

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

MAY 12, 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.

May 12, 2019

Mother's Day

"You can't sing harmony alone." - Nadia Bolz-Weber

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Chorale-Prelude on RHOSYMEDRE*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Welcome and Announcements

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

John Carter

†*Call to Worship

Christian Heyer-Rivera

One: God has made this day.

Many: Let us rejoice and be glad.

One: The God who raised Jesus Christ from the dead raises us to new life daily.

Many: Thanks be to God.

All: Glory be to God our Creator, to Jesus our risen Christ, and to the Spirit our Comfort. Amen.

*Hymn 479: *Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven*

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

O God, we look at events around us and cannot perceive you within them. We shed tears and find no comfort. We listen for your voice and are greeted by silence. The world seems full of enemies waiting to devour us. On every hand, there are problems too complicated for us to solve. We live in fear rather than faith. We cry out to you for answers. O God, do you hear us? O God, forgive us, 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 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

J. Randall Rosensteel

The First Lesson: Psalm 40:1-8

Pages 486 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

Two Anthems: *Excursion for Bells*
Worship and Praise

Philip M. Young
Sharon Elery Rogers

Voices in Bronze Handbell Choir; Evelyn Santiago, director

The Second Lesson: Acts 9:36-43

Pages 120 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **ALL GOD'S CHILDREN**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 438: *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

DENNIS

*Affirmation of Faith (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory: *Christ Hath a Garden*

Gerald Near

Christ hath a garden walled around, a paradise of fruitful ground,

Chosen by love and fenced by grace from out the world's wide wilderness.
Like trees of spice his servants stand, there planted by his mighty hand;
By Eden's gracious streams that flow to feed their beauty where they grow.
Awake, O wind of heav'n and bear their sweetest perfume through the air:
Stir up, O south, the boughs that bloom, till the beloved Master come:
That he may come, and linger yet among the trees that he hath set;
That he may evermore be seen to walk amid the springing green.

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 332: *Live Into Hope*

TRURO

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

*Congregational Response : #585

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven*

Robinson

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: Ralph Vaughan Williams is better known for his choral and instrumental music than for the works he composed for the organ. However, his *Three Preludes Founded on Welsh Hymn Tunes* (RHOSYMEDRE is No. 2 in the set) are some of his best examples written for "the King of Instruments." The hymn text long associated with this hymn tune was written by F. Bland Tucker and first published in the Episcopal *Hymnal 1940*: Our Parent, by whose name all parenthood is known, who in your love proclaim each family your own: direct all parents, guarding well, with constant love as sentinel, the homes in which your people dwell. For this hymn about family, Tucker is to have had his own father and mother in mind as fulfilling those things for which the hymn prays. Happy Mother's Day.

COFFEE HOUR: This week's host: CDFC. Next week's host: Open. Many thanks to the Raymond 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.

WINDOWS SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Please note that the submission deadline for the June issue of *Windows* is the end of the day on May 15th.

THE FIRST LITURGICAL DANCE REHEARSAL has been changed to Thursday, May 23rd at 5:30pm. They continue on Saturday, May 25th at 9:00am, and then every Thursday at 5:30pm and Saturday at 10am through Sunday, June 30th date when the dance will be ministered. The first two Saturday dates (cancellation and time change) are due to scheduling conflicts. If you are interested please speak to Rev. Rebecca after worship or email her at rsegers@fpcgermantown.org.

BIRTHDAY CARDS: You may have noticed that the deacons have had a list to sign birthday cards. This is going to happen twice a month. If your birthday is in the beginning of the month you will be listed the 1st time. If your birthday is at the end of the month, you will notice your name and birthday at the 2nd time around.

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.

MOTHER'S DAY PLANT AND BAKE SALE: Please stop by the youth group table today to purchase Mother's day plant or baked treats to support the youth group trip to Triennium.

MAY CHALLENGE OFFERING BEACON CHURCH IN KENSINGTON:

Beacon is a church plant of the PCUSA that serves as a missionary to the neighborhood of Fishtown/Kensington. Many of its neighbors were raised Catholic and left the church, or have grown up without any church influence at all. As the neighborhood shifts and new people move in, Beacon's mission is to build bridges across the divisions of socio-economic status, culture, and politics. Beacon strengthens the social fabric of its neighborhood by gathering for worship that is explanatory and accessible to all people, regardless of faith background, and hosting family art workshops that utilize visual art to build connection between neighbors and within families. Making art together creates and strengthens bonds more quickly and efficiently than almost any other activity. Over and over again, neighbors have experienced personal and community healing in and through art-making. Beacon worships every Sunday at 5pm (with a dinner afterwards on the first Sunday of every month), and the next community art workshop is on May 18th from 10a-12p when people will be planting the garden beds in the front yard. All are welcome to join in and the folks of Beacon would love to connect with their siblings in the faith at First Presbyterian Germantown. For more information about Beacon, check out their website: thewordatbeacon.org, social media: @thewordatbeacon or email info@thewordatbeacon.org.

