

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

APRIL 14, 2019

ALIVE,
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.

April 14, 2019

Palm Sunday

"Wonder is involuntary praise." – Edward Young, English poet

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Introduction and Passacaglia*

Josef Rheinberger

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Hosanna Filio David*

Thurman

†*Call to Worship

On the back of a donkey, Jesus came to bless us.

With the light of his love, Jesus came to illuminate our way.

From the power of aimlessness and sin, Jesus came to set us free.

With the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus came to save us.

The gates of righteousness are thrown wide. Let us worship the Lord.

*Hymn 482: *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

LOBE DEN HERREN

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

God of Joy and Arrival, enter our lives as Christ entered Jerusalem. May we celebrate your coming. May we cry out with the stones so the world might hear your glad arrival. Yet do not leave us in the events to come. This joyous crowd which greets you will turn and flee. From a crowd of hosannas, we turn into a silent, denying crowd at the Cross. Do not leave us in the events to come! Even though we may leave you, do not leave us, O Christ! Then forgive us, so we can return to you changed. In Christ's name, we pray.

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

Dani Howard

The First Lesson: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Pages 534-535 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: *Hosanna! Ride On!*

Carolyn Jennings

Hosanna! Ride on in majesty! O Christ, with brave humility,
On lowly colt, your road pursue, as palms and cloaks are spread for you.
Ride on in majesty! As crowds of people come to see and shout hosannas,
Lifting high their praise for one about to die.
Ride on in humble dignity; Behold the ones you came to save
From senseless life and endless grave.
Ride on in Majesty! For you have set your people free
And we, rememb'ring all your pain, now meet again to hail your name.

Chancel, Children's, and Voices in Bronze Handbell Choirs
Evelyn Santiago, director

The Second Lesson: Luke 19:28-40

Page 78 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **STAY AMAZED**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 89: *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

ELLACOMBE

*Affirmation of Faith (from *The Confession of 1967*)

Jesus Christ has given the church preaching and teaching, praise and prayer, and Baptism and the Lord's Supper as means of fulfilling its service of God among men. The church responds to the message of reconciliation in praise and prayer. In that response, it commits itself afresh to its mission, experiences a deepening of faith and obedience, and bears open testimony to the gospel. Adoration of God is acknowledgment of the Creator by the creation. Confession of sin is admission of all men's guilt before God and

of their need for his forgiveness. Thanksgiving is rejoicing in God's goodness to all men and in giving for the needs of others. Petitions and intercessions are addressed to God for the continuation of his goodness, the healing of men's ills, and their deliverance from every form of oppression. The arts, especially music and architecture, contribute to the praise and prayer of a Christian congregation when they help men to look beyond themselves to God and to the world which is the object of his love. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory: *Ride On, King Jesus*

Spiritual/Arr. Hall Johnson

Ride on, King Jesus! No man can hinder me.

For he is King of Kings, Lord of lords,

Jesus Christ, the first and last, no man works like him.

King Jesus rides a milk-white horse, no man works like him.

The river Jordan he did cross, no man works like him.

King Jesus rides in the middle of the air, he calls the saints from everywhere.

Evelyn Santiago, soprano

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 142: *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*

CORONATION

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers



*Congregational Response

Thurman

Postlude: *Voluntary in E Minor*

Rheinberger

IN MEMORIAM

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God
in loving memory of Hilma E. Thompson

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: Josef Rheinberger, a contemporary of Johannes Brahms, completed 20 organ sonatas toward his goal of 24—one in each of the major and minor keys—as an homage to Bach’s 24 Preludes and Fugues in the *Well Tempered Clavier*. The Introduction and Passacaglia heard today is taken from the *Sonata No. 8 in E Minor*. While not programmatic in nature, I have long associated this work with the way of the cross. The heroic Introduction is much like the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. It is followed by a Passacaglia containing 24 variations played in the manuals above a repeating ground bass in the pedal. Each step in the pedal of the organ is reflective of a slow processional that repeats itself every eight measures. This journey is accompanied by variations that reflect a myriad of emotions, dynamics, and colors, much like what one might experience climbing a mountain or in making a procession to Calvary. **Next Week:** Come early on Easter Sunday to enjoy an extended organ prelude beginning at 9:40 a.m. Instrumentalists from the Curtis Institute of Music will offer their gifts in worship as we celebrate the Resurrection.

