

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE, AUGUST 19, 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.

August 19, 2018

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

*“Water, water, every where,
And all the boards did shrink;
Water, water, every where,
Nor any drop to drink.*

. . . .

*He prayeth best, who loveth best
All things both great and small;
For the dear God who loveth us,
He made and loveth all.”*

from *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*, Samuel Taylor Coleridge

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD’S FAMILY

Prelude: *Children of the Heavenly Father*

Dale Wood

Welcome and Announcements

Aaron Bass

†*Call to Worship

Leader: Creator God, Living Christ, Spirit of Courage, you wonderful unknown,
you fabulous hope, you faithful friend, we are here to adore you.

**People: We are here to love and serve you, to sing your story,
to shout your justice, to proclaim your truth,
to welcome your challenge, and swim in your hope.**

Leader: Come, wrestle within us, pour through us, and shake us loose.
By the waters in which you claimed us, make us strong.
With the force of your current, make us bold.

**People: As you wash through this worship service,
change our minds and turn our agendas.
Nudge our hearts and move our feet.**

Leader: Hold us faithful and float us toward hope.
And with a torrent only you could send, drench us with love.

People: Start something new.

Leader: Call us more closely to you.

People: Again.

Leader: And always.

All: Amen.

*Hymn 267: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

ROYAL OAK

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Abiding and Eternal God, we confess our desperation. We need water, but our wells are dry. We are fearful of coming to the living waters, lest they be a mirage. We are afraid to drink deeply from your hand, lest more be asked of us than we are ready to give. We are content so often to go through the motions of religion rather than confess a faith that may be challenged. God, help 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.**

The Sacrament of Baptism

Presentation of Matthew Jacob Lagunsad

Questions to the Parents

Question to the Sponsors

Question to the Congregation:

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Matthew, by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging him to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of his church?

We do.

Blessing Over Water

Baptism

Baptismal Hymn 492: *Baptized in Water*

BUNESSAN

Welcome

†*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

Lois Nafziger-Bethea, Reader

The First Lesson: Ezekiel 36:24-28

Page 758 OT

Leader: God's Word is a lamp to our feet, and a light to our path.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

The Time for Children

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

Solo: *Jesus Loves Me*

arr. Michael T. Smith

Evelyn Santiago, soprano

The Second Lesson: 2 Kings 5:1-14

Page 320 OT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The Story of your grace.

Sermon: **WATER, WATER, EVERYWHERE**

The Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 438: *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

DENNIS

*Affirmation of Faith *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.

Prayers of the People

Aaron Bass

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: *Come to the Waters*

Paul S. Jones

Come to the waters, whoever is thirsty; drink from the fountain that never runs dry. Jesus, the living One, offers you mercy, life more abundant in boundless supply. Come to the river that flows through the city, forth from the throne of the Father and Son. Jesus the Savior says, "Come and drink deeply." Drink from the pure, inexhaustible One. Come to the fountain without any money; buy what is given without any cost. Jesus, the gracious One, welcome the weary; Jesus, the selfless One died for the lost. Come to the well of unmerited favor; stretch out your hand; fill your cup to the brim. Jesus is such a compassionate Savior. Draw from the grace that flows freely from him. Come to the Savior, the God of salvation. God has provided an end to sin's strife. Why will you suffer the Law's condemnation? Take the free gift of the water of life.

Evelyn Santiago, soprano

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 439: *In Christ There Is No East or West*

ST. PETER

*Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Hornpipe* (from *Water Music*)

G.F. Handel

* * * * *

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.

THIS MORNING WE CELEBRATE THE BAPTISM OF MATTHEW JACOB LAGUNSAD, son of Martin and Jerelyn, brother of Chloe and grandson of Sylvia Clark. We also welcome Matthew's sponsors:

Godfather

Bj Advento

Jun Aspa

Reynaldo Cortez

Christian Heyer-Rivera

Rev. Kevin Porter

Godmother

Yolanda Antonio

Hazel Borgonia

Olivia Cuevas

Emy Dividina

Sally McCord-Amasis

Bernadette Mendoza

Miraflor Micarsos

Maria Sta. Ana

Saralyn Suico

THE MUSIC: Our soloist today is Evelyn Santiago, soprano section leader in our Chancel Choir and director of our Children's Choir and Voices in Bronze Handbell Choir. Evelyn is winner of the Metropolitan Opera District Auditions in Puerto Rico and a frequent soloist with Opera Philadelphia's mainstage productions and community outreach performances. Equally at home on the concert stage, Ms. Santiago has been soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, Lancaster Symphony, the Symphonic Orchestra of Bayamon (Puerto Rico), and Philomusica Chorale. She is a graduate of Westminster Choir College and St. Joseph's University and lives in Voorhees, N.J., with her husband Dale.

