

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

APRIL 28, 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.

April 28, 2019

Second Sunday in Eastertide

*"There is not one blade of grass, there is no color in this world that is not intended to make us rejoice."*  
– John Calvin

## ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

### GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Promenade in G Major*

McNeil Robinson II

Welcome and Announcements

†\*Call to Worship (*based on Psalm 150*)

Eileen Jones

One: Praise the Lord in his cosmos

**Many: Praise him in his sanctuary**

One: Praise him with a radio-signal 100,000 million light-years away

**Many: Praise him in the stars in inter-stellar space**

One: Praise him in the galaxies in inter-galactic space

**Many: Praise him in atoms in inter-atomic space**

One: Praise him on violin and flute, on the saxophone

**Many: Praise him with clarinet and horn, with cornet and trombone, on alto-sax and trumpet**

One: Praise him with viola and cello, on piano and harpsichord

**Many: Praise him with blues and jazz, with an orchestra**

One: Praise him with spirituals, with soul-music and Beethoven's fifth, with rap and country and hip-hop, with marimbas and guitars

**Many: Praise him with CDs and Wi-Fi, with YouTube and Spotify, with Pandora and streaming sound**

One: Let everything that draws breath praise the Lord; Alleluia!

**All: Let all living cells praise the Lord; Alleluia! Praise the Lord!**

\*Hymn 104: *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

HYMN TO JOY

The Sacrament of Baptism

Rev. Rebecca Segers

Presentation of Maddox Wilkins Robinson

Questions to the Parents

Question to the Sponsor

Question to the Congregation:

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Maddox, by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging him to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of this church?

**We do.**

Blessing Over Water

Baptism

Baptismal Hymn 498: *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

KINGDOM

Welcome

### CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

**Must we see you in order to believe you, Lord? Is seeing truly believing? Are we to be prisoners of our senses, distrusting and rejecting whatever we cannot see, touch, or hear? Yet you are faithful—you give sight to the blind, you carry us when we are weary, you call us to your side. The locked room of our hearts opens at the turn of your key. Speak your words of life to us again. “Do not doubt, only believe.” Speak your words of life, that we might live.**

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

Matthew Reisse

The First Lesson: Psalm 150

Pages 551 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: *Were You There?*

Spiritual/arr. H.T. Burleigh

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble.

Where you there when the stone was rolled away?

Were you there when he rose up from the grave?

Jesse Padgett, baritone

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **A REASON TO REJOICE!**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

\*Hymn 2086: *Open Our Eyes, Lord (2x) (from Sing The Faith)*

OPEN OUR EYES

\*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.**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory: *Alleluia!*

G. O'Conner-Morris

Let joyful praise to Heav'n ascend, for sighs and tears have now an end. Alleluia!

The darksome night is past and gone, and glorious shines the rising sun. Alleluia!

O Lord, we pray that far and wide, in ev'ry heart love may abide. Alleluia!

May strife and discord ever cease, and grant to us thy blessed peace. Alleluia!

Now to our God let voices raise one grand united hymn of praise. Alleluia!

Let all men joy and praise now bring to Christ our Risen Lord we sing. Alleluia!

Evelyn Santiago, soprano

\*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Prayer of Dedication

### GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

\*Hymn 399: *We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*

DUNLAP'S CREEK

\*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

\*Congregational Response : #585

Robinson

Postlude: *Hymn to Joy*

Albert L. Travis

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### IN MEMORIAM

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God  
in loving memory of Michael R. Parks

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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:** The Chancel Choir is enjoying a vacation Sunday today and will return to the choir loft, along with the Gospel Choir, next Sunday, May 5. Jesse Padgett is our soloist. Jesse is a bass section leader in our Chancel Choir and a published composer whose works are distributed internationally through J.W. Pepper. The North Carolina native received his Master of Music degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and is adjunct faculty at West Chester University, where he teaches private voice and is the vocal director for their musicals.

**COFFEE HOUR:** This week's host: Ingrid Harris/Carolyn & Ernie Freeman. Next week's host: Open. Many thanks to the CDFC 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@fpcgermantown.org](mailto:Communications@fpcgermantown.org).

