

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

OCTOBER 21, 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 21, 2018

Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost

"Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow."

Melodie Beattie

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Voluntary in C Major*

Henry Purcell

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Be Thou My Vision*

John Carter

†*Call to Worship

Eileen Jones

Leader: Bring joyful noises and songs of praise.

People: Bring gratitude and gladness this day.

Leader: We come with words of rejoicing and songs of celebration.

People: We come to give thanks for the gifts of God.

*Hymn 145: *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

MARION

Presentation of New Members

Clerk of Session Madeline Valentine

Call to Discipleship

Minister: We are called by God to be the church of Jesus Christ,
a sign in the world today of what God intends for all humankind.

Congregation: The great ends of the church are the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world. – from the Book of Order, G-1.0200

Profession of Faith (Only new members respond to these questions.)

Minister: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,
do you turn from the ways of sin
and its power in the world?

I do.

*congregation standing; †latecomers may be seated

Minister: Who is your Lord and Savior?
Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Minister: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple,
obeying his Word and showing his love?
I will, with God's help.

Minister: Will you be a faithful member of this congregation,
share in its worship and ministry through your prayers and gifts,
your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be
a disciple of Jesus Christ?
I will, with God's help.

Prayer of Welcome

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Lord, your selfless generosity provides all that the world needs, yet we often keep your gifts for ourselves. Forgive us when we are thankless and indifferent to the needs of others. Rather than open our mouths in praise or song, we keep silent. We forget how deeply you care for us, and we're blind to the abundance that surrounds us. Restore us, renew us, and fill our hearts again with your love. Show us what it means to be truly grateful, and return us to your presence.

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

Arlene Grace

The First Lesson: Romans 12:1-2

Page 151 NT

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: *Something for Thee*

Paul S. Jones

Savior, thy dying love thou gavest me, nor should I aught withhold, dear Lord, from thee; in love my soul would bow, my heart fulfill its vow, some offering bring thee now, something for thee. O'er the blest mercy seat, pleading for me, my feeble faith looks up, Jesus, to thee: Help me the cross to bear, thy wondrous love declare, some song to raise, or prayer, something for thee. Give me a faithful heart, guided by thee, that each departing day henceforth may see some work of love begun, some deed of kindness done, some wand'rer sought and won, something for thee. All that I am and have, thy gifts so free, ever in joy or in grief, my Lord, for thee; and when thy face I see, my ransomed soul shall be, through all eternity, offered to thee. (Text: Sylvanus Dryden Phelps, 1862; Robert Lowry, 1871)

Margaret Mezzacappa, mezzo soprano

The Second Lesson: Philippians 4:4-9

Page 187 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 554: *Let All Things Now Living*

ASH GROVE

*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 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.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" 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: *Rejoice in the Lord Always*

Purcell

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 422: *God Who's Giving Knows No Ending*

BEACH SPRING

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

Robert Hobby

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 Margaret Mezzacappa, alto section leader in our Chancel Choir. A native of Ohio, Margaret rose to prominence in the opera world as Grand Prize Winner in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. She made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2012 and later performed Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* with the Philadelphia Orchestra. She is a graduate of Baldwin Wallace College and Philadelphia's Academy of Vocal Arts. Recent solo engagements include Verdi's *Requiem* with the Columbus Symphony, Handel's *Messiah* and Brahms's *Alto Rhapsody* with the Germanton Oratorio Choir & Orchestra, and Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* with the Phoenix Symphony.

COFFEE HOUR: This week's host: Congregational Development and Fellowship Committee. 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.

REV. SEGERS is attending a Continuing Education Conference in Baltimore this week. Please note that she will not be at Uncle Bobbie's on Thursday, October 25. Any emergency pastoral concerns will be addressed by Rev. Kevin Porter or Heidi Mercado-Littles.

INCOGNITO PERFORMANCE: Today 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.

PRAISE AND EVANGELICAL TEAM MEETING on Sunday, October 28 at 11:30 a.m. in the Finney Room. As you know, our meetings are thoughtful, creative and fun. Hope to see you there! Invite a friend!

PARISH VISITOR HEIDI MERCADO-LITTLES will be in Chile from November 5, 2018 to January 19, 2019. For pastoral concerns, please call the church office or contact your Deacon.

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.

NOVEMBER BULLETIN DEADLINES: The deadline for submissions for the November 18 bulletin will be **Wednesday, November 14 at 10:00 a.m.** The deadline for submissions for the November 25 bulletin is **Tuesday, November 20 at 10:00 a.m.** Thank you.

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.

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.



The Return of
BREAD AND CUP!

Sunday, October 28, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.
Longstreth Auditorium

Help us bring back Bread and Cup!
Enjoy a light meal, open-mic and fellowship.

Please bring a dessert to share.

See Tim Robinson for details.

Sunday, October 21 IHN

- 9:00 AM Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Worship—Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching—New Members Welcome
- 10:15 AM Sunday School Grades K-5
- 11:30 AM Chancel Choir—Choir Room
- 11:30 AM Confirmation Class
- 11:30 AM Third Sunday
- 12:30 PM Children's Choir—Choir Room
- 1:30 PM Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
- 3:00 PM *Incognito* performance—Sanctuary

Monday, October 22 IHN

Rev. Segers at Continuing Education Conference in Baltimore

- 1:00 PM Ladies Teen Challenge—Gym

Tuesday, October 23 IHN

Rev. Segers at Continuing Education Conference in Baltimore

- 12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Staff Meeting—Finney Room
- 2:30 PM Sunday Suppers—Kitchen, Longstreth Auditorium, Jennings Room

Wednesday, October 24 IHN

Rev. Segers at Continuing Education Conference in Baltimore

- 12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Program Meeting—Primary Room
- 4:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Sanctuary, Choir Rm., Jennings Rm.

Thursday, October 25 IHN

Rev. Segers at Continuing Education Conference in Baltimore

- 2:30 PM Sunday Suppers Alumni Night—Kitchen, Longstreth Auditorium
- 6:00 PM Germantown United Town Meeting—Jennings Room
- 6:00 PM Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
- 6:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Finney Room
- 6:30 PM Gospel Choir—Sanctuary
- 7:45 PM Voices in Bronze—Choir Room

Friday, October 26 IHN

Rev. Segers at Continuing Education Conference in Baltimore

- 3:30 PM Drop-In Center—Youth Lounge, Gym
- 5:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble Group—Choir Room
- 6:30 PM Middle/High School Youth Group

Saturday, October 27 IHN

- 8:00 AM Keystone State Boychoir
- 9:00 AM Readers' Choice—offsite
- 10:00 AM Open Gym
- 5:00 PM Middle/High School Youth Group *Bates Motel* trip

Sunday, October 28 IHN Families Depart

- 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 Mission and Outreach—Jennings Room
- 11:30 AM Praise and Evangelism Team—Finney Room
- 12:30 PM Children's Choir—Choir Room
- 5:00 PM Bread and Cup—Kitchen, Longstreth

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