

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

FEBRUARY 10, 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.

February 10, 2019

Sixth Sunday After Christmas Day

"I don't want to be remembered for my tennis accomplishments." – Arthur Ashe

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

Dale Wood

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

arr. Thurman

†*Call to Worship

From fishing fleets and busy harbors, God gathers simple sailors.
Through persecution and injustice, God calls brave prophets.
When we least expect it, Christ gathers us in, and calls to follow him.

Let us gather and answer Christ's call.

Called by God, we have come to worship.

Called by Christ, we have come to follow.

Called by the Spirit, we have come to rejoice.

Called together, we will listen and answer:

Here I am, Lord, send me!

*Hymn 487: *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

LAUDES DOMINI

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Awesome God, we are afraid to admit the many ways we have failed you. We are sinful people who forget to thank you and who delay consulting with you about the decisions we must make. We prefer the safety of familiar programs, even when they are ineffective. We cling to our routines, even when they cause us to lose sight of your purposes. We are people of unclean lips, dwelling among people who deny your presence and power. O God, we fall down before you, seeking forgiveness.

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Pardon

*congregation standing; †latecomers may be seated

†*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

Sara Greene, Reader

The First Lesson: Isaiah 6:1-8

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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

Anthems: *Amazing Grace*
Kum Ba Yah

Southern Harmony/arr. Tammy Waldrop
Spiritual/arr. Judith Treisback

Voices in Bronze; Evelyn Santiago, director

The Second Lesson: Luke 5:1-11

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Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **SUCCESS!**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn: *Hush, Hush Somebody’s Calling* (see insert)

SOMEBODY’S CALLIN’

*Affirmation of Faith (from *The Second Helvetic Confession*)

What is faith? Christian faith is not an opinion or human conviction, but a most firm trust and a clear and steadfast assent of the mind, and then a most certain apprehension of the truth of God presented in the Scriptures and in the Apostles’ Creed, and thus also of God himself, the greatest good, and especially of God’s promise and of Christ who is the fulfilment of all promises. Faith is the gift of God. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

Offering

Offertory: *Steal Away*

Spiritual/arr. Brazeal Dennard

Steal away to Jesus. Steal away home. I ain't got long to stay here. My Lord calls me. He calls me by the thunder. The trumpet sounds within my soul. I ain't got long to stay here. Green trees a-bending. Poor sinner stands a-trembling. The trumpet sounds within my soul. I ain't got long to stay here. My Lord calls me. He calls me by the lightning. The trumpet sounds within my soul. I ain't got long to stay here.

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn: *Where He Leads Me* (see insert)

NORRIS

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

*Congregational Response 587: *Amen, Amen*

Jester Hairston

Postlude: *Jubilate*

Fela Sowande

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: Today's hymns and service music are drawn largely from African American heritage in recognition of Black History Month. Brazeal Dennard, the arranger of the offertory anthem, was born in Detroit. He is best remembered for his dedication to preserving and revitalizing the spiritual as a musical form. Like many other well-known antebellum spirituals, the text of *Steal Away* served two purposes. These spirituals were written not only to express faith in God, but they also contained hidden messages for slaves to run away on their own or through the Underground Railroad. The organ postlude was composed by Nigerian-born Fela Sowande, who came to America and became a U.S. citizen in 1977. He is considered to be the father of Nigerian Art Music and one of the most distinguished and internationally known African composers.

LOOKING AHEAD: The Germantown Oratorio Choir 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 212-843-8811 or e-mail music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE: The College of William & Mary Women's Chorus will present a free concert at First Church on Friday March 29, at 7 p.m., as a part of their spring concert tour. Overnight hosts are needed. If you can provide a place in your home for two or more young ladies to sleep and breakfast the following morning, please let us know by calling the church office at 215-843-8811 or e-mail music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com.

COFFEE HOUR: This week's hosts: John Orandosh and Christopher Torrence. Next week's host: Open. Thank you Lois and Charles Bethea for supplying the munchies last week. If you love to bake, buy or share hospitality, we need you to host this important time of fellowship! Please see Delores Solomon if you feel called to provide snacks or hands-on support.

REV. SEGERS will be on vacation from February 17 through March 4.

FEBRUARY CHALLENGE OFFERING: THE DEACONS FUND. This fund assists the Deacons in their mission: "to minister to those who are in need, to the sick and to any who may be in distress in the community of faith." The deacons are exploring how they can increase their effectiveness in supporting members in experiencing abundant living in Christ. Please give generously to support this mission of our congregation.

