

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

OCTOBER 28, 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 28, 2018

Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost

*"Do not fear mistakes. There are none." – Miles Davis
"What's next?" – Daniel Conner*

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Psalm 19*

Benedetto Marcello

Voices in Bronze: Evelyn Santiago, director

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Generosity

Lois Bethea

Introit: *Be Thou My Vision*

John Carter

†*Call to Worship

Leader: God is great and greatly to be praised!

**People: We thank you, God, for families and friends.
We thank you for the warmth of kitchens, quilts, and good neighbors.**

Leader: God, how great is your name throughout the earth!

**People: We thank you, God, for newborn kittens and faithful dogs,
for trees bright with color, dazzling sunlight and crisp, clear air.**

Leader: Blessed be God, for whom all things are possible.

**People: We thank you, God, for the sound of laughter and the touch of love,
for brand new mornings and for dreams held close.**

Leader: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise with songs of praise.
Come! Let us worship the Lord!

*Hymn 2236: *Gather Us In* (from *Sing the Faith* hymnal)

GATHER US IN

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, in whom all things are possible, we confess that we have doubted what we cannot explain. We have sought strength and enjoyment apart from you. We have taken pride in ownership more than giving praise through stewardship. We have neglected to thank you, either in good times or when you have supported us during days of uncertainty. We have resisted the newness you offer. Forgive us, we pray, for installing ourselves as reigning deities. Lead us, rather, in paths of trust and obedience.

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

Abbi Kendrick

The First Lesson: Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

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.

Anthem: *Praise the Lord*

Natalie Sleeth

Children's Choir: Evelyn Santiago, director

The Second Lesson: Mark 9:14-27

Page 42 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **A POSSIBILITIES PEOPLE**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 324: *Open My Eyes That I May See*

OPEN MY EYES

*Affirmation of Faith (from the *Confession of Belhar*)

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells; that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity; that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Offering of Our Gifts and Lives

Offertory: *Take My Life and Let It Be*

Jonathan Veenker

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee. Take my moments and my days; let them flow in endless praise. Take my lips and let them be filled with messages for thee. Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my king. Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne. Take my love, my God, I pour, at thy feet its treasure store. Take myself and I will be ever, only all for thee.

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 332: *Live Into Hope*

TRURO

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

Wilbur Held

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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: We give thanks for the Children's Choir and Voices in Bronze Handbell Choir joining us in worship today. The Children's Choir (grade 2-8) now rehearses on Sundays at 12:30 in the Choir Room.

The music of Jonathan Veenker is widely known in the Midwestern states. Dr. Veenker is associate professor of music at Bethel University in St. Paul, Minn., where he teaches composition, music theory, and orchestration. He is a frequently commissioned composer and arranger writing primarily for choir, wind ensemble, orchestra, and solo voice. "Take My Life and Let It Be" is a hymn text written by Frances Ridley Havergal in 1874. Each stanza offers a different part of our selves to God – our life, voice, will, and love. All these gifts, and so much more, belong to God.

Next Sunday, the Gospel Choir will join us in worship.

OUR MESSIAH IS COMING! The Germantown Oratorio Choir & Orchestra will perform excerpts from G.F. Handel's beloved oratorio *Messiah* on Sunday, December 2, at 4 p.m. Rehearsals will be on Tuesday evenings in the Sanctuary from 7-9 p.m., beginning Oct. 30. For more information or to participate, call the church office at 215-843-8811 or e-mail music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com.

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.

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.

BRIGHTEN UP SOMEONE'S DAY: Please consider contributing non-perishable food items to the *Brighten Up Someone's Day* box by the church office. The requested food items will change periodically and all donations will be given to the GACM food pantry. The current request is for canned fruits and vegetables. Many thanks in advance for your donations.

NOVEMBER BULLETIN DEADLINES: Please note the following deadline changes: 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.

THE MINISTRY OF USHERS on Sunday mornings plays 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.

THE CHURCH LIBRARY is free and open for business! A wide variety of books from Bible commentaries to spiritual poetry to the Gospel According to Peanuts and more has been collected in the upstairs office for your reading pleasure. If you would like to check out what we've got and then "check it out" to take home, please take a look and then sign the clipboard letting us know what you've borrowed.

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.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—PART II

Sunday, November 11, 2018

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting, Part II, of the Congregation and Religious Corporation of the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown, in the County of Philadelphia, PA, will be held on Sunday, November 11, 2018, immediately following the worship service.

The following will be presented:

- Budget for the year 2019
- Pastor's Terms of Call

Any other business which properly comes before the Congregation may be transacted at this meeting.

Attest: Madeline Valentine, Clerk of Session
Rev. Rebecca L. Segers, Moderator

The Return of BREAD AND CUP!



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Today at 5:00 p.m.
Longstreth Auditorium

Enjoy a light meal, open-mic and fellowship.

Please bring a dessert to share.

See Tim Robinson for details.

WINDOWS ON THE WEEK

Sunday, October 28

- 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 Praise and Evangelism Team—Finney Room
11:30 AM Mission and Outreach Committee—Jennings Room
12:30 PM Children's Choir—Choir Room
1:30 PM Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
1:30 PM Commonwealth Youthchoirs Joint Rehearsal—Sanctuary
5:00 PM Bread and Cup—Longstreth Auditorium

Monday, October 29

- 1:00 PM Ladies Teen Challenge—Gym

Tuesday, October 30

- 12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Staff Meeting—Finney Room
2:30 PM Sunday Suppers—Kitchen, Longstreth Auditorium, Jennings Room
7:00 PM Oratorio Choir—Sanctuary

Wednesday, October 31

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting—Finney Room
12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Program Meeting—Primary Room

Thursday, November 1

- 8:00 AM Rev. Rebecca at Uncle Bobbie's, 5445 Germantown Ave. (8-10 a.m.)
6:00 PM Administration and Finance Committee—Finney 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, November 2

- 9:30 AM GACM Staff Meeting—Finney Room
3:30 PM Drop-In Center—Youth Lounge, Gym
5:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble Group—Choir Room
5:00 PM Men's Breakfast Prep—Kitchen
6:30 PM Elementary School Youth Group

Saturday, November 3

- 8:00 AM Keystone State Boychoir
8:00 AM Men's Breakfast—Jennings Room
9:30 AM Congregational Development & Fellowship—Finney Room
10:00 AM Open Gym

Sunday, November 4

- 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 Book Discussion with Rev. Segers—Finney Room
12:30 PM Children's Choir—Choir Room
1:30 PM Disciples Basketball Team Practice—Gym

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

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
Administrative Assistant	Building Manager	Joan Harris
Bookkeeper	Administrative Assistant	Cindy Osborne
Sextons	Bookkeeper	Tanieya Matthews, Robert Patterson, Harold Whaley

The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

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