tanglewood and was one of the most prolific contemporary Norwegian composers of his time. Looking ahead: The Children's Choir will sing in worship on April 29 and May 13 (Mother's Day); the Gospel Choir will sing in worship on May 6 and June 3; Voices in Bronze will play again on May 20.

**COFFEE HOUR:** This week's hosts: Rosy and Ted Walkenhorst. Next week's host: John Orandosh. If you love to bake, buy or share hospitality, we need you to host this important time of fellowship! Please speak to Delores Solomon if you feel called to provide the snacks or hands-on support for our community's gathering time after worship.

**PLEASE NOTE: PASTOR SEGERS'S DAY OFF** will now be on Monday. She will be in the office Tuesday through Friday.

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

**FREEDOM SCHOOL BEGINS ON JUNE 25!** Detailed information and applications will be available shortly.

**APRIL CHALLENGE OFFERING: *ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING***. Your contributions to The Presbyterian Church U.S.A.'s *One Great Hour of Sharing* support multiple critical ministries. **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** has worked in regions as diverse as the Republic of South Sudan to fund relief projects for displaced refugees, the Caribbean and the U.S. to provide food and water to hurricane victims, and Mexico to assist in reconstruction of communities following devastating earthquakes. The **Presbyterian Hunger Program** provides hands-on training in regenerative farming and whole-foods cooking in the U.S. and abroad with the goal of producing healthy and resilient soil, farmers and communities. **Self-Development of People** has assisted in such diverse activities as certifying low-income individuals in professional bicycle repair and shop operations in Redmond, Oregon and assisting fisherfolk in Belize to establish cooperatives, increasing their ability to compete with other fishing groups and to store perishable goods. See the Information Table for details on these vital ministries and please consider giving generously. Thank you.

**NORTHWEST PHILADELPHIA INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK (NPIHN)**: It's that time of year when First Church opens its doors to families experiencing homelessness. As an NPIHN host, our Sunday School classrooms are serving as private bedrooms for three families (with a total of eight children) through Sunday, May 6. First Church members and friends volunteer by preparing dinner, being an overnight host or providing lunch or snacks, all to help our guests feel safe and welcome during their stay with us. We have buddied with St. Raymond's Catholic Church to provide volunteers through Saturday, April 21. Volunteers are still needed for the remaining two weeks. For more information or to volunteer, please see Eileen Jones or Delores Solomon. Please keep these families, as well as thousands of other Philadelphians who are unable to afford surging rents or gain access to affordable public housing, in your thoughts and prayers. Thank you.

**COMMITTED TO CHANGE BENEFIT GALA**: You are invited to the *Committed to Change* Benefit Gala on Saturday, April 21, 2018 at 7 p.m. Building on the success of the *Bethe Change* Charity Concert, this year's charity experience is an evening combining artistry and philanthropy to fulfill hopes and dreams while raising money for *Keep A Child Alive*, which provides life-saving treatment, care and support to millions of lives impacted by AIDS and HIV. The evening includes dinner, special performances, cocktails, raffles, dancing and much more! Join us at the **William Way Center, 1315 Spruce St. Phila, PA 19107**. To purchase tickets, visit [www.bethechangephilly.info](http://www.bethechangephilly.info) or see Chris Scott Jr. or Contina Lundy. Once purchased, if you would like to sit at a table with other FPCGers, speak to Chris, Contina or Pastor Rebecca.

**INFORMATION TABLE IN CHURCH OFFICE HALLWAY**: As you are probably aware, the church has an **Information Table** of literature, handouts and notices that describe events, activities and other related religious and community updates that may be of interest to members and visitors who come to FPCG. Anyone interested in placing information on the table should contact Ernie Freeman by calling the church at 215-843-8811 and leaving a voicemail message. Ernie will review and confirm the information is consistent with other church activities and programs. We thank you and ask that you continue to keep our church informed.

