

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

JUNE 24, 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.

June 24, 2018

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Prelude in G Major, BWV 541*

J.S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. David Cassie

†*Call to Worship

Leader: We have been called here to face into God's gracious way of living.
We are to leave the past behind us
and walk into these new days of our ministry.

**People: Sometimes we'd rather remember how things used to be.
Sometimes we are afraid to be disciples.**

Leader: But this is a new day, and Christ is sharing freedom with us.
It is a day to put aside all fear, to leave doubting behind,
and to take courage in God's loving call.

**All: We will look to the new day, and we will set ourselves on the faithful
path. We will be disciples of Christ, renewing and healing
the world around us, with trust in the One who guides us!**

*Hymn 482: *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

LOBE DEN HERREN

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession (from *Mark 4:35-41* and *Phil. 4-7*)

**Saving God, we confess that our faith is too small, our fear is too great.
When we are overwhelmed, we think you do not care enough for us. When life
is uncertain and risky, we are not sure we can trust you with our whole hearts.
Even when you move among us in powerful ways, we question who you are.
Forgive us and calm our fears, we pray. Teach us to trust in your power to save
and guide us in every circumstance. Grant us your peace, which is clearly be-
yond our understanding. In Christ's name we pray.**

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Pardon

*congregation standing

†latecomers may be seated

†*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

Leah Hood, Reader

The First Lesson: Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32

Page 528 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.

Piano Solo: *His Song*

R. Nathaniel Dett

Vera Harrison, piano

The Second Lesson: Mark 4:35-41

Page 36 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **THE PLACE IN BETWEEN**

The Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 368: *I've Got Peace Like a River*

African-American spiritual

Affirmation of Faith (from *The Scots Confession*)

We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by his inscrutable providence for such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of his own glory. 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: *Sicilienne*

Maria Theresia von Paradis

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 562: *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

MELITA

*Charge and Benediction (from *Psalms 9, Mark 4*)

Even amidst the storms of life,

God gives us the strength and courage to brave the waves, ride out the squalls, and face the future unafraid.

Even amidst the ravages of this world,

God is our stronghold, the One who brings us peace; who leads us and we follow joyfully and faithfully even into the unknown!

Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Fugue in G Major, BWV 541*

Bach

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: We welcome Vera Harrison at the piano and Dr. Jeremy Flood at the organ this morning. Vera Harrison has been a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown and the Chancel Choir since 1997. She retired from the School District of Philadelphia in 2004 after teaching grade school for 35 years. Presently she is enjoying driving her 5 speed 1993 Saab and gardening. Jeremy Flood combines an avocation as an organist with his medical practice of endocrinology. He is an Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, with his clinical practice based at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center, where he is Chief of the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism. He has been an Assistant Wanamaker Grand Court Organist at Macy's in Center City Philadelphia since 2009 and is active as a substitute organist for churches throughout the Philadelphia area.

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 send an e-mail to music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com or call the church office, 215-843-8811.

COFFEE HOUR: This week's host: Ingrid Harris and Carolyn & Ernie Freeman. Please note there will be another Piña Colada Sale to support the Puerto Rico Mission Trip during Coffee Hour today! Next week's host: Open. 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 Coffee Hour.

TO MY CHURCH FAMILY: “Thank you to everyone for your concern and prayers,” from Arlene Ricketts.

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.

RAINBOW FISH STUDY GROUP: We will be holding our second study group on inclusion, entitled *A Scriptural Dialogue on Homosexuality*, after worship today, during which we will discuss FPCG’s values of inclusion and hospitality. This week our discussion will focus more on the rainbow fish sign itself, the process by which it was decided to display, and your responses. We welcome those who might find these conversations affirming as well as those who might find them challenging. Please note the room has changed to Finney in order to be comfortable in air conditioning.

DINNERS FOR EIGHT: The next Dinner for Eight is this evening, 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!

FREEDOM SCHOOL 2018 BEGINS TOMORROW! Through August 10, five days each week from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., the building will be filled with children! There are opportunities for you to participate in the program. If you'd like to help with meal preparation and service, donate snacks, be a “read-aloud” guest or assist with classroom activities, please see Contina Lundy or Eileen Jones or phone the church office, 215-843-8811.

