

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

SEPTEMBER 23, 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 23, 2018

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Este Es el Mundo de mi Padre (This Is My Father's World)*

Dale Wood

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Rebecca Segers

Introit: *Tienen Que Saber (People Need to Know)*

Greg Nelson/Phil McHugh

Ev'ry day they pass me by, I can see it in their eyes; empty people filled with care, headed who knows where. On they go through private pain, living fear to fear; laughter hides the silent cries only Jesus hears. People need the Lord. At the end of broken dreams, he's the open door. When will we realize, people need the Lord? We are called to take his light to a world where wrong is right. What could be too great a cost for sharing life with one who's lost? Through his love our hearts can feel all the grief they bear. They must hear the words of life only we can share. People need the Lord. At the end of broken dreams, he's the open door. When will we realize, people need the Lord? That we must give our lives, for people need the Lord. People need the Lord.

Evelyn Santiago, soprano

†*Call to Worship

Leah and Emery Hood

Leaders: Nos regocijamos porque ha llegado la mañana.

Let us rejoice for morning has dawned.

All: Let us worship the Lord!

Leaders: Conocemos la belleza de la creación de Dios
y la maravilla de la familia humana.

We know the beauty of God's creation
and the wonder of the human family.

All: Adoremos al Señor!

Leaders: Nos reunimos en nuestra iglesia para adorar a Dios.

We gather in our church to worship God.

All: Let us worship the Lord!

Leaders: Compartimos oraciones y dones y nos comprometemos
a hacer el trabajo de Dios en el mundo.

We share prayers and gifts,
and pledge ourselves to God's work in the world.

All: Adoremos al Señor! Let us worship the Lord!

*Hymn 400: *Pues Si Vivimos (When We Are Living)*

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

Stanzas 1 and 3 will be sung in Spanish, led by Jason Williams.

Stanzas 2 and 4 will be sung in English.

Testimonial

Annie Kotto

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Christian Heyer-Rivera, Rosemary Williams

In Jesus Christ you have shown us a more excellent way, a way of love that is greater than all other ways. We confess that we have neglected love. We have failed to receive it, and we have failed to extend it. We tie it up with conditions. We make it conform to our terms. We cannot accept that it is boundless. Forgive our timid responses to your great gift. Open us to love's possibilities, and expand our view of what love can accomplish, even in us. We pray in the name of the one who is love made flesh, Jesus Christ.

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

Joshua Overton

Scripture: Psalm 145 (Page 548 OT)

Marc DiNardo, Danielle Ohemeng

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

Andrea Overton

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

Anthem: *Esta Tierra (This Land)*

Javier Busto

Do not look for me on the mountains however high they are, do not look for me at sea either however big it seems to you. Look for me here in this flat land of bridge and pinewood, battlement and still waters where flying is heard though the sound fades. – Francisco Pino.

Testimonials

Emanuel Heyer-Rivera
Siena Williams

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn 440: *In Christ There Is No East or West*

MCKEE

Unison Reading: *Prophets of a Future Not Our Own*

by Bishop Ken Untener in memory of Oscar Romero

We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us. No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection, no pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the Church's mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water the seeds already planted knowing that they hold promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing this. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own.

Pastoral Prayer

El Padre Nuestro (The Lord's Prayer)

Evelyn Santiago, soprano

Testimonial

Sara Greene

Offering of Our Gifts and Lives

Jasmine Greene, Sheila Heyer-Rivera

Offertory: *Oboe de Gabriel (Gabriel's Oboe)*

Ennio Morricone

Puerto Rico Photo Presentation

Sara Greene, Leah Hood

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 472: *Cantad al Señor (O Sing to the Lord)*

Brazilian Folk Melody

Stanzas 1 and 3 will be sung in English.

Stanza 2 will be sung in Spanish, led by Jason Williams.

*Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response 432: *Canto de Esperanza (Song of Hope)*

Postlude: *Arrebato de Alegría (Outburst of Joy)*

Hermann Schroeder

IN MEMORIAM

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God
in loving memory of H. George Thompson.

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: Rachel Circle.

FPCG'S MONTHLY COLLECTION IN SUPPORT OF COMBATTING HUNGER is next Sunday. As most of you know, your donation can either support the Centsibility Offering of the Presbytery or GACM's Food Cupboard. Many thanks in advance.

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.

Today's choral anthem is drawn from Spain. The reflective text invites those who seek God to look for God in the lowly places. It reminds us that in our daily lives we may enter into God's presence in the most unexpected ways and in the most unusual locations. The anthem was composed by Javier Busto, a medical doctor and musician, based on a poem by Francisco Pino. The organ solo heard at the Offertory became popularized in *The Mission*, a 1986 British film about a Jesuit missionary in 18th-century South America.

If you love to sing and can be faithful in attending rehearsals, please consider joining one of our church choirs: The Gospel Choir rehearses on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. and sings in worship the first Sunday of each month. The Children's Choir (grades 2-8) rehearses on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. and sings in worship the last Sunday of each month. Voices in Bronze Handbell Choir rehearses on Thursdays at 7:45 p.m. and rings in worship the second Sunday of each month. The Chancel Choir rehearses 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.

DINNERS FOR 8: The last chance to enjoy a Dinner for 8 at Pastor Rebecca's house, 4920 Greene Street in Germantown, is on Sunday, September 30, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Sign up to come and bring a side dish or dessert – Rebecca will provide the entrée and beverages – and get to know her and others who are sharing the meal a bit better.

SEPTEMBER CHALLENGE OFFERING:

Village to Village Care

Village to Village Care is a non-profit organization founded in 2015 by FPCG member, Dr. Annie Kotto, and her sister Dr. Anne Marie Cadet, whose mission is to focus on the needs of rural villages throughout the world with a specific focus on healthcare.

