

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

JUNE 9, 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.

June 9, 2019

Pentecost Sunday

"The thing to do, it seems to me, is to prepare yourself so you can be a rainbow in somebody else's cloud. Somebody who may not look like you. May not call God the same name you call God - if they call God at all. I may not dance your dances or speak your language. But be a blessing to somebody. That's what I think." - Maya Angelou

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Toccata in F Major*

C.M. Widor

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Spirit of the Living God*

Daniel Iverson

†*Call to Worship

One: We gather together because God has called us. We wait in expectant awe for God's appearing.

Many: We are together, old and young, rich and poor. We have come, believers and skeptics, to this place.

One: On the first Christian Pentecost, there were surprises: the rush of a violent wind and tongues of fire.

Many: We tremble before the power of the Holy Spirit. What will happen if we let the Spirit in?

One: On this Pentecost, we can receive the surprises of God. We can be moved to speak and act in new ways.

Many: With hesitant eagerness, we welcome the Spirit. We will risk stepping into God's vision for us.

*Hymn 316: Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

CONFESSING OUR SINS AND OUR COMMITMENT TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and ever gracious God, we confess that we have failed to open our hearts to the power of your Spirit. We continue the divisions of Babel, speaking in tongues that confound rather than clarify, hurt rather than heal, separate rather than unite. Though we are not deserving, we pray for the gift of fellowship that confirms your presence among us. Restore our fractured lives that we, with one voice, may ever give you thanks and praise.

*congregation standing; †latecomers may be seated

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.

Presentation of New Members

Clerk of Session Robert Seed

Call to Discipleship

Minister: We are called by God to be the church of Jesus Christ,
a sign in the world today of what God intends for all humankind.

Congregation: The great ends of the church are the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world. – from the Book of Order, G-1.0200

Statements of Faith

Danielle Ohemeng and Joshua Overton

Profession of Faith (Only new members respond to these questions.)

Minister: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,
do you turn from the ways of sin
and its power in the world?

I do.

Minister: Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Minister: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple,
obeying his Word and showing his love?

I will, with God's help.

Minister: Will you be a faithful member of this congregation,
share in its worship and ministry through your prayers and gifts,
your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be
a disciple of Jesus Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Prayer of Welcome

†*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

Sheila Heyer-Rivera

The First Lesson: Genesis 11:1-9

Page 8 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

The Second Lesson: Acts 2:1-21

Page 111 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **THE LANGUAGE OF GOD**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 2123: *Spirit, Now Live in Me (from Sing the Faith)*

SPIRIT, NOW LIVE IN ME

*Affirmation of Faith—Apostle's 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 crucified, 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 everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Offertory: *I Will Sing with the Spirit*

John Rutter

I will sing with the Spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also. Alleluia.

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Eternal God, by your Holy Spirit, you breathed life into human form, and set us on the earth to praise and serve you. When we wander from your ways and are lost, you call your people to return to you. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son to be our deliverer. In every age your Holy Spirit has led us in your ways. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with all the faithful of every time and place, saying:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. At his baptism, your Spirit came with gentle wings, settling on him your blessing. In the wilderness of temptation, your Spirit stood by with power. In Jesus' life and ministry, your Spirit guided him to serve the poor, and the friendless, and announce freedom from sin's bondage. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus broke the power of death and led the way to eternal life. He then sent the Spirit from on high that our lives may emulate his and we may give praise to you, Lord Jesus:

People: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Leader: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these gifts of bread and fruit of the vine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ, binding us to you and one another, receiving our gratitude as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

The Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

(We will come to the table to receive the elements of bread and wine/juice. Come forward using the center aisle, partake of the elements as you receive them, and return to your seat by the side aisle. Remember that the cups on the outside ring of the tray holds white grape juice and the cups within the outside ring contain wine.)

Prayer After Supper

God of all might and power, we praise you that you forged your church in the fire of the Spirit, and breathed life into your people that we might be the body of Christ. May we who have received this sacrament be shaped according to your will, in the service of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, now and forever. Amen.

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 319: *Spirit*

James K. Manley

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

*Congregational Response : #587

Jester Hairston

Postlude: *Toccata on Great Day*

Adolphus 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 Audi-

torium following the worship service.

CONFIRMATION OF NEW MEMBERS: This morning in worship we welcome our new members Danielle Ohemeng and Joshua Overton; please be sure to say hello to both of them during coffee hour.