DON'T MISS OUR FINAL 3RD SUNDAY Intergenerational interactive Bible Study next week, May 19th immediately following the congregational meeting. Please vote to elect our new officers and nominating committee and then join us in community to study and discern how Jesus calls us to welcome one another as God's children.

ELECTION DAY: Don't forget Tuesday May 21, 2019 is election day. Deacon Carolyn Tarver serves as a committee woman for ward 59-18 which FPCG is included under. She is responsible for the seniors rides to the polls program and is offering FREE transportation to the voting polls. If you are in need of a ride or know someone who will need a ride or would like to volunteer to drive please contact Carolyn Tarver at 267-582-1216 or via email

carolyntarver1951@gmail.com. Please leave a message or text before Saturday May 18, 2019. This election is very important as we elect a new mayor, judges, and city council candidates. Don't forget! Your vote is your voice!!!

THE 5TH SUNDAY PLANNING TEAM meets on Saturday, May 25th at 10am in the Finney Room. All those who are helping to make the Sunday June 30th worship service at 5:00pm special and meaningful, please join us then and there.

FPCG ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP: Applications for our annual scholarship is now available for church members, active program members and friends of the church. Scholarships are for trade school degrees, undergraduate degrees, and graduate studies. Application are in the church office. If you'd like to have the application electronically please contact Christian Heyer-Rivera at Christianaheyer@yahoo.com.

Dear Members,

We thank you sincerely for the cards, the hugs, prayers and love that is shown continuously to me and my family during the time of our ups and downs. On August 9, 2019 my Stepfather Ellis W. Eason at age 102 passed peacefully to be with our Father in Heaven. Following a grave side burial at the Rolling Green Cemetery in West Chester Pennsylvania, we were invited back to FPCG to have our Repast. To all who planned and organized this effort we are sincerely grateful.

Respectfully,

Carolyn Ballard Freeman and Ernest Freeman

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—PART I

Notice is hereby given that the Congregational Meeting, Part I, of the Congregation of the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown, in the County of Philadelphia, PA, will be held on Sunday, May 19, 2019, immediately following the worship service.

The following will be presented:

- Hearing Report of Nominating Committee
- Election of Church Officers Class of 2022 and Nominating Committee Class of 2020

Any other business which properly comes before the Congregation may be transacted at this meeting.

Attest: Robert Seed, Clerk of Session

Rev. Rebecca L. Segers, Moderator

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

Sunday, May 12	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	Animate—Finney
	11:45 AM	Confirmation Class—Christian Education Middle Room
	3:00 PM	Sinfonia Concert—Sanctuary, Longstreth Auditorium
	12:30 PM	Children’s Choir—Choir Room
Monday, May 13	5:00 PM	Animate—Finney Room
Tuesday, May 14	12:00 PM	CYChoirs Program Staff Meeting
	2:30 PM	Sunday Suppers
	6:30 PM	Nominating Committee
Wednesday, May 15	12:00 PM	CYChoirs Admin Meeting—Primary Room
	4:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir—Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Property Meeting—Finney Room
Thursday, May 16	8:00 AM	Rev. Rebecca at Uncle Bobbie’s, 5445 Germantown Ave. (8-10 a.m.)
	6:00 PM	Admin & Finance Meeting—Finney Room
	6:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir—Jennings Room, Longstreth Aud.
	6:00 PM	CYChoirs—Sanctuary
Friday, May 17	3:30 PM	Drop-in Center—Youth Lounge, Gym
	5:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir Small Ensemble Group—Choir Rm.
	6:30 PM	Elementary Youth Group—Youth Lounge, Gym
Saturday, May 18	8:00 AM	Keystone State Boychoir—Choir Room, Primary, Sanctuary Finney Room, Longsteth Auditorium
	10:00 AM	Open Gym
Sunday, May 19	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 Meeting—Sanctuary
	11:30 AM	Chancel Choir—Choir Room
	11:30 AM	Third Sunday Interactive Intergenerational Bible Study Longstreth Auditorium
	11:45 AM	Confirmation Class—Christian Education Middle Room
3:00 PM	KSB Concert—Sanctuary, 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
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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