

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

JANUARY 20, 2019

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.

January 20, 2019

Third Sunday After Christmas Day

*“We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there **is** such a thing as being too late. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action.”* – Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

### **GATHERING AS GOD’S FAMILY**

Prelude: Two Spirituals

Charles Callahan

*Steal Away to Jesus*

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

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

Christian Heyer-Rivera

Introit: *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God, Almighty*

arr. John Carter

†\*Call to Worship

Your love, O God, reaches to the heavens,  
your faithfulness to the skies.

**Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,  
your justice like the great deep.**

Earth’s children, high and low,  
take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**We feast on the abundance of your house;  
you give us drink from your river of delights.**

For with you is the fountain of life;  
in your light we see light.

Glory be to you, O God, our life and our light!

\*Hymn 446: *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

AUSTRIAN HYMN

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

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, the gifts of your Spirit give us everything we need to build up your kingdom. We have not always recognized or valued your gifts. We have acted as if they were ours to use for our own purposes. Forgive our failure of vision and our hardness of heart. Open us to follow the One who turned water into wine, turning our hearts of stone into hearts of love and action.**

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\*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 worshippers, 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

Chris Scott Jr., Reader

The First Lesson: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Page 416 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: *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

arr. Margaret Bonds

Evelyn Santiago, soprano

The Second Lesson: John 2:1-11

Page 87 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **THE FIRST SIGN**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

\*Hymn 563: *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

LIFT EVERY VOICE

\*Affirmation of Faith (*Nicene Creed*)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to**

**judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory: *Precious Lord*

Spiritual/arr. Roy Ringwald

Precious Lord, take my hand, bring me home through the night, through the dark, through the storm, to thy light. I have been to the mount, I have seen the promised land: precious Lord, take my hand. Precious Lord, take my hand, bring thy child home at last, where the strife and the pain all are past; I have dreamed a great dream that thy love shall rule our land: precious Lord, take my hand. Precious Lord, take my hand, take thy child unto thee, with my dream of a world that is free. For that day when all flesh, joins the glory thou hast planned, precious Lord, take my hand.

\*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Prayer of Dedication

### **GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME**

\*Hymn 419: *How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*

REPTON

\*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

\*Congregational Response 587: *Amen, Amen*

Jester Hairston

Postlude: *Triumphal March of Heritage*

Uzee Brown Jr.

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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:** On this Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend, much of our service music has been selected to reflect Dr. King's "great dream" and to inspire us to service in our community and beyond. Through donations to our Crisis Ministry, tomorrow's meal packing event, random acts of kindness and generosity, First Church members and friends are living out what it means to be disciples of the Christ Child born in Bethlehem. In the words of Howard Thurman recently sung by our Chancel Choir, the work of Christmas has begun: "to feed the hungry. . . to rebuild the nations. . . to bring peace among brothers. . . to make music from the heart." Lift every voice and sing!

**LOOKING AHEAD:** The Germantown Oratorio Choir & Orchestra will present a Brahms Festival Concert on Sunday, March 17, at 4 p.m. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays from 7-9 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The program will feature the music of Brahms, Robert and Clara Schumann in recognition of the bicentennial of Clara Schumann's birth. For more information or to participate, call the church office at 215-843-8811 or e-mail [mu-sic.fpcgermantown@gmail.com](mailto:mu-sic.fpcgermantown@gmail.com).

**COFFEE HOUR:** This week's host: Congregational Development and Fellowship Committee. Next week's host: Dhyan and David Cassie. 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.

**RISE AGAINST HUNGER—A DAY OF SERVICE: Monday, January 21, 2019 (tomorrow!) at 9:00 a.m.** Join us in assisting *Rise Against Hunger* and their mission to provide food and aid to communities around the world. To celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, we will be packing meals comprised of rice, soy, vegetables and 23 essential vitamins and minerals. Each meal costs 29 cents to make. This is an experience for people of **all** ages. A light lunch will be provided. We need 10 to 15 volunteers to help unload the supplies at 7:30 a.m. Please see Chris Scott Jr. for more information.

**JANUARY CHALLENGE OFFERING: HEALING THE CHILDREN, GREATER PHILADELPHIA:** Ethiopia is a large country in Sub-Saharan Africa with a population of over 100 million people. There are at most 30 ENT doctors, 30 Anesthesiologists, and no Audiologists for the entire population. Since 2009, *Healing the Children, Greater Philadelphia* has been traveling to Ethiopia twice a year to provide clinical care for children in need and to provide education. We take care of patients in partnership with Ethiopian ENT and Anesthesiology physicians and trainees. We care for patients at Cure Ethiopia, a mission hospital run by the US-based foundation *Cure International* and local government hospitals. *Cure* primarily cares for children with orthopedic deformities, burns and cleft lip and palate deformities. We teach Ethiopian students and residents and mentor Ethiopian young physicians who are starting their careers. Our audiology team provides hearing exams and hearing aids to children with hearing impairment who otherwise would not have access to this type of care. I have been blessed to be part of this ongoing mission work since its inception. --Elizabeth T. Drum, MD

**BOOK DISCUSSION AND BIBLE STUDY NEWS:** Rev. Rebecca Segers is combining the last two chapters of *Searching for Happiness* – “Contented People Care for Their Bodies” and “Contented People Care for Their Souls” – in the February discussions on Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> after worship and Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. **Beginning the week of March 10,** Rev. Segers will lead a five-week Lenten Wilderness Bible Study with both a daytime and an evening opportunity (dates and times to be announced). Please join us in February as we close out our discussion on becoming more spiritually contented Christians, and then in March and April as we wrestle with what the Bible has to say about “wilderness” times and issues in our lives.

