

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY  
OCTOBER 7, 2018

ALIVE,

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.

October 7, 2018

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

*"Love doesn't just sit there, like a stone; it has to be made, like bread, remade all the time, like  
new." - Ursula K. Le Guin*

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

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

Prelude: Two Spirituals

Charles Callahan

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

*He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *We Gather for a Holy Feast*

TALLIS CANON

We gather for a holy feast in fresh remembrance of God's Son, his table spread for all the world, yet intimate enough for one.—Carolyn Lott Monohan

\*Call to Worship (*Psalms 33*)

The Rev. David Cassie

Leader: Oh, how good and pleasant it is,  
when the community lives together in unity!

**People: It is like fine oil upon the head that runs down upon the beard,**

Leader: upon the beard of Aaron, and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

**People: It is like the dew of Hermon that falls upon the hills of Zion.**

Leader: For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: life forevermore.

**Unison: Creator of the universe, from whom all things come,  
to whom all things return,  
give your people such unity of heart and mind,  
that all the world may grow in the life of your eternal kingdom.**

Leader: Let us worship the Lord!

\*Hymn 464: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

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

Prayer of Confession

**Holy bond of Love, part the veil that keeps us feeling isolated and afraid.  
Bind us together in unity. When our families hurt and betray us - our families of origin, our family of faith, the human family - help us let go of our pain, and work for the healing of all. When we feel abandoned by those we love, grant us the ability to forgive and to seek peace and reconciliation with those who have wronged us. When our hearts are pierced with anguish, teach us to trust once more, that we may find solace and grace through your loving Spirit.**

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.")

A Time for Children

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

Gospel Choir: *As the Deer Medley*

As the deer panteth for the water, so my soul longeth after Thee. You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship Thee. You alone are my strength, my shield, to You alone does my spirit yield. You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship Thee. Hallelu, Hallelu-jah, oh Lord we praise Your name. All the glory, all the praise, oh Lord, we praise Your name. Here we are in Your presence lifting holy hands to You. Here we are praising Jesus for all the things He's brought us through.

### **PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

Lesson: Genesis 2:18-24

Page 2 OT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY**

The Reverend Rebecca Segers

### **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

A Time for Meditation on the Word

Communion Hymn 2236: *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*  
(from *Sing the Faith* hymnal)

ST. BRENDAN'S

\*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.**

Offering of Our Gifts and Lives

Offertory: *Chichester Psalms* (sung in Hebrew)

Leonard Bernstein

Lord, Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty, neither do I exercise myself in great matters or in things too wonderful for me to understand. Surely I have calmed and quieted myself, as a child that is weaned of his mother, my soul is even as a weaned child. Let Israel hope in the Lord from henceforth and forever. – Ps. 131

Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. –Ps. 133

\*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: O God, you formed us in your image to love and serve you, but when we forget your promises and abandon your commandments, you do not reject us but call us still as your own. In Genesis, you made a covenantal promise to claim your people, and have led us ever since: from the garden of Eden to the land of milk and honey, from a stable in Bethlehem to a cross in Jerusalem, where your Son Jesus’ ministry proclaimed your love and covenant again. From a road to Damascus then across this wide earth, you continue to call and to name and to claim us as your people anew. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Congregational Response: *Sanctus*

F. Anthony Thurman

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly —

Lord, God of pow - er and might. Hea - ven and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bles - sed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

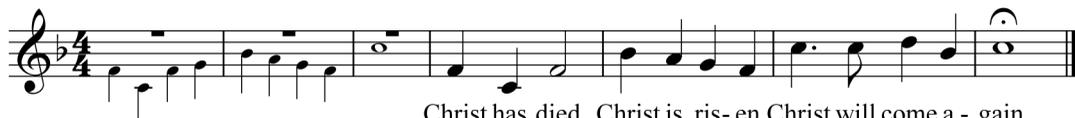
high - est; Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Leader: We come together this World Communion Sunday, remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection, mindful that in his dying and rising, you gave birth to this, your church, the family of faith we love and are so grateful for. Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may be a witness to Jesus' redemptive love.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Congregational Response: *Memorial Acclamation*

Thurman



Leader: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and fruit of the vine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may nurture us and strengthen us as the body of Christ. As we celebrate this meal with Christians around this wide world, may we never forget your covenantal love, shared in the meal, binding us to you and one another everywhere. Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, with the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Congregational Response: *The Great Amen*

Thurman



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.**

The Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

(We will come to the table to receive the elements of bread and wine/juice. Come forward using the center aisle, partake of the elements as you receive them, and return to your seat by the side aisle. Remember that the cups on the outside ring of the tray hold grape juice and the cups within the outside ring contain wine.)

Prayer After Supper

**God of the covenant, we are filled, not only with this holy food, but as spiritual beings who are your human family. We are cleansed and renewed, ready to share your love and forgiveness with all we meet. Strengthen us in the days ahead, that we may more fully become the people you imagine us to be, living in gratitude and hope and grace, in the knowledge of your steadfast love for us. Grant this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forevermore. Amen.**

### GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

\*Hymn 343: *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

BEECHER

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Hymn to Joy*

Albert L. Travis

**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 LITURGY:** On this **World Communion Sunday**, we will be celebrating with breads from around the world during worship, and breads and spreads from around the world during Coffee Hour. The Lord's Supper Liturgy was written by Rev. Segers, with a mind and heart for those with whom we share this meal, remembering and recognizing the witnesses to Christ's love who have gone before, as well as those who are worshipping alongside us in congregations around the world today. May we always strive to be mindful that this supper is not simply an individual practice within our own congregation, but a shared meal with fellow Christians worldwide, binding us to one another in the memory of Jesus' life, death and resurrection and in commitment to the coming of the Kingdom on earth.