**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](http://pcusa.org/oghs).

**WELCOME IHN** With the worsening economy, Philadelphia's shelter system is stretched beyond capacity. There is no simple solution or quick fix however, the IHN approach is highly effective. 92% of IHN families have succeeded in permanently overcoming homelessness. <http://philashelter.org> FPCG can share in the credit. Since IHN's inception in 1991, every fall and spring, FPCG has opened its door to house IHN families. Today three families including 10 children will move in and for the next four weeks, call FPCG home. Volunteer are needed as dinner providers, evening and overnight hosts. Donations of breakfast, lunch and snack foods also are requested. This week Cresheim Valley Church will buddy with us to provide our guests meals and hospitality. Next week St. Raymond's Catholic Church will do so. FPCG volunteers are needed for the weeks of May 12 and 19. The families leave us Sunday May 26. To volunteer see Eileen Jones or Delores Solomon during coffee hour.

**PUERTO RICO SERVICE TRIP** Planning meeting on Sunday, April 28th immediately following worship in the Finney Room. This year's trip will be for adults only and return to Añasco to continue offering support in rebuilding in the community. For more information on dates, dollars and more, please join Reverend Rebecca and Sheila Heyer-Rivera and bring your questions and enthusiasm.

**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](mailto:rsegers@fpcgermantown.org).

**REMEMBERING THOSE WHO FORGET:** Reverend Rebecca Segers will be attending the Remembering Those Who Forget Seminar on Thursday, May 2nd, 8:30-1:00pm with parish visitor, Heidi Mercado-Littles. This seminar focuses on supporting those who are struggling with memory loss. All deacons or others interested in this topic are welcome to attend. Registration is \$15 at the door. If enough people would like to attend, the church van will be made available for all to ride together from the church parking lot. Speak to Rev. Rebecca if you would like to go.

**UNCLE BOBBIE'S:** Reverend Rebecca Segers will not be at Uncle Bobbie's this Thursday, May 2nd in order to attend the "Remembering Those Who Forget" seminar.

**CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE:** The CDFC will be meeting on Saturday, May 4th at 9:30am in the Finney Room..

**REV. KEVIN PORTER** is preaching at Summit Presbyterian Church, with his honorarium donated to the Triennium trip. We welcome Director of Urban Ministry, Eileen Jones as our liturgist this week.

*One Great Hour of Sharing for the month of April's Challenge Offering is coming to an end! Stay tuned for the month of May's Challenge Offering!*

**WINDOW ON THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday, Apr. 28</b>	10:00 AM	Worship—Sacrament of Baptism The Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
	10:15 AM	Sunday School Grades K-5
	11:15 AM	Praise & Evangelism Team Meeting—Primary Room
	11:15 AM	Puerto Rico Planning Meeting—Finney Room
	11:45 AM	Confirmation Class—Christian Education Middle Room
<b>Tuesday, Apr. 30</b>	12:00 PM	CYChoirs Program Staff Meeting
	2:30 PM	Sunday Suppers
	6:30 PM	Nominating Committee—Upstairs
<b>Wednesday, May 1</b>	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting—Finney Room
	12:00 PM	CYChoirs Admin Meeting—Primary Room
	4:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir—Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Session Meeting—Finney Room
<b>Thursday, May 2</b>	6:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir—Jennings Room, Longstreth Aud.
	6:30 PM	Gospel Choir—Sanctuary
	7:45 PM	Voices in Bronze—Choir Room
<b>Friday, May 3</b>	9:00 AM	GACM Staff Meeting—Finney Room
	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
<b>Saturday, May 4</b>	8:00 AM	Keystone State Boychoir—Choir Room, Primary, Sanctuary Finney Room, Longsteth Auditorium
	9:30 AM	CDFC—Finney Room
	10:00 AM	Open Gym
<b>Sunday, May 5</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
	11:45 AM	Confirmation Class—Christian Education Middle Room
	12:30 PM	Children’s Choir—Choir Room
	2:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir—Longstreth Aud., Primary 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  
OPEN  
Dick Liberty

### 2020

Randy Clever  
John Orandosh  
Carolyn Tarver

### 2021

Dhyan Cassie  
Rhonda Highsmith  
Dani Howard

## First Church Staff

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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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