

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

SEPTEMBER 2, 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.

September 2, 2018

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

## **ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM**

### **GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY**

Prelude: *Processional and Trumpet Tune on CWM RHONDDA*

Wayne Wold

Welcome and Announcements

Christian Heyer-Rivera

†\*Call to Worship

Leader: God invites us to live in the Spirit.

**People: We open our souls to God's care.**

Leader: God calls us to have loving hearts and faith-filled lives.

**People: We open ourselves to God's gifts.**

Leader: God summons us to be known by our faith.

**People: We open our lives to God's claim.**

Leader: God calls us to live our faith.

**People: We open our gifts to God's design for them.**

Leader: God offers us every gift of grace.

**People: We will worship, give thanks and live  
so that we show God's grace all around us.**

\*Hymn 420: *God of Grace and God of Glory*

CWM RHONDDA

### **CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD**

Prayer of Confession

**God of compassion, you have written your law on our hearts. We are slow to read it there. Instead, we honor you with our lips:**

**We pray long prayers. We sing hymns, but do not notice the words. "How are you?" we ask; but we do not listen. "Peace be with you," we say; but we mean, "Hello."**

**Our hearts are far from you. O God, forgive us. Fill us with genuine love. Help us to honor you with our hearts in worship and in faithful living.**

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\*congregation standing;

†latecomers may be seated

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

Susan Farrington

The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Page 154 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.*

Gospel Choir: Gospel Choir: *Revelation 19*

Jeffrey LaValley

Hallelujah, salvation and glory, honor and power unto the Lord our God. For the Lord our God is mighty, yes the Lord our God is omnipotent. The Lord our God, he is wonderful. All praises be to the King of Kings and the Lord our God, he is wonderful.

The Second Lesson: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Page 39 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **PREACHING THE GOSPEL OF GRACE IN SUCH A GRACELESS AGE**

The Rev. Kevin Porter

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

\*Hymn 415: *Come, Labor On*

ORA LABORA

\*Affirmation of Faith (from a *Brief Statement of Faith*)

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Christian Heyer-Rivera

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: *How Great Thou Art*

arr. Patricia Sanders Cota

Handbell Quintet

\*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Prayer of Dedication

### **GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME**

\*Hymn 280: *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

AMAZING GRACE

\*Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *The Ocean Grove Usher's March*

Clarence Kohlmann

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### **IN MEMORIAM**

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God  
in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Jack H. Rosensteel.

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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.

**THE MUSIC:** 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](mailto:music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com) or call the church office, 215-843-8811.

**COFFEE HOUR:** This week's hosts: Herb and Gayl Henze 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.

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

**A HEARTFELT THANK YOU** from Joan Harris to my church family for all of your kind words, hugs, thoughts, prayers and cards on the passing of my Mom. Thanks to you all from the bottom of my heart.

**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.

**GACM IS ACCEPTING CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES** for the 21st Anniversary Gala program booklet. Contact Hope Primas at [hprimas@crisisministry.org](mailto:hprimas@crisisministry.org) or call 215-843-2340.

## *Tour and Tea with Violet Oakley*



Learn about the art treasures at First Church while supporting the **Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry's 21st Anniversary!**

During a ***Tour and Tea with Violet Oakley*** event, you will tour the Sanctuary with its 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 with Violet Oakley*** events will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. on 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](mailto:ecox312@verizon.net), to schedule your tour!*

# 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.



## Going Once...Going Twice...SOLD!

In support of GACM's 21st Anniversary, **Bradford Portraits** has generously donated an **exclusive family portrait** plus **luxury hotel stay in New York or Palm Beach** to the Ministry's *Good Neighbor Live Auction!*

The winning bidder will be photographed by world-renowned portraitist Bradford Rowley at either his New York or Palm Beach location, receiving a lavish 20" canvas portrait; then stay for one night at either the five-star rated Ritz-Carlton Westchester or the AAA five-diamond rated Eau Resort in Palm Beach. **This auction item is valued at \$5,500!**

The auction will be held at GACM's 21st Anniversary Gala!

*To register or donate, visit [www.crisisministry.org](http://www.crisisministry.org).*

## *Window on the Week*

**Sunday, September 2**     **Rev. Segers on Vacation**  
10:00 AM     Worship—Rev. Kevin Porter preaching  
10:15 AM     Sunday School Grades K-5

**Monday, September 3**     **Labor Day—Church Closed**

**Tuesday, September 4**     **All-Day Organ Repair**  
12:00 PM     Commonwealth Choirs Administration Meeting—Primary Rm.

**Wednesday, September 5**     **All-Day Organ Repair**  
10:00 AM     Staff Meeting—Finney Room  
12:00 PM     Commonwealth Choirs Program Meeting—Primary Room  
5:00 PM     Keystone State Boychoir Auditions—Choir Rm., Jennings Rm.  
7:00 PM     Session—Finney Room

**Thursday, September 6**     **All-Day Organ Repair**  
1:00 PM     Tour and Tea—Sanctuary, Jennings Room  
6:00 PM     Christian Education IBA Planning—Upstairs Office  
6:30 PM     Gospel Choir—Sanctuary  
6:30 PM     Children's Choir—Choir Room  
7:45 PM     Handbell Choir—Choir Room

**Friday, September 7**     **All-Day Organ Repair**  
9:00 AM     GACM Staff Meeting—Finney Room  
3:30 PM     Drop-In Center—Youth Lounge, Gym  
6:30 PM     Elementary School Youth Group

**Saturday, September 8**  
10:00 AM     Open Gym  
2:00 PM     Chancel Choir—Sanctuary

**Sunday, September 9**  
9:00 AM     Chancel Choir—Sanctuary  
10:00 AM     Worship—Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching  
11:15 AM     Annual Picnic  
11:30 AM     Book Discussion with Rev. Segers  
11:30 AM     Chancel Choir—Choir 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

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Director of Adult Education and Community Life	Pastor	Rebecca Segers
Director of Urban Ministry	Kevin L. Porter	Eileen Jones
Director of Music	F. Anthony Thurman	Sara Carter-Blanford
Director of the Gospel Choir	Evelyn Santiago	Christian Heyer-Rivera
Director of the Handbell and Children's Choirs	Christian Heyer-Rivera	Heidi Mercado-Littles
Director of Christian Education	Parish Visitor	Terry Boyer
Building Manager	Administrative Assistant	Joan Harris
Bookkeeper	Bookkeeper	Cindy Osborne
Sextons		Tanieya Matthews, Robert Patterson, Harold Whaley

## The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

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[www.fpcgermantown.org](http://www.fpcgermantown.org)