Looking ahead: First Church choir rehearsals will resume soon:

Gospel Choir, Thursday, August 23, at 6:30 p.m.

Children's Choir, Thursday, September 6, at 6:30 p.m.

Voices in Bronze Handbell Choir, Thursday, September 6, at 7:45 p.m.

Chancel Choir, Saturday, September 8, 2-4 p.m.

Oratorio Choir, Tuesday, October 30, 7-9 p.m.

For more information or to participate, please e-mail music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com or call the church office, 215-843-8811.

COFFEE HOUR: This week's host: Lois and Charles Bethea. Next week's host: Open. Thank you to the Mission and Outreach Committee for supplying the munchies last week.

REV. REBECCA SEGERS will be on vacation from Monday, August 20 through Sunday, September 2. Please note that she will not be at Uncle Bobbie's on Thursdays, 8/23 and 8/30.

TONIGHT'S DINNER FOR EIGHT HAS BEEN CANCELLED: Please note that the last Dinner for Eight will be on Sunday, September 30. Please call the church office at 215-843-8811 or email Pastor Rebecca at rsegers@fpcgermantown.org if you would like to attend this dinner. We look forward to hearing from you!

GACM SUMMER VACATION DATES: The GACM continues to be closed through Friday, September 7 and will reopen for clients on Monday, September 10.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED from Monday, August 27 through Monday, September 3 to give our wonderful volunteers a much-needed break. The office will reopen on Tuesday, September 4.

REV. KEVIN PORTER SABBATICAL: Please note that Rev. Kevin Porter is on sabbatical through Sunday, August 26. He has been bringing his creative spirit to the sabbatical, working on a musical play based on the Council of Jerusalem.

AUGUST CHALLENGE OFFERING: ATHLETES IN ACTION (AIA) is a sports ministry of *Cru* (formerly Campus Crusades for Christ). Their goal is to reach sportspeople for Christ and train them to share their faith with others. Carl and Noreen Dambman have devoted more than 40 years in many countries to AIA; our church has supported them with prayers and financial support for many years. Carl and Noreen are currently at the Asian Games in Jakarta, Indonesia with other AIA staff helping accelerate sports chaplaincy in Asia. More information can be found on the church bulletin board or at <https://give.cru.org/0007991>. Please help to ensure this important work continues with your generous contributions to the August Challenge Offering.

THE GACM THRIVE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM is a nine-session self-improvement certificate program. The next program will be held at FPCG this fall from October through December. Stop by the Crisis Ministry office or call them at 215-843-3460 for an application and more information. Brochures on the Thrive Certificate Program can be found on the literature table.

CHURCH CALENDAR SCHEDULING: To schedule events and meetings on the church calendar, please email Joan Harris at joan.fpcg@gmail.com **and** Lois Nafziger at fpcg.germantown@gmail.com. Also, please follow the same procedure if a regularly scheduled meeting or event will not be taking place. Thank you!

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.

Window on the Week

Sunday, August 19

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

Monday, August 20 Rev. Segers on Vacation

1:00 PM Ladies Teen Challenge—Gym

Tuesday, August 21 Rev. Segers on Vacation

Wednesday, August 22 Rev. Segers on Vacation

5:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir Auditions—Finney Rm., Choir Rm.
5:30 PM Sunday Suppers Alumni Dinner—Longstreth Auditorium

Thursday, August 23 Rev. Segers on Vacation

6:30 PM Gospel Choir—Sanctuary

Friday, August 24 Rev. Segers on Vacation

6:30 PM Middle/High School Youth Group—Youth Lounge, Gym

Saturday, August 25 Rev. Segers on Vacation

9:00 AM Readers' Choice—Offsite
9:30 AM Congregational Development & Fellowship—Finney Rm.
10:00 AM Open Gym

Sunday, August 26 Rev. Segers on Vacation

10:00 AM Worship—Arlene Grace preaching
10:15 AM Sunday School Grades K-5



Did You Know that 2018 Marks the **GACM's 21st Anniversary?**

Many fun and informative fundraising events to support the Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry will take place in August and September.

For example, if you want to learn more about the art treasures here at First Church, you can sign up for one of several *Tour and Tea* events. Tour the Sanctuary to view the 29 stained-glass windows, designed and crafted by Louis Tiffany and other masters; then enjoy tea in the Jennings Room to view and discuss the stunning murals painted by famed Philadelphia artist **Violet Oakley**.

Tour and Tea events will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. on August 29 and 30, and September 6, 11 and 12. The suggested donation is \$21 per person and all proceeds go directly to the emergency fund of the Crisis Ministry. Contact Beth Cox, (215) 808-1571 or ecox312@verizon.net, to schedule your tour!

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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