**5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY WORSHIP PLANNING NEEDS YOUR GIFTS!** Do you play a musical instrument? Love to dance? Or cook? Or make things look nice? Do you have a creative idea you would like to use to praise the Lord? Share your gifts in planning exciting alternative worship services that will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month (March, June, September, December) at 5:00 p.m. followed by a shared family meal. We are getting together to outline our themes, plans and hopes in the Primary Room on Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup> following worship.

**PUERTO RICO MISSION TRIP 2019:** Are you interested in joining FPCG's 2nd Puerto Rico Mission Trip? Rev. Rebecca Segers and Sheila Heyer-Rivera will be leading a group in mid-July to support the continued recovery efforts. We will be holding an Interest Meeting on Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup> in the Primary Room to discern interest and begin making plans.

**WOMEN'S RETREAT:** Save your place for the Women's Retreat on Saturday, March 2, 2019. Due to an anonymous donor (thank you, thank you, thank you!) we are able to keep the cost at \$30 per person. A \$10 deposit will hold your place with the balance due the day of the retreat. See Gloria Bethea at the CD table in the Longstreth Auditorium after worship to reserve your spot.

**2019 PLEDGE CARDS:** Thanks to all who have submitted your 2019 pledge card—so far we have received 69 for a total of \$276,336. You can still make a difference transforming lives at FPCG and in the community beyond; just place your pledge in the *Transformed by Gratitude* box on the literature table and add your commitment toward next year's ministry.

### 2019 CHALLENGE OFFERINGS

JANUARY:	<i>Healing the Children, Greater Philadelphia</i>
FEBRUARY:	<i>Deacons</i>
MARCH:	<i>She Academy</i>
APRIL:	<i>One Great Hour of Sharing</i>
MAY:	<i>Beacon</i>
JUNE:	<i>Friends of Vernon Park</i>
JULY:	<i>Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission</i>
AUGUST:	<i>PAR-Recycle Works</i>
SEPTEMBER:	<i>Athletes in Action</i>
OCTOBER:	<i>Presbyterian Peace and Justice</i>
NOVEMBER:	<i>Rise Against Hunger</i>
DECEMBER:	<i>Presbyterian Joy Offering</i>

## **WINDOW ON THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday, Jan. 20</b>	9:00 AM	Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
	10:00 AM	Worship—The Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
	10:15 AM	Sunday School—Grades K-5
	11:30 AM	Chancel Choir—Choir Room
	11:30 AM	<i>Third Sunday</i> Interactive Bible Study
	12:15 PM	Confirmation Class—Christian Education Middle Room
	12:30 PM	Children's Choir—Choir Room
	1:30 PM	Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
<b>Monday, Jan. 21</b>		<b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>
	9:00 AM	<i>Rise Against Hunger</i> Meal Packing Event—Longstreth Auditorium
	6:15 PM	Disciples Basketball Team B—Germantown Friends Fieldhouse
	7:15 PM	Disciples Basketball Team A—Germantown Friends Fieldhouse
<b>Tuesday, Jan. 22</b>	12:00 PM	Commonwealth Choirs Program Meeting—Finney Room
	2:30 PM	Sunday Suppers—Kitchen, Longstreth Auditorium, Finney Room
	7:00 PM	Oratorio Choir—Sanctuary
	7:00 PM	Personnel Committee—Offsite
<b>Wednesday, Jan. 23</b>	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting—Finney Room
	12:00 PM	Commonwealth Choirs Admin. Meeting—Primary Room
	4:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir
<b>Thursday, Jan. 24</b>	8:00 AM	Rev. Segers at Uncle Bobbie's, 5445 Germantown Ave. (8-10 a.m.)
	2:30 PM	Sunday Suppers Alumni Night—Kitchen, Longstreth Auditorium
	6:00 PM	Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
	6:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir—Jennings Rm., Longstreth Auditorium
	6:30 PM	Gospel Choir—Sanctuary
	7:45 PM	Voices in Bronze—Choir Room
<b>Friday, Jan. 25</b>	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—Youth Lounge
<b>Saturday, Jan. 26</b>	8:00 AM	Keystone State Boychoir
	9:00 AM	Readers' Choice—Offsite
	9:30 AM	Worship, Music and the Arts—Upstairs Office
	10:00 AM	Open Gym
<b>Sunday, Jan. 27</b>	9:00 AM	Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
	10:00 AM	Worship—The Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
	10:15 AM	Sunday School—Grades K-5
	11:30 AM	Chancel Choir—Choir Room
	11:30 AM	Mission and Outreach Committee—Jennings Room
	11:45 AM	Confirmation Class—Christian Education Middle Room
	12:30 PM	Children's Choir—Choir Room
	1:30 PM	Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
	6:00 PM	Triennium Pre-trip Event—Jennings Room

# 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:  
Robert Seed

## 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

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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
Building Manager	Administrative Assistant	Joan Harris
Bookkeeper	Bookkeeper	Cindy Osborne
Sextons	Sextons	Tanieya Matthews, Tony Nixon, David Slaughter

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