Village to Village Care's conception coincided with the spread of the Ebola virus in West African countries in the summer of 2014 and was designed to address the glaring inadequacies in healthcare and health education illuminated by the epidemic.

The organization's goal is to provide primary healthcare to remote villages so that emergency issues do not result in grievous loss of life. A clinic with proper equipment and a trained staff can be the difference between life or death.

Ultimately, Village to Village Care seeks to empower rural communities around the world and promote self-sustaining health practices among the locals. More information about this organization and its mission trips can be found at www.villagetovillagecare.org.

SEPTEMBER CITIZENSHIP SUNDAYS: The Session of The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown and FPCG's Rachel Circle of the Presbyterian Women U.S.A. are sponsoring September Citizenship Sundays to give unregistered voters, 18 years of age and older, a chance to register to vote in the upcoming election on Tuesday, November 6.

Registered voters will choose representatives from Pennsylvania to serve in the United States Senate and House of Representatives; registered Pennsylvania voters will also vote for Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania along with other state and local officials.

The paperwork needed to register to vote, including change of address forms, will be available during Coffee Hour today and next Sunday, September 30. Absentee ballots will also be available. Please stop by the Citizenship Table to complete the forms in time for the November 6 election.

This is in no way an endorsement of any party or persons running for certain seats in government and is in full compliance with IRS rules and regulations governing voter education activities by 501(c)(3) organizations.

September Session Highlights

World Communion Sunday will be October 7. It was suggested that we use different breads from around the world during the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

The next **Philadelphia Presbytery** meeting will be held Tuesday, November 13 at the Wallingford Presbyterian Church.

Christian Ed chair, Bob Seed, reported that the following students have been awarded **FPCG scholarships** for the current school year: Kristina Ohemeng, Kiara Greene, Jason Greene, Camari Fitzgerald, DeShaye Carter, and Kai Burton.

The next **men's breakfast** will be held Saturday, Nov. 3. Drew Hood will speak.

Animate is here again! Second Sundays and following Mondays beginning October 14 and 15. See Bob Seed to order journals.

Oxford Presbyterian Church will be holding a seminar to examine **The Presbyterian Book of Confessions** from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm on Saturday, Sept. 22.

Session endorsed a "Citizenship Sunday" **voter registration** event sponsored by the Faith and Freedom Coalition. More information to follow.

Congregational Development chair, Delores Solomon, reported that the annual **Christmas dinner** will be held on December 2.

Marc DiNardo, **FPCG's Property Committee** chair and jack of all trades, reports: power outlets have been installed to improve control power to the organ, thermostat upgrades are being considered to improve efficiency, flooding after storms is an ongoing issue, improving access to the building and possible options for glass doors are being discussed, the west gate will be repaired and upgraded, and new tires and air conditioning repairs for the minibus have been approved.

Randy Rosensteel, chair of the **Worship & Music Committee**, reported: a less confusing practice for serving communion to choir members is being developed, a suggestion that the congregation remain seated during the passing of the bread and cup is being considered, two of the three boxes of Glory to God hymnals donated by the Board of Pensions in 2015 have yet to be found, and a suggestion that the FPCG Gospel Choir perform in a Gospel Festival during Black History Month in February.

Window on the Week

Sunday, September 23

9:00 AM Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
10:00 AM Worship—Puerto Rico Service and Discipleship
10:15 AM Sunday School Grades K-5
11:30 AM Praise and Evangelism Team Meeting—Finney Room
11:30 AM Chancel Choir—Choir Room

Monday, September 24

1:00 PM **Rev. Rebecca at PC(USA) Kaleidoscope Conference**

Ladies Teen Challenge—Gym

Tuesday, September 25

12:00 PM **Rev. Rebecca at PC(USA) Kaleidoscope Conference**
Commonwealth Choirs Administration Meeting—Primary Room
2:30 PM Sunday Suppers—Kitchen, Longstreth Auditorium, Jennings Room

Wednesday, September 26

12:00 PM **Rev. Rebecca at PC(USA) Kaleidoscope Conference**
Commonwealth Choirs Program Meeting—Primary Room
4:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Sanctuary, Choir Rm., Jennings Rm.

Thursday, September 27

8:00 AM Pastor Rebecca at Uncle Bobbie's, 5445 Germantown Ave. (8-10 a.m.)
6:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Primary Room
6:30 PM Gospel Choir—Sanctuary
6:30 PM Children's Choir—Choir room
7:00 PM Women's Retreat Planning Meeting—Upstairs Office
7:45 PM Voices in Bronze—Choir Room

Friday, September 28

12:00 PM Setup begins for Good Neighbor/GACM 21st Anniversary Event
Longstreth Auditorium; Jennings, Finney and Primary Rooms
3:30 PM Drop-In Center—Youth Lounge, Gym
5:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble Group—Choir Room
5:30 PM Good Neighbor/21st Anniversary VIP Reception—Jennings Room
6:00 PM Good Neighbor/21st Anniversary Gala—Longstreth Auditorium

Saturday, September 29

8:00 AM Keystone State Boychoir
9:00 AM Readers' Choice—Offsite
10:00 AM Open Gym

Sunday, September 30

9:00 AM Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
10:00 AM Worship—Rev. Rebecca Segers Preaching
10:15 AM Sunday School—Grades K-5
11:30 AM Chancel Choir—Choir Room
12:30 PM Deacons Meeting—Finney Room
1:00 PM Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) Families Arrive
6:00 PM Dinner for Eight at home of Rev. Segers, 4920 Greene Street

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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