PHILADELPHIA INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK (PIHN) ANNUAL MEETING: Wednesday, June 27 at the 2nd Baptist of Germantown, 6459 Germantown Avenue, 19119. Celebrating “A Year of Achievement and Growth,” the 2018 Annual Meeting will feature various speakers and a presentation on PIHN’s exciting new partnership with Awbury Village, a Tiny House Intentional Community for Single Parent Households. Meet, Eat and Greet from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m. and “A Year of Achievement and Growth” from 6:45 to 8:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

PASTOR REBECCA WILL BE ON VACATION from July 2-9, returning to the office on Tuesday, July 10. Please note that she will not be at Uncle Bobbie’s on Thursday, July 5. Also, the Tuesday evening book discussion group has been moved from July 3 to **July 10** and the July Session meeting will be **Wednesday, July 11**.

THREE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS IN JULY: The *Searching for Happiness* book discussion group will meet to discuss chapter two on Sunday, July 1 after worship in the Finney Room and Tuesday, July 10 at 5 p.m. in the Finney Room. A third group will meet at the home of Leah and Drew Hood, 328 West Duval Street, 19144 on **Thursday, July 12**. Enjoy a potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by a discussion on chapters one and two at 6:30 p.m.

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 materials to be shredded and electronic devices to be recycled. Electronics will be accepted from 9:00 a.m. until early afternoon. Shredding will run from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$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. However, 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 committees. For more information, please see Gloria Bethea during Coffee Hour.

June Session Highlights

- Pastor Segers led a discussion of the first chapter of Martin Thielen's "Happiness." Rebecca asked the session to think in terms of a "corporate" perspective when reading the book: "How does it relate to our congregation as a whole?"
- Ted Walkenhorst gave a report on the May 15th Presbytery meeting. Ted stated the highlight of the meeting was the examination of three candidates for ordination. Our own Peter Ahn was unanimously approved for ordination after delivering his statement of faith and answering questions from the commissioners.
- Session discussed ways to encourage the congregation to participate in short term, single goal projects that will not require long term commitment.
- Randy Rosensteel and Ingrid Harris were elected to serve as commissioners to the July 14th Presbytery of Philadelphia meeting at the Oxford Presbyterian Church.
- Maddy Valentine was enthusiastically elected to serve as Clerk of Session for the coming year. Thank you, Maddy!
- Deborah Thompson is preparing the July-August edition of Windows. Joan Harris and Lois Bethea are supporting the effort.
- Delores Solomon, chair of Congregational Development, asked for help in encouraging folks to sign up to bring snacks for coffee hour.
- Ted Walkenhorst, chair of the Personnel Committee, advised that there is an ongoing review of FPCG's personnel policies.
- Gloria Bethea, chair of Mission & Outreach, advised that there will be a shredding and recycling event at the church on July 14th.

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

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—Finney Room
- 1:00 PM Personnel Committee Meeting—Upstairs Office
- 6:00 PM Dinner for Eight—home of Pastor Segers, 4920 Greene Street

Monday, June 25

Freedom School Begins

- 1:00 PM Ladies Teen Challenge—Gymnasium
- 6:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Sanctuary, Choir Room

Tuesday, June 26

- 12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Administration Meeting—Finney Room
- 5:30 PM Sunday Suppers Graduation
Kitchen, Longstreth Auditorium, Jennings Room
- 6:15 PM Freedom School Staff Meeting—Jennings Room
- 7:00 PM Women's Retreat Planning Meeting—Upstairs Office

Wednesday, June 27

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting—Finney Room
- 12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Program Meeting—Primary Room
- 6:00 PM Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network Annual Meeting
2nd Baptist Church of Germantown, 6459 Germantown Ave. 19119

Thursday, June 28

- 8:00 AM Pastor Rebecca at Uncle Bobbie's, 5445 Germantown Ave. (8-10 a.m.)

Friday, June 29

Saturday, June 30

- 9:00 AM Readers Choice—Offsite
- 10:00 AM Open Gym

Sunday, July 1

- 10:00 AM Worship—The Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
- 10:15 AM Sunday School Grades K-5
- 11:30 AM Book Discussion with Pastor Rebecca—Finney Room
- 1:00 PM Puerto Rico Trip Meeting—Finney Room

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	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