

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

JUNE 17, 2018

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.

June 17, 2018

Fourth 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

†*Call to Worship

Leader: Small as a mustard seed and lofty as a cedar:

People: The kingdom of God is growing.

Leader: While we sleep and rise night and day:

People: The kingdom of God is growing.

Leader: The low are brought high; the high are brought low:

**People: The kingdom of God is growing,
its large branches are home to all kinds of people!**

*Hymn 293: *This Is My Father's World*

TERRA BEATA

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we so often miss your kingdom at work among us. Captivated by power and prestige, we overlook the mustard seeds you have planted all around. Forgive us for failing to notice where and how you are at work. Forgive us when we work against your plans and purposes—fostering divisions when you have called us to a ministry of reconciliation; beset by apathy when the world has such deep needs; building walls to keep people out when your branches offer generous nests. Help us to grow in faithfulness, we pray, so that we might reach our fullest height of faith. In Christ's name we pray.

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.

*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

Delores Solomon, Reader

The First Lesson: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Page 737 OT

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: *My Jesus, I Love Thee*

arr. Jesse Padgett

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine; for thee all the follies of sin I resign. My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now. I love thee because thou hast first loved me; and purchased my pardon on Calvary. I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow; if ever I loved thee, 'tis now. In mansions of glory and endless delight, I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright. I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

The Second Lesson: Mark 4:26-34

Page 36 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **A NETFLIX THEOLOGY**

The Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 560: *We Plow the Fields and Scatter*

NYLAND

Affirmation of Faith: *Of God the Father* (from the *Heidelberg Catechism*)

Q. What do you believe when you say: "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth"?

A. That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth with all that is in them, who also upholds and governs them by his eternal counsel and providence, is for the sake of Christ his Son my God and my Father. I trust in him so completely that I have no doubt that he will provide me with all things necessary for body and soul. Moreover, whatever evil he sends upon me in this troubled life he will turn to my good, for he is able to do it, being almighty God, and is determined to do it, being a faithful Father.

Q. What do you understand by the providence of God?

A. **The almighty and ever-present power of God whereby he still upholds, as it were by his own hand, heaven and earth together with all creatures, and rules in such a way that leaves and grass, health and sickness, riches and poverty, and everything else, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.**

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: *Steal Away*

Spiritual/arr. Brazeal Dennard

Steal away to Jesus. Steal away home. I ain't got long to stay here. My Lord calls me. He calls me by the thunder. The trumpet sounds within my soul. I ain't got long to stay here. Green trees a-bending. Poor sinner stands a-trembling. The trumpet sounds within my soul. I ain't got long to stay here. My Lord calls me. He calls me by the lightning. The trumpet sounds within my soul. I ain't got long to stay here.

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 267: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

ROYAL OAK

*Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Psalms 100: Shout for Joy to the Lord, All the Earth!*

Leonard Bernstein

Today's chancel rose is in honor of the birth of
Tobias James Shedd, grandson of Glenna Hazeltine,
born June 7-8, 2018 at midnight.

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: The FPCG men's choir brings two anthems to worship today: *My Jesus, I Love Thee*, arranged for men's voices by our own Jesse Padgett, and the lovely, reflective spiritual, *Steal Away to Jesus*. Along with *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*, *Wade in the Water*, *Gospel Train*, and other well-known antebellum spirituals, the text of *Steal Away* served two purposes. All were written to express faith in God, but also contained hidden messages for slaves to run away on their own or through the Underground Railroad.

Over the summer months, there will be opportunities for vocal soloists and ensembles as well as instrumentalists to offer their gifts in worship. To participate, please e-mail music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com or call the church office, 215-843-8811.

THIS WEEK: The Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ Day at the Kimmel Center will include a performance by the Opera Philadelphia chorus, including our own Evelyn Santiago, Margaret Mezzacappa, and Rob Phillips, accompanied by FPCG Music Director Tony Thurman on Saturday, June 23. The day-long celebration of the organ begins at 11 a.m. The organ and opera performance will be at 1:15 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

COFFEE HOUR: This week's host: CDFC. Next week's host: Ingrid Harris and Carolyn & Ernie Freeman. 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.

CHURCH DIRECTORY: The directories are now in the process of being emailed to members. If you haven't yet received your electronic copy, you will be receiving it shortly. Heidi will be delivering copies to our homebound and nursing home members. Paper copies will be available at no cost during coffee hour to members who do not have email. Additional paper copies are available for a suggested donation of \$5.

JUNE CHALLENGE OFFERING: *FRIENDS OF VERNON PARK* Just outside the windows of the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown you will see green leafy trees and colorful flowers in bloom, children playing, dogs and their owners strolling the paths and folks enjoying a conversation or book as they sit on the benches. Vernon Park, the 'Emerald of Germantown' is nestled in between commercial corridors and residential streets and serves as a connector, interlude and green oasis in our neighborhood. The Friends of Vernon Park is a group of dedicated volunteer stewards of this vital community resource, ensuring that the Park is vibrant, welcoming and a positive environment for all. We are able to accomplish this joyful work with the help of our community. The financial support provided by First Presbyterian Church has enabled us to tend to gardens, create thoughtful programming for families and invest in (limited but consistent) maintenance during the Philadelphia Parks and Recreation off-season. The Park looked and felt great all winter—and welcomed spring once it (finally!) arrived—ready for picnicking, Easter egg hunting and all sorts of fun. To learn more about Friends of Vernon Park, please visit www.friendsofvernonpark.org. Thank you, FPCG friends, for all you do to lift up our community.

