

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

OCTOBER 14, 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.

October 14, 2018

Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost

“Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable...Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals.”— Martin Luther King, Jr.

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD’S FAMILY

Prelude: *Prelude and Fugue in E-Flat Major* (“St. Anne”)

J.S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Be Thou My Vision*

John Carter

†*Call to Worship

Leader: Come, all who look for God with unseeing eyes.
Come, all who listen for God but hear nothing.

**People: Oh, that we knew where to find God!
We want to hear and understand God’s Word.**

Leader: The word of God is living and active.
It pierces and judges and opens us to God’s grace.

**People: We cannot hide from God who knows us.
God who understands our thoughts and intentions.**

Leader: Leave everything to follow Jesus in this hour.
This is the time to embrace new ways.

**People: Here we see the patterns for everyday life.
Here we are strengthened for every day’s challenges.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord!

*Hymn 210: *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

ST. ANNE

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Glorious God of power and majesty, you bow down to hear our every sigh; deliver us from arrogance and empty vanities. Prevent us from trying to raise ourselves by lowering the position of others. Cast down our pride that we may grow in humility. Take away the barriers of self-defense; grant us the firm security that comes from trust in you and is built with neighborly cooperation and mutual respect. Lead us in the lowly steps of Jesus until we attain the end of a pure joy and eternal victory, through Christ, our servant and sovereign.

*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

Randy Clever

The First Lesson: Psalm 90:12-17

Page 518 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: *Be Thou My Vision*

Traditional Irish/arr. Craig Courtney

Be thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art; be thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light. 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 heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Robert Phillips, baritone

The Second Lesson: Mark 10:17-31

Page 43 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **STAY CLOSE**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 403: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

CONVERSE

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 eternal life.

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

The Lord's Prayer

Offering of Our Gifts and Lives

Offertory: *Treasures in Heaven*

Joseph Clokey

Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt and where thieves break through and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you, for every one that asketh receiveth and he that seeketh findeth and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 392: *Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord*

HALL

*Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Tuba Tune in D Major*

C.S. Lang

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: Our soloist today is Robert Phillips, bass section leader in our Chancel Choir. A graduate of Westminster Choir College, the Swarthmore native first sang at First Church under the direction of Robert Carwithen. Since then, Rob has performed with numerous choral organizations throughout the greater Philadelphia region including Opera Philadelphia. He was a core member of the Philadelphia Singers, a founding member of the Crossing in Chestnut Hill, and enjoyed a long association with the Spoleto Festival of Two Worlds in Italy and Charleston, S.C. He resides in Wayne with his wife Christine and daughter Sophie.

Today at 11:30 a.m.: Meeting for Children's Choir Parents. Please join Evelyn Santiago in the Primary Room for lunch and discussion of current and future plans for our Children's Choir.

COFFEE HOUR: This week's host: Congregational Development and Fellowship Committee. Next week's host: Open. Thank you to the Praise and Evangelism Team for supplying the munchies last week.

ANIMATE: The next *Animate* series begins today after worship and is repeated tomorrow, 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 today at 12:30 p.m. Shirley was a beloved member of the Oratorio Choir. May she rest in peace.

THE RACHEL CIRCLE, an arm of the Presbyterian Women USA, will hold its monthly meeting tomorrow, October 15, at 11:00 a.m. in the Jennings Room. All women are welcome. Please bring your lunch. Drink and dessert will be provided.

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](tel:267-979-4761).

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 and toenail clippers
- bath-sized soap bars
- toothbrushes
- standard sized BandAids

If you would like to help, please bring your items to the church office up until October 21. Thank you!

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.

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.

BREAD AND CUP TO RETURN! Mark your calendar for the return of *Bread and Cup* on Sunday, October 28 at 5:00 p.m. Details to follow.

Mark Your Calendar!
for the next meeting of the
Praise & Evangelism Team
Sunday, October 28, 2018



As you know, our meetings are **thoughtful** (Bible Study), **creative** (flags, bunting and coffee outside) and **fun** (being the first to learn about new and exciting projects). Hope to see you there! Invite a friend!

ALASKA AND SCOTLAND TRIPS: An Alaskan cruise and a trip to Scotland are in the planning process. Experience the majesty of Alaska on the beautiful *Carnival Legend* August 20-27, 2019. Visit Skagway, Juneau and Ketchikan in Alaska and Victoria, British Columbia. See Gloria Bethea for more information. In 2020, travel to Scotland, the home of John Knox, who studied with Jon Calvin and thus brought us our denomination. Visit Edinburgh, Glasgow, the Isle of Skye, Inverness, the Orkneys, Arthur's Seat, Glen Coe, Loch Lomond, Loch Ness, Stirling Castle and Iona Abbey. And let's not forget the Harry Potter Train! See Glenna Hazeltine for details.

Windows on the Week

Sunday, October 14 **IHN**
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
11:30 AM Confirmation Class
11:30 AM Children's Choir Parent Luncheon Meeting—Primary
11:30 AM *Animate*—Finney Room
11:30 AM Personnel Committee—Upstairs Office
12:30 PM Shirley Anderson Memorial Service—Sanctuary
12:30 PM New Members Class—Upstairs Office

Monday, October 15 **IHN/Windows Submission Deadline**
11:00 AM Rachel Circle—Jennings Room
1:00 PM Ladies Teen Challenge—Gym
5:00 PM *Animate*—Finney Room

Tuesday, October 16 **IHN**
12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Staff Meeting—Finney Room
2:30 PM Sunday Suppers—Kitchen, Longstreth Auditorium, Jennings Room
7:00 PM New Members Class/Called Session Meeting—Finney Room

Wednesday, October 17 **IHN**
10:00 AM Staff Meeting—Finney Room
12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Program Meeting—Primary Room
4:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Sanctuary, Choir Rm., Jennings Rm.
5:00 PM Christian Education Committee—Upstairs Office
7:00 PM Property—Finney Room

Thursday, October 18 **IHN**
8:00 AM Pastor Rebecca at Uncle Bobbie's, 5445 Germantown Ave. (8-10 a.m.)
6:00 PM Administration and Finance Committee—Finney Room
6:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Primary Room
6:30 PM Gospel Choir—Sanctuary
6:30 PM Children's Choir—Choir room
7:45 PM Voices in Bronze—Choir Room

Friday, October 19 **IHN**
3:30 PM Drop-In Center—Youth Lounge, Gym
5:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble Group—Choir Room
6:30 PM Elementary School Youth Group

Saturday, October 20 **IHN**
8:00 AM Keystone State Boychoir
9:30 AM Anti-Racism Workshop—Jennings Room, Finney Room
10:00 AM Open Gym

Sunday, October 21 **IHN**
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 Third Sunday
11:30 AM Chancel Choir—Choir Room
11:30 AM Confirmation Class
3:00 PM *Incognito* Play—Sanctuary

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

35 West Cheltenham Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Phone 215-843-8811

FAX 888-333-5032

www.fpcgermantown.org