THE MUSIC: On this Pentecost Sunday, the service is framed with organ toccatas representing the rushing wind of the Holy Spirit. Toccata, meaning “to touch,” has been a popular style of playing for organists and composers, alike, for centuries. After the *Toccata and Fugue in D Minor* attributed to J.S. Bach, Widor’s Toccata from his *Fifth Symphony* is likely the most famous of all. Hailstork is an African American who enjoys a distinguished career as a composer and educator. 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. He is professor of music and composer-in-residence at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va. **SUMMER MUSIC:** We give thanks to the members of the Chancel Choir who complete their choral season today. The Chancel Choir will return after Labor Day. Over the summer months, there are opportunities for members of the congregation to share their talents in worship. Please e-mail music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com or speak with Tony Thurman if you are interested in singing or playing a sacred solo during worship. **FATHER’S DAY MEN’S CHORUS:** On Sunday, June 16, we invite the men from the congregation to unite their voices in a Father’s Day Men’s Chorus. Rehearsals will be today, June 9th, 11:30-12:30 p.m. and next Sunday, June 16th, 9-9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

GOSPEL CHOIR CONCERT: Our Gospel Choir will join their voices with the Grace Baptist Church of Germantown’s Chancel Choir in a Gospel Concert in our Sanctuary on Sunday, June 23rd at 4 p.m. The concert will be directed and led by Sara C. Blanford.

COFFEE HOUR: This week’s host: CDFC. 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.

JUNE CHALLENGE OFFERING FRIENDS OF VERNON PARK: Just outside the windows of the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown you will see green leafy trees and colorful flowers in bloom, children playing, dogs and their owners strolling the paths and folks enjoying a conversation or book as they sit on the benches. Vernon Park, the ‘Emerald of Germantown’ is nestled in between commercial corridors and residential streets and serves as a connector, interlude and green oasis in our neighborhood. The Friends of Vernon Park is a group of dedicated volunteer stewards of this vital community resource, ensuring that the Park is vibrant, welcoming and a positive environment for all. We are able to accomplish this joyful work with the help of our community. The financial support provided by First Presbyterian Church has enabled us to tend to gardens, create thoughtful programming for families and invest in (limited but consistent) maintenance during the Philadelphia Parks and Recreation off-season. The Park looked and felt great all winter—and welcomed spring once it (finally!) arrived—ready for picnicking, Easter egg hunting and all sorts of fun. To learn more about Friends of Vernon Park, please visit www.friendsofvernonpark.org. Thank you, FPCG friends, for all you do to lift up our community.

THE LITURGICAL DANCE REHEARSALS CONTINUE: Rehearsal will be held every Thursday at 5:30pm and every Saturday at 10am through Sunday, June 30th date when the dance will be ministered. Thursday rehearsals are held in the Sanctuary and Saturday rehearsals are held in the Youth Lounge. If you are interested please speak to Rev. Rebecca after worship or email her at rsegers@fpcgermantown.org.

FPCG ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS: Applications for our annual scholarships are now available for church members, active program members and friends of the church. Scholarships are for trade school degrees, undergraduate degrees, and graduate studies. Applications are in the church office. If you'd like to have an application electronically please contact Christian Heyer-Rivera at Christianaheyer@yahoo.com. The application deadline is June 30th.

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

Sunday, June 9		Pentecost—Lord's Supper Sunday
	8:45 AM	Confirmation Breakfast
	10:00 AM	Worship/Confirmation—The Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
	10:15 AM	Sunday School Grades K-5
	11:30 AM	Men's Chorus Rehearsal—Sanctuary
	5:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir Concert—Sanctuary
Tuesday, June 11	2:30 PM	Sunday Suppers—Kitchen, Longstreth, Finney Room
Wednesday, June 12	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting—Finney Room
	4:00 PM	KSB—Sanctuary, Choir Rm, Primary, Longstreth
	5:30 PM	GACM Board Meeting—Jennings Room
	6:00 PM	Friends of Vernon Park—Finney Room
	7:00 PM	Vision For The Future Team—Upstairs Office
Thursday, June 13	8:00 AM	Rev. Rebecca at Uncle Bobbie's, 5445 Germantown Ave. (8-10 a.m.)
	5:30 PM	Liturgical Dance Rehearsal—Sanctuary
	6:00 PM	Keystone State Boychoir—Jennings Room, Longstreth Aud.
Friday, June 14	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—Gym, Youth Lounge
Saturday, June 15	8:00 AM	Keystone State Boychoir—Choir Room, Primary, Sanctuary Finney Room, Longstreth Auditorium
	10:00 AM	Liturgical Dance Rehearsal—Youth Lounge
	10:00 AM	Open Gym
		Father's Day
Sunday, June 16	9:00 AM	Men's Chorus Rehearsal—Sanctuary
	10:00 AM	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

Dick Liberty
Dolores Shanks
OPEN

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 C. Blanford
Director of the Gospel Choir	Evelyn Santiago	Christian Heyer-Rivera
Director of the Handbell and Children's Choirs	Christian Heyer-Rivera	Heidi Mercado-Littles
Director of Christian Education	Parish Visitor	Terry Boyer
Building Manager	Cherese Akers	Cindy Osborne
Communications Management Fellow	Bookkeeper	Tony Nixon, David Slaughter
Sextons		

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