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, June 18. All women are encouraged and invited to attend. Please bring a sack lunch. Dessert will be provided.

NEW RAINBOW FISH SYMBOL and DISCUSSIONS ON INCLUSION: You may have noticed the rainbow fish symbol on our sign outside. A member of our congregation brought the idea to the Praise & Evangelism Team as a way to show First Church's commitment to love and inclusivity, and putting up the symbol was unanimously approved by the Session at its May 2018 meeting. In addition, this Sunday, June 17 and next Sunday, June 24, we will be holding studies after worship entitled *A Scriptural Dialogue on Homosexuality*, during which we will discuss FPCG's values of inclusion and hospitality. We welcome those who might find these conversations affirming as well as those who might find them challenging.

MEN'S BREAKFAST—MARK YOUR CALENDARS for the Christian Education Committee Men's Breakfast on Saturday June 23 at 8:30 a.m. Enjoy fellowship, a hearty breakfast, and our own David Cassie speaking about his experiences in Cuba. Hope to see you there!

PAPER SHREDDING AND ELECTRONIC RECYCLING EVENT: The Mission and Outreach Committee is making it possible for you to bring to the church parking lot on July 14 (time to be announced) paper materials to be shredded and electronic devices to be recycled. The cost will be \$5. The following electronic items will be accepted: computer towers, laptop computers, tablets, servers, flat screen monitors, phone systems, game consoles, flat screen TVs, stereos/radios, small appliances, cell phones/calculators. Because of environmental issues that call for safe disposal, additional fees from \$35 to \$85 are necessary for certain larger electronics: CRT monitors, conventional TVs, projection TVs. For a fee of \$15, air conditioners and dehumidifiers will be accepted. Also on that day, church committees are invited to sponsor a flea market table, the proceeds of which will go to the committee. For more information, please see Gloria Bethea during Coffee Hour.

DINNERS FOR EIGHT: The next Dinner for Eight is Sunday, June 24 and is full. Please call the church office at 215-843-8811 or email Pastor Rebecca at rsegers@fpcgermantown.org if you would like to attend the July (July 29) or August dinner. Please note that the date for the August dinner is **August 19**. We look forward to hearing from you!

Upcoming

June 16 to 23

PCUSA General Assembly in St. Louis

Monday, June 18

Rachel Circle, 11 a.m.

Saturday, June 23

Christian Education Committee Men's Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.

Saturday, June 23

*Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ Day
at the Kimmel Center*

Monday, June 25

Freedom School begins!

June 27 to July 15

Keystone State Boychoir South Africa Tour

Saturday, June 30

Puerto Rico Trip Fundraiser: Puerto Rico Night Out

Wednesday, July 4

Independence Day, Church Closed

Saturday, July 14

Shredding & Recycling Event

Saturday, July 21

*Freedom School Flapjack Fundraiser
at Applebee's in Jenkintown*

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

Sunday, June 17

- 9:00 AM Fathers Day Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
10:00 AM Worship—The Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
10:15 AM Sunday School for grades K-5
11:30 AM Rainbow Fish Study Group—Primary Room
11:45 AM Confirmation Class

Monday, June 18

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

Tuesday, June 19

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

Wednesday, June 20

- 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, June 21

- 8:00 AM Pastor Rebecca at Uncle Bobbie's, 5445 Germantown Ave. (8-10 a.m.)
6:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Longstreth Auditorium, Primary Room
6:00 PM Administration and Finance Committee—Finney Room

Friday, June 22

- 3:30 PM Drop-in Center—Youth Lounge, Gymnasium
5:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble Group—Choir Room
6:30 PM Middle/High School Youth Group—Youth Lounge
7:00 PM Freedom School Parent Meeting—Jennings Room

Saturday, June 23

- 8:30 AM Christian Education Committee Men's Breakfast—Jennings Room
10:00 AM Open Gym
11:30 AM Louis Cameron Memorial Service and Repast
Sanctuary and Jennings Room

Sunday, June 24

- 10:00 AM Worship—The Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
10:15 AM Sunday School for grades K-5
11:30 AM Rainbow Fish Study Group—Primary Room
6:00 PM Dinner for Eight—home of Pastor Segers, 4920 Greene Street

Church Officers

Elders

2019

Ingrid Harris
Joseph Leube
Delores Solomon

2020

Gloria Bethea
Andrea Overton
J. Randall Rosensteel

2021

Marc DiNardo
Robert Seed
Jason Williams

Clerk of Session:
Madeline Valentine

Deacons

2019

Ruth Cato
Diane Filter
Dick Liberty

2020

Randy Clever
John Orandosh
Carolyn Tarver

2021

Dhyan Cassie
Rhonda Highsmith
Dani Howard

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	Taneyia Matthews, Robert Patterson, Harold Whaley

The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

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