

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

JULY 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.

July 15, 2018

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

“You can’t always get what you want; you can’t always get what you want; you can’t always get what you want, but if you try sometimes, you might find: you get what you need.” – The Rolling Stones

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD’S FAMILY

Prelude: *Chorale-Prelude on RESIGNATION*

Raymond H. Haan

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Kevin Porter

†*Call to Worship

Leader: Come away and rest for a while.
Leave behind your busyness to be fully present to God.

**People: We have come for relief from life’s turmoil.
God gathers us as a shepherd gathers her sheep.**

Leader: God’s steadfast love surrounds us here.
We are reminded of God’s enduring faithfulness.

**People: This is God’s house, and we are God’s children.
God invites us to feel at home in this place.**

Leader: We have a covenant with our Creator.
This is a time for renewal of our promises.

**People: God calls for righteousness and justice.
God offers us goodness and mercy all our days.**

*Hymn 172: *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

RESIGNATION

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Shepherding God, we need your Spirit to guide us; we need your peace to help us set aside the things that divide us. Forgive us when we cling to our grievances, and dismiss our adversaries as strangers and aliens unworthy of your love. You seek to heal our vision, that we may see all people as members of your household. Forgive us when we refuse to be built into a spiritual temple with Christ as the cornerstone, if it means opening our hearts to those who have wronged us. Heal the hardness of our hearts, that we may embrace your shepherding love.

*congregation standing

†latecomers may be seated

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Pardon

†*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.")

†*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.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Sam Whyte, Reader

The First Lesson: Psalm 23

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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!

Children's Time

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

Solo: *Adonai Ro-i* (Ps. 23, sung in Hebrew)

Gerald Cohen

Aaron Scarberry, tenor

The Second Lesson: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

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Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The Story of your grace.

Sermon: **OUT OF THE ORDINARY**

The Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 380: *O Christ, the Healer* (vv. 1, 2 & 5)

ERHALT UNS, HERR

Affirmation of Faith (the *Apostles Creed*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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: If With All Your Hearts (from *Elijah*)

Felix Mendelssohn

Ye people, rend your hearts and not your garments for your transgressions: the prophet Elijah hath sealed the heavens through the word of God. I therefore say to ye: forsake your idols, return to God; for he is slow to anger, and merciful, and kind, and gracious, and repenteth him of the evil. "If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find me." Thus saith our God. Oh! that I knew where I might find him, that I might even come before his presence!

*Prayer of Dedication

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 386: O for a World

AZMON

*Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Fanfare on AZMON*

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: Our soloist today is Aaron Scarberry, a former tenor section leader in our Chancel Choir. A native of Boyertown, Pa., Aaron studied both voice and bassoon in college and holds a graduate degree from McGill University where he was a student of the legendary MET Opera tenor Ben Heppner. Aaron accepted a teaching position last year at the Wycombe Abbey International School in Changzhou, China, where he had both vocal and instrumental students, directed choirs, and taught general music classes. In his spare time, Aaron was performing in various recitals and concerts and was a featured soloist on a televised Chinese New Year Special, CCTV4's "Very Extraordinary." Aaron is home for the summer and will be returning to China in August to continue performing and to attend Suzhou University to study music and Chinese.

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: Open. Next week's host: Open. Thank you to John Orandosh for supplying the munchies last week. 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.

FREEDOM SCHOOL: This week, the scholars and staff enjoyed an inspiring and challenging Bible Study lesson led by Pastor Rebecca, assisted by Zaria Cuffee and Jasmine Greene. Heidi Mercado Littles was a Read Aloud Guest and we ended our week with a Freedom School favorite—a trip to the Franklin Institute. Next Saturday is our Flapjack Fundraiser at Applebee's in Jenkintown. You can purchase tickets from Contina Lundy during Coffee Hour.

THE RACHEL CIRCLE, an arm of the Presbyterian Women USA, will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, July 16 at 11 a.m. in the Jennings Room. All women are encouraged and invited to attend. Please bring a sack lunch. Dessert will be provided.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: Please note that the Property Committee will meet on Wednesday, July 18 at 7 p.m. in the Finney Room.

A DISCUSSION ON THE PC(USA) DECLARATION ON WHERE WE STAND will take place on Sunday, August 12 after worship in the Finney Room. How did the Declaration come about? What is its purpose? How will the PC(USA) and its churches use it? What is your take on the Declaration? Where did it speak to your heart and/or where did it make you uncomfortable? Save the date and join Pastor Rebecca to learn and talk more about it.

REV. KEVIN PORTER SABBATICAL: Please note that Rev. Kevin Porter will be taking a much-earned sabbatical from Monday, July 16 through Friday, August 31. He will be bringing his creative spirit to the sabbatical, working on a musical play based on the Council of Jerusalem.

PUERTO RICO TRIP UPDATE: Sheila and Christian Heyer-Rivera are now in Puerto Rico, preparing for the rest of the group who will arrive on July 21. Sheila and Christian have been working with folks from the Añasco Presbyterian Church on the selection and preparation of worksites. They are happy and grateful to report that, thanks to your generosity, they have not only met but exceeded the trip's fundraising goal of \$10,000. This means there will be additional funds for the Añasco church's rebuilding ministry, including the purchase of building materials. A special thanks to Klaus Hoekema-Boerman who will be using the church mini-bus to drive the trip's participants to and from the airport. Our thoughts and prayers are with the group for a safe and productive mission.

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 Mary today or via phone ([215-927-4648](tel:215-927-4648)) or call the church.

CHECK OUT OUR UP-DATED WEBSITE!

Have you been on the church's website lately? If not, you are in for a treat.

First, a big thank you to Marc DiNardo for all the work he has put into updating content and uploading sermons. And a heartfelt thank you Dhyan Cassie for keeping the calendar up-to-date.

Archived copies of **Windows** are now up-to-date and easily available under "Community Life," as are archived copies of weekly bulletins.

The 2018 Church Directory and the last two issues of **Windows** were emailed through a website feature called *MailChimp*. *MailChimp* allows large files with graphics to be easily distributed to hundreds of people and makes it easier for us to keep mailing lists up-to-date. Plus, anyone who is interested in **Windows** can now sign up to receive it on the website!

We are currently working on two website concerns. The first is making the site easier to use on a mobile phone. The second is having the church program calendar post on the website and Facebook simultaneously. We hope to have these issues resolved by the time you are reading this.

Please let us know how you like the website. If you came to town, would you come to our church based on the website? If not, why not?

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

Sunday, July 15

10:00 AM Worship—The Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
10:15 AM Sunday School Grades K-5

Monday, July 16

11:00 AM **Freedom School**
Rachel Circle—Jennings Room
1:00 PM Ladies Teen Challenge—Gymnasium

Tuesday, July 17

Freedom School

Wednesday, July 18

10:00 AM **Freedom School**
Staff Meeting
5:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir Auditions—Choir Room
7:00 PM Property Committee—Finney Room

Thursday, July 19

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

Friday, July 20

Freedom School

Saturday, July 21

8:00 AM **Puerto Rico Mission Trip Departs**
Freedom School Flapjack Fundraiser (8 to 10 a.m.)
Applebee's, 323 Old York Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046
10:00 AM Open Gym

Sunday, July 22

10:00 AM Worship—The Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
10:15 AM Sunday School Grades K-5

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

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