

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

NOVEMBER 4, 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.

November 4, 2018

Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost

"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it."

William Arthur Ward

"Gratitude does not dispel the mystery of suffering and evil in the world and may even deepen it."

Mary Jo Leddy

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Berceuse*

Louis Vierne

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Kevin Porter

Introit: *Be Thou My Vision*

John Carter

†*Call to Worship

Leader: Giver of life, for sunshine and showers,

People: we give you thanks;

Leader: for food and drink,

People: we give you praise;

Leader: for clothing and shelter,

People: we bestow our gratitude.

Leader: Gather our worries and our burdens this day,
and shelter us from fear and despair.

**People: Help us rest assured in your arms,
knowing that your loving care is enough.**

Leader: It is enough.

People: It is more than enough. Amen.

*Hymn 281: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

CWM RHONDDA

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

You know the truth about us, O God, better than we know ourselves. We have gathered the bounty of your earth to fill our bank accounts, struggling to get ahead, blinded by greed. We have not stopped to gaze with wonder at the birds of the air or the flowers of the field. We have not paused to listen to one another or to walk with Christ among outcasts and sinners. We turn away from the prompting of the Holy Spirit, choosing to worry rather than to praise. Turn us around, we pray, that we might receive forgiveness and enter into a time of true thanksgiving.

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

Stuart Ditzen

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

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: *Acclamation* (from *Gospel Mass*)

Robert Ray

Gospel and Chancel Choirs

Evelyn Santiago, director; Jesse Padgett, piano

The Second Lesson: Matthew 6:24-33

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Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **MORE THAN ENOUGH**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 434: *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

KINGSFOLD

*Affirmation of Faith (from the *Confession of 1967* in inclusive language)

The reconciliation of humanity through Jesus Christ makes it plain that enslaving poverty in a world of abundance is an intolerable violation of God's good creation. Because Jesus identified himself with the needy and exploited, the cause of the world's poor is the cause of his disciples. The church calls us to use our abilities, possessions, and the fruits of technology as gifts entrusted to us by God for the maintenance of God's family and the advancement of the common welfare. A church that is indifferent to poverty, or evades responsibility in economic affairs, or is open to one social class only, or expects gratitude for its beneficence makes a mockery of reconciliation and offers no acceptable worship to God.

Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to God be glory in the church and in Jesus Christ to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Offering of Our Gifts and Lives

Offertory: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

arr. Cindy Berry

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be. Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me! My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine, for thee all the follies of sin I resign; my gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 552: *Give Thanks, O Christian People*

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response 585: *Threefold Amen*

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Placare Christe Servulis*

Marcel Dupré

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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 to Evelyn Santiago and Jesse Padgett for leading the Chancel and Gospel Choirs today. First Church Music Director Tony Thurman is traveling with Ted Barr and Gayle Martin for a piano concert they are giving in Northern New Jersey this afternoon. We welcome Jeremy Flood as our guest organist. Dr. Flood combines an avocation as an organist with his medical practice of endocrinology. He is an Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, with his clinical practice based at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center, where he is Chief of the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism. He has been an Assistant Wanamaker Grand Court Organist at Macy's in Center City Philadelphia since 2009 and is active as a substitute organist for churches throughout the Philadelphia area.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness is presented at the Offertory in a fresh, new arrangement by Cindy Berry. Thy hymn text was written by Thomas Obediah Chisholm in 1923. Chisholm, who authored more than 1,200 other poems, was born in a log cabin in Franklin, Kentucky, in 1866. He worked as a school teacher, newspaper editor, Methodist minister, and insurance agent, then retired and spent his remaining days at the Methodist Home for the Aged in New Jersey. During this season of stewardship, the hymn refrain reminds us, "All I have needed, thy hand hath provided." God's abundance is more than enough.

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 are on Tuesday evenings in the Sanctuary from 7-9 p.m. 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: John Orandosh. 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.

DON'T HAVE ANY CASH? FORGOT YOUR PLEDGE ENVELOPE? We've got you covered! Now you can give online *from your pew*. There are new cards in the pew racks that have both a QR code and a bit.ly, either of which allow you to use your smart phone to take you directly to our secure giving page on the First Pres website. After giving, you may place the card in the Offering Plate, publicly acknowledging your gift along with those who are using envelopes or loose cash as we all share our gifts to the Lord.

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.

November Challenge Offering: Rise Against Hunger



Since 1998, *Rise Against Hunger (RAH)* (formerly *Stop Hunger Now*) has been driven by the vision of a world without hunger.

Over 820 million people throughout the world go to bed hungry every night. *RAH's* mission is to end hunger in our lifetime by providing food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable and to create a global commitment to mobilize the necessary resources.

Since 2016, the friends and families of FPCG have risen to the occasion by participating in meal packing events that have put together over 40,000 meals! On **Monday, January 21, 2019**, the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown continues its commitment to ending hunger with our third meal packing event.

Please consider giving generously. *Hunger doesn't have to exist. Let's end it together!*

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

WINDOWS ON THE WEEK

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

Monday, November 5

1:00 PM **Organ Repair—Sanctuary**
Ladies Teen Challenge—Gym

Tuesday, November 6

ELECTION DAY!!!
Organ Repair—Sanctuary
12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Staff Meeting—Finney Room
2:30 PM Sunday Suppers—Kitchen, Longstreth Auditorium, Jennings Room
4:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir Solo Auditions—Choir Room
5:00 PM Book Discussion with Rev. Segers—Finney Room
7:00 PM Oratorio Choir—Sanctuary

Wednesday, November 7

Organ Repair—Sanctuary
9:00 AM Free Blood Pressure Screenings with
LaSalle Nursing Students—GACM (9 a.m. to noon)
10:00 AM Staff Meeting—Finney Room
12:00 PM Commonwealth Choirs Program Meeting—Primary Room
4:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Sanctuary, Choir Room
7:00 PM Session—Finney Room

Thursday, November 8

8:00 AM Rev. Rebecca at Uncle Bobbie's, 5445 Germantown Ave. (8-10 a.m.)
6:00 PM Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
6:00 PM Keystone State Boychoir—Jennings Room, Longstreth Auditorium
6:30 PM Gospel Choir—Sanctuary
7:45 PM Voices in Bronze—Choir Room

Friday, November 9

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, November 10

8:00 AM Keystone State Boychoir
10:00 AM Open Gym

Sunday, November 11

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 *Animate*—Finney Room
11:30 AM Community Advocacy Meeting—Primary 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

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

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