

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

FEBRUARY 17, 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 17, 2019

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

### GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *There Is a Balm in Gilead*

Adolphus Hailstork

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

Dani Howard

Introit: *His Name So Sweet*

Spiritual/arr. Hall Johnson

Stuart Jasper, tenor

†\*Call to Worship

Eileen Jones

One: God, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**All: You have loved us even before creation existed;  
from everlasting to everlasting you are our God.**

One: Your time is not our time; but you renew us  
like the dawn refreshes and renews the earth.

**All: God is with us in all places and all times.  
Let us worship God.**

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

GATHER US IN

### CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Sustaining God, you would have us deeply rooted in you, finding strength in your word and nourishment in your grace. More often, though, we are like chaff, blown here and there by the winds of circumstance. Forgive our lack of permanency and our failure to hold fast to our commitments. Grow faith in us that we might be firmly planted in the promises of the gospel, released from sin and open to the life you have shown us in Jesus Christ.**

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.**

---

\*congregation standing; †latecomers may be seated

†\*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

Jason Williams, Reader

The First Lesson: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Page 676 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

Anthem: *There Is a Balm in Gilead*

Spiritual/arr. William Dawson

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole, there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul. Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain, but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul, you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all."

The Second Lesson: Luke 6:17-26

Page 60 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **CREATING A HOME FOR SHALOM**

Rev. Kevin Porter

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

\*Hymn 398: *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

\*Affirmation of Faith *Apostles Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy  
Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was cruci-  
fied, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again  
from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of  
God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick  
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of  
saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life ev-  
erlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Eileen Jones

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory: *Daniel, Servant of the Lord*

Spiritual/arr. Undine S. Moore

Oh, the king cried, Oh, Daniel, oh! A-that-a Hebrew Daniel, servant of the Lord! Among the Hebrew nation, one Hebrew Daniel was found. They put him in the lion's den. He stayed there all night long. Now the King in his sleep was troubled, and early in the morning he rose to find God sent his angels down to lock the Lion's jaws!

\*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Prayer of Dedication

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

\*Hymn 369: *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

I'M GONNA LIVE

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Congregational Response 587: *Amen, Amen*

Jester Hairston

Postlude: Toccata on *Great Day*

Hailstork

\*\*\*\*\*

**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 music is drawn largely from African American heritage in recognition of Black History Month. These selections include choral spirituals and organ works by Adolphus Hailstork. Dr. Hailstork is an African American who enjoys a distinguished career as a composer and educator. He has been awarded commissions by the American Choral Directors Association and the American Guild of Organists and is published by several major publishing companies. Born in Rochester, N.Y., he earned a doctorate in music composition from Michigan State University, a master's degree from the Manhattan School of Music, and studied composition with Nadia Boulanger at the American Institute in Fontainebleau, France. Dr. Hailstork is professor of music and composer-in-residence at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va. We welcome Stuart Jasper back to the choir as a guest soloist. Stuart grew up in Milwaukee, Wis., and studied music at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., and the Manhattan School of Music in New York. After graduating from St. Olaf College, he went on to sing with the Minnesota Opera Company in their apprenticeship program and later received his Master's from MSM. When Stuart is not singing, he serves as the General Manager at the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Pennsylvania; is the Board President for Concert Opera Philadelphia, and the Board Treasurer for CARIE (Center for the Advocacy for the Rights and Interest of the Elderly).

**LOOKING AHEAD:** The Germantown Oratorio Choir will present a Brahms Festival Concert on Sunday, March 17, at 4 p.m. The program will feature the music of Brahms, Robert Schumann, 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 [music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com).

**COFFEE HOUR:** This week's host: Congregational Development and Fellowship Committee. Next week's hosts: Liz Drum and Marc DiNardo. Thank you to John Orandosh and Christopher Torrence 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 Dolores Solomon if you feel called to provide snacks or hands-on support.

**PHILADELPHIA SINFONIA CONCERT TODAY** at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The talented young musicians of the Philadelphia Sinfonia Orchestra, under the direction of Music Director Gary White, will perform today at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The Sinfonia plays regularly at FPCG and their performances are always inspired. The program will include works by Beethoven and Bizet. Admission is free; no tickets needed. Free-will donations to support Sinfonia are graciously accepted. More information about the concert and Sinfonia can be found at <http://www.philadelphiasinfonia.com>.

**REV. REBECCA 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.

**THE RACHEL CIRCLE**, an arm of the Presbyterian Women USA, will hold its monthly meeting tomorrow, **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:** Rev. Segers and Sheila Heyer-Rivera will be leading a group in mid-July to support the continued recovery efforts. If you think you may be interested in being part of this trip, please join us at a meeting on **Sunday, February 24** in the Primary Room.