5th 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 5th 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 **today after worship**.

THE RACHEL CIRCLE, an arm of the Presbyterian Women USA, will hold its monthly meeting on **Monday, February 18** at 11:00 a.m. in the Jennings Room. All women are welcome. Please bring your lunch. Drink and dessert will be provided.

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

WOMEN'S RETREAT: Save your place for the **Saturday, March 2** Women's Retreat. Due to an anonymous donor (many thanks!) 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.

LENTEN WILDERNESS BIBLE STUDY with Rev. Segers will begin the week of March 10. There will be both a daytime and evening opportunity (dates and times to be announced) to participate in this five-week program during which we'll wrestle with what the Bible has to say about "wilderness" times and issues in our lives. Please join us!

2019 PLEDGE CARDS: Thanks to all who have submitted your 2019 pledge card—so far we have received 72 for a total of \$296,124. 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.



Commonwealth Youthchoirs
presents the 2nd

Annual Jack Asher Legacy Concert

Sunday, March 3 at 4:00 p.m.

Proceeds go to the Jack Asher Scholarship Fund and honor the memory of Jack Asher.

Upcoming at First Church

Monday, February 18, 11 a.m.

Rachel Circle Meeting

Sunday, February 24 following Worship

Puerto Rico Mission Trip 2019 Planning Meeting

Saturday, March 2, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Women's Retreat, Cranaleith Spiritual Center

Sunday, March 3, 4 p.m.

Jack Asher Memorial Concert

Wednesday, March 6, 7 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service

Week of March 10

Lenten Wilderness Bible Study with Rev. Segers

Sunday, March 17, 4 p.m.

Brahms Festival Concert

Friday, March 29, 7 p.m.

College of William and Mary Women's Chorus

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

Sunday, Feb. 10	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>Animate</i> —Finney Room
	11:30 AM	<i>Fifth Sunday</i> Planning Meeting—Primary 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
	3:00 PM	Presbytery/Black Presbyterian Caucus Black History Celebration—Oxford Presbyterian Church 8501 Stenton Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19150
Monday, Feb. 11	1:00 PM	Ladies Teen Challenge—Gym
	5:00 PM	<i>Animate</i> —Finney Room
	7:15 PM	Disciples B Team Game—Germantown Friends Fieldhouse
Tuesday, Feb. 12	12:00 PM	Commonwealth Youthchoirs Program Meeting—Finney Rm.
	2:30 PM	<i>Sunday Suppers</i> Graduation—Kitchen, Longstreth, Finney Rm.
	7:00 PM	Oratorio Choir—Sanctuary
Wednesday, Feb. 13	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting—Finney Room
	12:00 PM	Commonwealth Choirs Administration Meeting—Primary Rm.
	1:00 PM	GACM <i>Thrive</i> Program—Finney Room
	2:00 PM	Christian Education Committee—Upstairs Office
	4:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir
	5:30 PM	GACM Board Meeting—Jennings Room
6:00 PM	Friends of Vernon Park—Finney Room	
Thursday, Feb. 14	8:00 AM	Rev. Segers at Uncle Bobbie’s, 5445 Germantown Ave., 8-10 am
	6:00 PM	Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
	6:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir—Jennings Rm., Longstreth Aud.
	6:30 PM	Gospel Choir—Sanctuary
	7:45 PM	Voices in Bronze—Choir Room
Friday, Feb. 15	3:30 PM	Drop-in Center—Youth Lounge, Gym
	5:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble Group—Choir Rm.
	6:30 PM	Elementary School Youth Group—Youth Lounge
Saturday, Feb. 16	8:00 AM	Keystone State Boychoir
	10:00 AM	Open Gym
Sunday, Feb. 17	9:00 AM	Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
	10:00 AM	Worship—The Rev. Kevin Porter preaching
	10:15 AM	Sunday School—Grades K-5
	11:30 AM	Chancel Choir—Choir Room
	11:30 AM	<i>Third Sunday Interactive Bible Study</i>
	12:30 PM	Confirmation Class—Christian Education Middle Room
	12:30 PM	Children’s Choir—Choir Room
	1:30 PM	Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
3:00 PM	Philadelphia Sinfonia Concert—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:
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

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, Tony Nixon, David Slaughter

The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

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