

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

AUGUST 26, 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 26, 2018

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: Three Gospel Preludes

Gerald Near

Amazing Grace

Blessed Assurance

In the Garden

Welcome and Announcements

Don Carlin

†*Call to Worship

Leader: With profound happiness, we welcome one another.
How good it is to approach the courts of our God!

**People: Happy are those who live in God's house!
Singing our praise to God fills us with joy.**

Leader: Here we welcome both friend and stranger.
All peoples of the earth are God's children.

**People: We greet one another by name in Jesus' name.
Together we extol the name of our God.**

Leader: Open your hearts to receive new strength.
Open your lives to renewed understandings.

**People: Surely God will equip us to face our world
We will be ambassadors for God wherever we go.**

*Hymn 341: *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!*

ASSURANCE

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, whose care never ceases, we come to you as we are. We are tired from trying to do more than we can manage. We are anxious about problems which go unresolved. We are worried about events beyond our control. We do not easily let go. For mistakes we cannot redeem, for tasks left undone, for uncertain goals, we need your forgiveness and ask for your understanding. For recovery of strength and enthusiasm, we pray for your Spirit. For fullness of life, generous hearts, and contented souls, we pray to be followers of Christ Jesus. In your mercy, restore us and lead 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.

†*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

Josh Overton

The First Lesson: Psalm 34:1-8

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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!**

The Time for Children

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

Solo: *Be Thou My Vision*

Richard Walters

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, naught be all else to me, save that thou art. Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence, my light. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word, I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord. Thy my great Father and I thy true son; thou in the dwelling, and I with thee one. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always. Thou and thou only, first in my heart, high King of heaven, my treasure thou art. High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heav'n's joys, O bright heaven's sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O ruler of all.

David Kellett, Tenor

The Second Lesson: John 6:35, 41-51

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Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **BREAD OF LIFE**

Arlene Grace

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

Don Carlin

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: *My Life Must Be Christ's Broken Bread*

Paul S. Jones

My life must be Christ's broken bread, my love his outpoured wine, a cup o'er-filled, a table spread beneath his name and sign, that other souls, refreshed and fed, may share his life through mine. My all is in the Master's hands for him to bless and break; beyond the brook his winepress stands and thence my way I take, resolved the whole of love's demands to give for his dear sake. Lord, let me share that grace of thine where with thou didst sustain the burden of the fruitful vine, the gift of buried grain, who dies with thee, O word divine shall rise and live again.

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 281: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

CWM RHONDDA

*Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Promenade in G Major*

Robinson

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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.

COFFEE HOUR: This week's host: Congregational Development and Fellowship Committee. Next week's host: Open. Thank you to Lois and Charles Bethea 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.

THE MUSIC: Our soloist today is David Kellett, tenor section leader in our Chancel Choir. David performs regularly as soloist with numerous choral organizations in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania. Equally at home in the opera house and on Broadway, he has performed dozens of roles throughout the greater New York City metropolitan area. He teaches voice at Princeton University and lives in New Hope with his wife, soprano Anne McKenna.

Looking ahead: If you love to sing, please consider joining one of our church choirs: The Gospel Choir rehearses on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. and will be singing in worship the first Sunday of each month, Sept.-May. The Children's Choir will rehearse on Thursdays beginning September 6 at 6:30 p.m. Voices in Bronze Handbell Choir will rehearse on Thursdays beginning September 6 at 7:45 p.m. The Chancel Choir will rehearse on Saturday, September 8, from 2-4 p.m., and thereafter on Sundays at 9 a.m. and from 11:30-12:30. The Oratorio Choir will rehearse on Tuesdays beginning October 30 from 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.

REV. REBECCA SEGERS will be on vacation through Sunday, September 2. Please note that she will not be at Uncle Bobbie's on Thursday, 8/30.

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.

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.

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC!

First Church's annual picnic, sponsored by the Congregational Development & Fellowship Committee (CDFC), will take place, rain or shine, on **Sunday, September 9** after worship.

Members and friends of First Church are invited to contribute a **side dish, salad, fruit or desert item**, ready for serving. The Christian Ed Committee will again provide the fun activities.

Please see Delores Solomon, Chair of the CDFC, or any member of the Committee (Susan Farrington, Debra Gary, Dave Wolford, Rev. Kevin Porter, Tim Robinson and Cynthia Thomas) to volunteer. See Frank Lundy to volunteer to help grill the hot dogs and burgers.

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.



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!

Window on the Week

Sunday, August 26 10:00 AM 10:15 AM	Rev. Segers on Vacation Worship—Arlene Grace preaching Sunday School Grades K-5
Monday, August 27 1:00 PM	Rev. Segers on Vacation Church Office Closed All-Day Organ Repair Ladies Teen Challenge—Gym
Tuesday, August 28 1:00 PM	Rev. Segers on Vacation Church Office Closed All-Day Organ Repair Tour and Tea—Sanctuary, Jennings Room
Wednesday, August 29 1:00 PM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM	Rev. Segers on Vacation Church Office Closed All-Day Organ Repair Tour and Tea—Sanctuary, Jennings Room Keystone State Boychoir Auditions—Choir Rm. , Jennings Rm Keystone State Boychoir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
Thursday, August 30 1:00 PM 6:30 PM	Rev. Segers on Vacation Church Office Closed All-Day Organ Repair Tour and Tea—Sanctuary, Jennings Room Gospel Choir—Sanctuary
Friday, August 31	Rev. Segers on Vacation Church Office Closed All-Day Organ Repair
Saturday, September 1 10:00 AM	Rev. Segers on Vacation Open Gym
Sunday, September 2 10:00 AM 10:15 AM	Rev. Segers on Vacation Worship—Rev. Kevin Porter preaching 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

The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

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