EASTER MEMORIAL LILIES: The lilies in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday are in memory and honor of our loved ones. As is our custom, these flowers will be delivered on Easter to the sick and shut-in of our congregation. If you would like your family members’ or friends’ names included in the worship bulletin, please send the names and your check (made payable to FPCG) to the church office. The cost is \$15 per line. Listings will be accepted until Wednesday, April 17 no later than 12pm.

COFFEE HOUR: This week’s host: The Congregational Development and Fellowship Committee Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast. Next week’s host: Open. Many thanks to Debra Gary and Tim Robinson 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.

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGEMENT FELLOW: We welcome Cheresé Akers to the FPCG staff as our new Communications Management Fellow. Cheresé will be handling all of the church's communications. The personnel committee requests that going forward you do not refer to Lois Bethea for anything communications (especially please allow her to enjoy coffee hour unhindered!) Cheresé can be reached at Communications@fpgermantown.org.

DO YOU WANT TO DANCE? Rev. Rebecca is planning an opportunity for Liturgical Dance in May. If you are interested please speak to her after worship or email her at rsegers@fpcgermantown.org.

CONGREGATIONAL PHOTO: Please remain after worship today so we may take photos of the congregation for our website. We will be taking 2– a group photo standing in the pews– choir members may remain robed, and a congregational worship shot during which the choir may be dismissed. Thank you in advance to our photographer, Drew Hood!

IHN RETURNS TO FPCG SUNDAY APRIL 28TH. For years FPCG has been the favorite host site for the homeless families in the program. Many volunteer opportunities are available including preparing a dinner meal, providing lunch foods and snacks and overnight hosting. More information is on the literature table or you can speak to Eileen Jones or Delores Solomon during today's Pancake Breakfast.

APRIL CHALLENGE OFFERING: Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Your gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, food for the hungry, and community development that helps people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities. To learn more about One Great Hour of Sharing, visit pcusa.org/oghs.

23RD ANNUAL WALK AGAINST HUNGER TO BE HELD ON APRIL 27
Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry joins communities across Philadelphia to help end hunger one step at a time, both in Northwest Philadelphia and across the region. Hosted by the Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger, the Walk Against Hunger will support the efforts of GACM and hundreds of other agencies to eradicate hunger in our community. GACM encourages family and friends of all ages to form teams to support GACM and register to walk. To register to walk, see <https://hungercoalition.salsalabs.org/walkagainsthunger2018registrationcopy1/index.html> and use the code FOOD5 to receive a discount. For more information about the Walk Against Hunger and how you can support GACM, contact Hope Primas at 215-681-9554 or hprimas@crisisministry.org.

Upcoming at First Church

Sunday, April 14

Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 18, 6:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, April 19, 12 - 3pm

Good Friday Seven Last Words Service—Oxford PC

Friday, April 19, 7 p.m.

Good Friday Taize Tenebrae Service

Saturday, April 20, 11 a.m.

Easter Festival

Sunday, April 21

Easter Sunday

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

Sunday, Apr. 14

9:00 AM	Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
10:00 AM	Worship—The Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
10:15 AM	Sunday School—Grades K-5
11:00 AM	Congregational Photo—Sanctuary
11:15 AM	Congregational Pancake Breakfast
11:30 AM	Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
11:45 AM	Confirmation Class—Christian Education Middle Room
2:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir—Jennings Room, Primary Room

Palm Sunday

Monday, Apr. 15

11:00 AM	Rachel Circle—Jennings Room
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Wednesday, Apr. 17

10:00 AM	Staff Meeting—Finney Room
4:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir—Rehearsal

Thursday, Apr. 18

8:00 AM	Rev. Segers at Uncle Bobbie's, 5445 Germantown Ave (8-10am)
6:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir—Offsite
6:30 PM	Maundy Thursday Service—Longstreth Auditorium

Friday, Apr. 19

12:00 PM	Good Friday Seven Last Words Service—Oxford PC (12-3pm)
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, Gym
7:00 PM	Taize Tenebrae Service—Jennings Room

Saturday, Apr. 20

11:00 AM	Easter Festival
1:00 PM	Tony Rehearsal—Sanctuary

Sunday, Apr. 21

9:00 AM	Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
9:40 AM	Easter Prelude
10:00 AM	Easter Worship—The Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
10:15 AM	Sunday School—Grades K-5

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
OPEN
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
Communications Management Fellow	Cherese Akers
Bookkeeper	Cindy Osborne
Sextons	Tony Nixon, David Slaughter

The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

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