**FIRST CHURCH TRAVELS TO PUERTO RICO!** *Puerto Rico Mission Trip, July 21-28, 2018.* In September of last year, Puerto Rico was devastated by Hurricane Maria. Many people lost their homes, belongings and their sources of income. The beautiful 'Isla del Encanto' or *Island of Enchantment* was rendered unrecognizable in the wake of this storm. Today, nearly six months later, the recovery effort is still very much underway as many locations remain without power and residents work to rebuild their lives and communities. This July, a group of about 20 people from First Church will work at the **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** site located at the Añasco Presbyterian Church in Añasco, Puerto Rico, on the western coast of the island. We are currently working towards our goal of raising \$10,000 (\$500 per person) to help offset the cost of our trip as well as supplies and food for the Añasco Presbyterian Church. Our team is blessed with multiple gifts which will be used in various ways: three of our participants are medical professionals and will be hosting a health clinic; several of our members will use their electrical and construction expertise to help rebuild; those of us who speak Spanish will assist as translators; while others of us will help to clean, paint and remove debris. There is much work to be done! If you are interested in financially supporting this trip you can do so through one of several fundraising events happening this spring and summer. Current fundraisers are set for the following dates: Saturday, April 21 - Children's Clothing Sale at First Church; Saturday, May 5 - Face Painting and Puerto Rican Coffee Sale at Mt. Airy Day; Saturday and Sunday, May 12 and 13 - Mother's Day Plant Sale at First Church; Saturday, June 10 - Piña Colada Sale at First Church; Saturday, June 30 - Puerto Rico Evening Night Out at First Church. For more information please see Christian Heyer-Rivera, Sheila Heyer-Rivera or Jason Williams. **MUCHAS GRACIAS** for any support you can provide!

### *Upcoming Events*

April 8-May 6

***Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) Families at FPCG***

Saturday, April 21

***Puerto Rico Trip Fundraiser: Infant/Toddler Clothing Sale, 10 a.m.***

Saturday, April 21

***Committed to Change Benefit Gala, 7 p.m.***

*William Way Center, 1315 Spruce Street*

Sunday, April 29

***Installation Service for Rev. Segers, 3 p.m.***

Sunday, May 6

***Keystone State Boychoir Spring Concerts, 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.***

Sunday, May 13

***Philadelphia Sinfonia Concert, 3 p.m.***

Monday, May 28

***Memorial Day, Church Closed***

June 16 to 23

***PCUSA General Assembly in St. Louis***

Monday, June 25

***Freedom School begins!***

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## WINDOW ON THE WEEK

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### Sunday, April 15

- 9:00 AM Nominating Committee—Finney Room
- 9:00 AM Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Worship—The Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
- 11:30 AM Chancel Choir—Choir Room
- 11:45 AM Confirmation Class—Primary Room
- 1:00 PM Puerto Rico Trip Participants Meeting—Primary Room

### Monday, April 16

- 11:00 AM Rachel Circle—Jennings Room
- 1:00 PM Ladies Teen Challenge—Gymnasium

### Tuesday, April 17

- 12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Administration Meeting—Finney Room
- 5:30 PM Sunday Suppers—Longstreth Auditorium

### Wednesday, April 18

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting—Finney Room
- 12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Program Meeting—Primary Room
- 4:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Sanctuary, Choir Room
- 7:00 PM Property Committee—Finney Room

### Thursday, April 19

- 8:00 AM Pastor Rebecca at Uncle Bobbys, 5445 Germantown Ave. (8-10 a.m.)
- 10:00 AM Thrive Program—Jennings Room
- 6:00 PM Liturgical Dance Group—Sanctuary
- 6:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Longstreth Auditorium, Primary Room
- 6:30 PM Gospel Choir—Sanctuary
- 6:30 PM Children's Choir—Choir Room
- 7:45 PM Handbell Choir—Choir Room

### Friday, April 20

- 5:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble Group—Choir Room
- 6:30 PM Elementary School Youth Group—Youth Lounge

### Saturday, April 21

- 8:00 AM Keystone State Boychoir
- 10:00 AM Puerto Rico Fundraiser—Infant/Toddler Clothing Sale
- 10:00 AM Thrive Program—Jennings Room
- 10:00 AM Open Gym
- 7:00 PM *Committed to Change* Benefit Gala  
William Way Center, 1315 Spruce Street

### Sunday, April 22

- 9:00 AM Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Worship—The Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
- 11:30 AM Chancel Choir—Choir Room
- 11:45 AM Confirmation Class—Primary Room
- 11:45 AM Praise and Evangelism Team—Finney 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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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

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