

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

MAY 5, 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.

May 5, 2019

Third Sunday in Eastertide

"We cannot become what we need to be by remaining what we are." - Max de Pree

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Fugue on "O Filii et Filiae"*

Jean Langlais

Welcome and Announcements

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

Thurman

†*Call to Worship

One: Jesus Christ, the Passover Lamb who was slain, lives!

Many: Worthy is the Lamb to receive power and wisdom and glory and blessing!

One: Myriads of the faithful, freed and called to be a nation of priests of God, sing praise:

All: Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto God, for ever and ever. Amen!

*Hymn 263: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we admit to attitudes that exclude rather than embrace. We prefer to associate with others who think and act as we do. We turn away from those who are different from us. We identify some as enemies to be avoided or even destroyed. Forgive us, God, for seeking to limit your family. Awaken us to the limits of our understanding and the narrowness of our dealings. Show us the better ways you intend and make us bold to respond, we pray in Jesus' name.

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

Annie Kotto

The First Lesson: Revelation 5:11-14

Pages 551 NT

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: *Revelation Song*

Riddle/arr. Larson

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain; holy is he.

Sing a new song to him who sits on heaven's mercy seat.

Clothed in rainbows of living color, flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder.

Blessing and honor, strength and glory and power be to you, the only wise King.

Holy is the Lord God Almighty who was, and is to come.

With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings.

You are my ev'rything and I will adore you.

Filled with wonder, awe struck wonder, at the mention of your name.

Jesus, your name is power, breath and living water, such a marv'lous mystery.

Gospel and Chancel Choirs; Jesse Padgett, director

The Second Lesson: Acts 9:1-20

Pages 108-109 OT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **A TRANSFORMATION NATION**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 147: *Blessing & Honor*

OPEN OUR EYES

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

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain; that this unity can be established only in freedom and not under constraint; that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the

reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God. Jesus is Lord. To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory: *My Tribute*

Dino Kartsonakis

Jesse Padgett, piano

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 358: *Help Us Accept Each Other*

BARONITA

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

*Congregational Response : #585

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: Offertory for Easter "*O Filii et Filiae*"

Jean-Francois Dandrieu

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: First Church Music Director Tony Thurman is giving an organ recital today in Glen Rock, N.J. We give thanks to Jesse Padgett for leading the Chancel and Gospel Choirs and welcome Jeremy Flood as our guest organist. Dr. Flood combines an avocation as an organist with his medical practice of endocrinology. He is an Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, with his clinical practice based at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center, where he is Chief of the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism. He has been an Assistant Wanamaker Grand Court Organist at Macy's in Center City Philadelphia since 2009 and is active as a substitute organist for churches throughout the Philadelphia area.

COFFEE HOUR: This week's host: CDFC. Next week's host: Open. Many thanks to the Ingrid Harris/Carolyn & Ernie Freeman 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.

DO YOU WANT TO DANCE? Rev. Rebecca is planning an opportunity for Liturgical Dance at the 5th Sunday worship service on June 30th. This beautiful dance will be to a reprise of today's anthem either sung by a quartet or recorded. Rehearsals are Thursday from 5:30-6:30pm and Saturdays from 10-11am beginning on Saturday, May 18, 2019. Come as often as you are able—attendance at all rehearsals is not necessary to participate. If you are interested please speak to her after worship or email her at rsegers@fpcgermantown.org.

BIRTHDAY CARDS: You may have noticed that the deacons have offered an opportunity to sign birthday cards during coffee hour. This is going to happen twice a month. If your birthday is in the beginning of the month your card will be available to sign the 1st time. If your birthday is at the end of the month, you will notice your birthday card the 2nd time around.

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.

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!!!

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.

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.

**SPEIAL THANKS TO THE FIRST PRESBY
CHURCH FAMILY**

Pete and Frannie Smith would like to express there sincere thanks to all FPCG staff and church members who have been so generous and thoughtful during the time of Pete's surgery and recovery period over the past few weeks.

Love & Peace,

Pete Smith

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 5	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—Primary Room, Longstreth Aud
Tuesday, May 7	12:00 PM	CYChoirs Program Staff Meeting
	2:30 PM	Sunday Suppers
	5:30 PM	Percussion—CY, Choir Room
Wednesday, May 8	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting—Finney Room
	12:00 PM	CYChoirs Admin Meeting—Primary Room
	1:00 PM	Tea & Tour with Violet—Jennings Room
	2:00 PM	Christian Education—Upstairs
	4:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir—Rehearsal
	5:30 PM	GACM Board Meeting—Jennings Room
6:00 PM	Friends of Vernon Park—Finney Room	
Thursday, May 9	8:00 AM	Rev. Rebecca at Uncle Bobbie's, 5445 Germantown Ave. (8-10 a.m.)
	6:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir—Jennings Room, Longstreth Aud.
	6:30 PM	Gospel Choir—Sanctuary
	7:45 PM	Voices in Bronze—Choir Room
Friday, May 10	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	Middle/High School Youth Group—Youth Lounge, Gym
Saturday, May 11	8:00 AM	Keystone State Boychoir—Choir Room, Primary, Sanctuary Finney Room, Longsteth Auditorium
	10:00 AM	Mission & Outreach—Jennings Room
	10:00 AM	Open Gym
	1:00 PM	Mastery Charter Football Banquet—Longstreth Auditorium
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
	12:00 PM	Sinfonia Concert—Sanctuary, Longstreth Auditorium
12:30 PM	Children's Choir—Choir 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

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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