**WOMEN'S RETREAT:** Save your place for the **Saturday, March 2** Women's Retreat. This year's retreat focuses on *The Art of Living Faithfully*, and will be held at the Cranaleith Spiritual Center, 13475 Proctor Road, Philadelphia, PA 19116 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Due to an anonymous donor (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. Please 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 on Sunday, March 10 following worship. The class will also be held on Tuesday evenings at 5:00 p.m. beginning March 12. We hope you can join us for this five-week program during which we'll wrestle with what the Bible has to say about "wilderness" times and issues in our lives.

**2019 PLEDGE CARDS:** Thanks to all who have submitted your 2019 pledge card—so far we have received 73 for a total of \$297,164. 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.

### ***Greetings from Dakar!***

It's already February--although with the consistent 70 degree weather it doesn't feel like a typical February for me--and for many the season of making resolutions and giving has passed. I like to think that any time is as good as any to express gratitude. In this case, I would like to express my sincere and heartfelt appreciation for the members of the First Presbyterian Church. This community has always pushed me to do my best and supported me in all things. I hope 2019 brings each and every one of you the peace, health, and joy that you deserve. God has really blessed me by placing you all in my lives and I'm endlessly thankful for the encouragement, college check-ins, and advice I have received. I miss you all and I hope you are managing to stay warm! May God bless you all!

Sincerely, Kristina Ohemeng



Commonwealth Youthchoirs  
*presents the 2nd Annual*

### **Asher's 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.*

Tickets are on sale!

Call 215-849-1762 or visit [cyochoirs.org/asherslegacy/](http://cyochoirs.org/asherslegacy/).

### ***Upcoming at First Church***

Sunday, February 17, 3 p.m. (today!)

***Philadelphia Sinfonia Concert***

Monday, February 18, 11 a.m.

***Rachel Circle Meeting***

Sunday, February 24 following Worship

***Puerto Rico Mission Trip 2019 Planning Meeting***

Sunday, February 24, 6 p.m.

***Bread and Cup***

**WINDOW ON THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday, Feb. 17</b>	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	Third Sunday Interactive Bible Study
	12:30 PM	Children’s Choir—Choir Room
	1:30 PM	Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
	3:00 PM	Philadelphia Sinfonia Concert—Sanctuary
<b>Monday, Feb. 18</b>	11:00 AM	Rachel Circle—Jennings Room
	1:00 PM	Ladies Teen Challenge—Gym
<b>Tuesday, Feb. 19</b>	12:00 PM	Commonwealth Choirs Program Meeting—Finney Room
	2:30 PM	Sunday Suppers—Kitchen, Longstreth, Finney Room
	7:00 PM	Oratorio Choir—Sanctuary
<b>Wednesday, Feb. 20</b>	8:30 AM	GACM Thrive Program—Jennings Room
	12:00 PM	Commonwealth Choirs Admin. Meeting—Primary Rm.
	4:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir and Pennsylvania Girlchoir
	7:00 PM	Property Committee—Finney Room
<b>Thursday, Feb. 21</b>	10:00 AM	GACM Thrive Program—Finney Room
	6:00 PM	Administration and Finance Committee—Finney Room
	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
<b>Friday, Feb. 22</b>	3:30 PM	Drop-in Center—Youth Lounge, Gym
	5:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble—Choir Room
	6:30 PM	Middle/High School Youth Group—Youth Lounge
	7:00 PM	Mount Airy Learning Tree Violet Oakley Mural Class—Jennings Room
<b>Saturday, Feb. 23</b>	8:00 AM	Keystone State Boychoir
	9:00 AM	Readers’ Choice—Offsite
	10:00 AM	Open Gym
	10:00 AM	Mount Airy Learning Tree Violet Oakley Mural Class—Jennings Room
<b>Sunday, Feb. 24</b>	9:00 AM	Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
	10:00 AM	Worship—Arlene Grace preaching
	10:15 AM	Sunday School—Grades K-5
	11:30 AM	Chancel Choir—Choir Room
	11:30 AM	Puerto Rico Mission Trip 2019 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
6:00 PM	Bread and Cup—Longstreth Auditorium	

# 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

---

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	Heidi Mercado-Littles	Terry Boyer
Director of Christian Education	Joan Harris	Cindy Osborne
Parish Visitor	Tanicya Matthews, Tony Nixon, David Slaughter	
Building Manager		
Administrative Assistant		
Bookkeeper		
Sextons		

## The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

35 West Cheltenham Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Phone 215-843-8811

FAX 888-333-5032

[www.fpcgermantown.org](http://www.fpcgermantown.org)