**FROM THE ARTS, WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE:** When you come forward to take the elements today on this **World Communion Sunday**, you will notice various kinds of bread available to commemorate our relationship to Christians around the world. You will note dark rye bread representing various Eastern European countries, pita bread used in Greece and Israel, rice cakes representing the Far East, various flat breads used in countries of South America and Italy and finally, tortillas representing our brothers and sisters in Mexico. As you experience this World Wide Communion, remember our Christian brothers and sisters throughout the world.

**THE MUSIC:** Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* have enjoyed hundreds of worldwide performances this year in celebration of the composer's centennial. Today, the Chancel Choir brings the finale of the three-movement work as the Offertory Anthem. The work was commissioned for the 1965 Southern Cathedrals Festival at Chichester Cathedral, but was given its premiere at Lincoln Center in New York with the composer conducting. Bernstein insisted that the work should always be performed in Hebrew as it is today. McNeil Robinson, whose music we often hear played and sung in worship, enjoyed a long association with Bernstein. It was at Bernstein's recommendation that Robinson was appointed as organist to Park Avenue Synagogue, a post he held for five decades.

**COFFEE HOUR:** This week's host: Praise and Evangelism Committee. Next week's host: Open. Thank you to the Rachel Circle for providing the munchies last week.

**OCTOBER CHALLENGE: PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING.** A gift to this offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice around the world. Congregations are encouraged to apply 25% of donations received to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace, mid-councils retain 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation and the remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own. Your local or mid-council portion could be contributed to the Freedom Rising Fund for African American males. The Peace and Global Witness Offering is received during the Season of Peace, which officially ends today, World Communion Sunday; however, donations can be made year-round and we at FPCG recognize and collect gifts for the offering throughout the month of October.

**INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK (IHN):** For the month of October, three IHN families, including nine children, will call FPCG home. For the next two weeks, our buddy congregation, St. Raymond's Catholic Church, will provide the families' meals and snacks. We are in need of dinner hosts and overnight hosts for Monday, October 22 through Thursday, October 25. Throughout the remainder of the month we need donations of food items for the families to prepare breakfast, lunch and snacks. For more information or to help please see Delores Solomon or Eileen Jones during coffee hour.

**SEARCHING FOR HAPPINESS:** The next book discussion with Rev. Segers will focus on Chapter 5, “Contented People Practice Forgiveness” and will take place today after worship and this Tuesday, October 9 at 5 p.m.

**ANIMATE:** The next *Animate* series will begin next Sunday, October 13 after worship and Monday, October 14 at 5 p.m. Journals are \$13 each and can be purchased in the church office.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR SHIRLEY ANDERSON:** Please join us for a memorial service for Shirley Anderson on Sunday, October 14 at 12:30 p.m. Shirley was a beloved member of the Oratorio Choir. May she rest in peace.

**LUNCHEON MEETING FOR CHILDRENS’ CHOIR PARENTS** on Sunday, October 14 at 11:30 a.m. in the Primary Room. Please join us for lunch and discussion of current and future plans for our Children’s Choir.

**THIRD SUNDAY:** Our next Third Sunday is October 21 and the activity will be building Disaster Relief Hygiene Kits for Church World Services. We will be receiving items to place in them until that date including: hand towels measuring 15-16” x 28-32” (no fingertip, bath, dish or micro-fiber towels), washcloths, wide-tooth combs, fingernail or toenail clippers, bath-sized soap bars, toothbrushes and standard sized BandAids. We will also need gallon-sized plastic baggies in which to place the items. If you would like to help, please bring your items to the church office up until October 21. Thank you!

**COMING TO THE TABLE:** The northwest region of the Presbytery will continue its group conversation regarding race and reconciliation on Saturday, October 20 at FPCG. The discussion will be the second part of a three-part series of watching and discussing director Ava DuVernay's documentary, *13th*, which explores the intersection of race, justice and mass incarceration in the United States. All are invited and encouraged to attend. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and the viewing and discussion is from 10 a.m. to noon. Part three will take place at FPCG on Saturday, November 17. Contact Chris Scott for more information at [cscottjr76@gmail.com/267-979-4761](mailto:cscottjr76@gmail.com/267-979-4761).

**INCOGNITO THE PLAY: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21** at 3 p.m. at FPCG. *Incognito* is a one-man, autobiographical play in which, over the course of 50 minutes, Michael Fosberg portrays over a dozen characters as he recounts the true tale of the search for his biological father. Raised in a working-class white family in a Chicago suburb by his biological Armenian-American mother and an adoptive Swedish stepfather, Fosberg began the search for his long-lost biological father at the age of 34 to discover his biological father was not only alive but was African-American. *Incognito* is a riveting story that speaks to identity, family, the complexity of the racial divide, and the struggle to find a home in two cultures. The cost is \$10 per ticket. Contact Chris Scott for more details at [cscottjr76@gmail.com/267-979-4761](mailto:cscottjr76@gmail.com/267-979-4761).

**THANKSGIVING BASKETS:** Every year, GACM provides holiday baskets for families in need. If you know of a member of our church community who would benefit from this assistance, please speak to Randy Clever or Eileen Jones. All requests are confidential.

# Church Officers

## Elders

### 2018

Marc DiNardo  
Robert Seed  
Ted Walkenhorst

### 2019

Joseph Leube  
Delores Solomon  
Deborah Thompson

### 2020

Gloria Bethea  
Andrea Overton  
J. Randall Rosensteel

Clerk of Session:  
Madeline Valentine

## Deacons

### 2018

Don Carlin  
Vera Harrison  
Dani Howard

### 2019

Ruth Cato  
Diane Filter  
Dick Liberty

### 2020

Randy Clever  
John Orandosh  
Carolyn Tarver

## First Church Staff

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

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