

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

JULY 14, 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.

July 14, 2019

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

*"We instinctively tend to limit for whom we exert ourselves. We do it for people like us, and for people whom we like. Jesus will have none of that." - Timothy Keller*

## **ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM**

### **GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY**

Prelude: *Rhosymedre*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Welcome and Announcements

†\*Call to Worship

Christian Heyer-Rivera

One: I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;

**Many: With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.**

One: I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

**Many: Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

One: It is good to praise the Lord, and make music to your name, O Most High,

**All: to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night.**

\*Hymn 403: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

CONVERSE

### **CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD**

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, Jesus has told us that our lives are enriched by loving you and loving our neighbors. We confess that love is hard for us. We are often too self-ish or too pessimistic, too hollow or too hardened, or just too tired to give ourselves to love's demands. Instead we make excuses, take shortcuts, and seek our own pleasures. Then we find ourselves far away from abundant life. Help us make our way back to you. Forgive our sins and direct our hearts so that we may find the strength to love and the grace to receive love's gifts. We pray in the name of Jesus, whose love has no boundary.**

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

Dick Liberty

The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30: 9-14

Page 179 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: *The Prodigal Son*

Arthur Sullivan

Come, ye children, and hearken unto me,  
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.  
Lo! The poor crieth and the Lord heareth him;  
Yea, and saveth him out of all his trouble.

Dugan Morgridge, tenor; Kristi Morgridge, piano

The Second Lesson: Luke 10:25-37

Page 67 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **THE EXTENT OF MERCY**

Rev. Kevin Porter

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

\*Hymn 358: *Help Us Accept Each Other*

BARONITA

\*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. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,**

like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. 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 to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory: *Minuet and March*

J.S. Bach

John Morgridge, violin

\*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Prayer of Dedication

### **GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME**

\*Hymn 386: *O For a World*

AZMON

\*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Kevin Porter

\*Congregational Response : #585

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Trumpet Tune*

David German

**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:** Dugan Morgridge, a tenor section leader in our Chancel Choir, is joined in worship today by his wife Kristi and son John. In addition to singing at First Church, Dugan appears regularly around the greater Philadelphia area. He enjoys a longtime collaboration with his wife, Kristi, who holds a degree in piano performance from the New England Conservatory. She is a former faculty member of Settlement Music School's Germantown and Kardon-Northeast branches. John has studied violin for two years at Settlement Music School, and is a student of Ms. Jean Shook. He will enter the third grade at Nazareth Academy Grade School this Fall. Little sister Margaret is John's biggest fan, and plans to follow in her mom's footsteps and study piano. Our guest organist is Kevin Freaney, who is filling in for Tony Thurman. Kevin has lived in the Philadelphia area since 2000 and has held church jobs throughout the region. In addition, he has been office manager for Emery Brothers, the curators of the McLean Memorial Pipe Organ.

**SUMMER MUSIC:** 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](mailto:music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com) or speak with Tony Thurman if you are interested in singing or playing a sacred solo during worship.

**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.

**FREEDOM SCHOOL:** Tomorrow begins the fourth week of Freedom School. The scholars read and enjoyed several books this week including: Have You Filled a Bucket Today? A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids (Bucket filling Books) by Carol Cloud, Uncle Jed's Barbershop by Margaree King Mitchell, The Werewolf of PS 40 (Kid Caramel, Private Investigator, Book 2) by Dwayne Ferguson, Fences by August Wilson. We also went ice skating at WinterSport Ice Sport Arena in Willow Grove. Please check out the bulletin board closets to the Jennings Room for new photos each week. A special thank you to Jasmine Greene for coming in the first week of Freedom School to take some of the great shots you see displayed. A special word of thanks to the Germantown Life Enrichment Center (GLEC) for allowing us to swim in their facility yesterday when the City of Philadelphia pools were closed on Wednesday. It was a great way of community partners working together to serve young people.

**MEET THE SCHOLARS AND SUPPORT THE FREEDOM SCHOOL FUNDRAISER:** One of the ways we hold down the cost of the 7 week summer program is to host this annual fundraiser at the Jenkintown Applebee's. Each Freedom School family is expected to sell 10 tickets and we also request support from our FPCG family. Join us Saturday, July 20th for a delicious breakfast. Tickets will be available for purchase during coffee hour today. Please see Eileen Jones or Contina Lundy.

**TRIP TO SMITHVILLE NEW JERSEY:** Smithville, N.J. is located about 15 miles north-inland from Atlantic City. There are brick paths shaded by oak and pine trees and lined by shops and boutiques on each side. Smithville began as a simple stagecoach stop, It is now a welcoming and thriving community. Cobblestone walkways with places to sit and rest, footbridges and beautiful grounds are some of the historic sites the town has to offer. Smithville is a shoppers paradise as it features over 50 shops, a delicious bakery and a winery. The winery offers tastings as well as a wide variety of wines to purchase. A day in the town of Smithville will be a day well spent. The van will leave the church parking lot at 10:00am sharp on July 25, 2019 and will return at approximately 4:00pm. If you are interested in attending please contact Gloria Bethea (215) 473-1672 or Faith Lewis (267) 816-9911 for further information.

**MESSAGE FROM THE DEACONS:** The Deacons started sending birthday cards to every member of our congregation. Deacons John Orandosh and Carolyn Tarver have spearheaded this effort, and now there's a way you can contribute as well, in addition to adding your well-wishing notes in the cards when you see them at coffee hours. If you receive greeting cards in the mail from various charities, please consider donating them to the Deacons. The Deacons would also welcome cards purchased for this purpose if you feel called to do so. Thank You.

**JULY CHALLENGE OFFERING SUNDAY BREAKFAST RESCUE MISSION:** Founded in 1878, we have reached out to the homeless in Philadelphia for more than 130 years. Originally named the Sunday Breakfast Association, our name was changed a few years ago to reflect our expanded services as a Rescue Mission. Rescue Missions are similar to a traditional homeless shelter, but focus on caring for the spiritual needs in addition to the practical needs of people. Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission, a non-profit organization, exists to minister in the name of Jesus Christ to the physical and spiritual needs of homeless and disadvantaged people in the Philadelphia area. Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission aims to transform lives by the power of God; so that those who have been loved, rescued and trained would become those who love, rescue and train. Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission serves the homeless through two locations in Philadelphia: a meal service program

servicing three meals a day to anyone in need and men's shelter in Center City and a transitional home for women in the Germantown neighborhood of Philadelphia. The Center City shelter also houses a long-term recovery program for men. The Mission does not receive government funding and relies on the generous contributions of caring individuals, families, churches and businesses.

**REV REBECCA SEGERS** will be in Puerto Rico from July 13 - July 31. She will be serving with fellow FPCG participants in service in Añasco. through July 21 and then participating in the PCUSA Fossil Free Delegation through July 31. She will not be at Uncle Bobbie's on Thursday mornings until August.

**PUERTO RICO REMINDER:** First Church sent 8 people to Puerto Rico yesterday to continue building relationships and offering support in rebuilding to the people in Añasco. Please keep them in your prayers.

**OUR YOUTH ARE GOING TO TRIENNIUM THIS WEEK!** Along with the leaders Christian Heyer-Rivera and Andrea Overton, FPCG is sending 7 young people to celebrate, pray, sing, study, learn, and praise God together, along with 6000 other young Presbyterians at Purdue University in Indiana from July 16-20. Keep them in your prayers that they may grow in faith during this special time.

### *Upcoming at First Church*

Monday, June 24th - Friday August 2nd

*Freedom School*

Sunday, July 13th - Sunday July 20th

*Puerto Rico Service Trip*

Tuesday, July 16th - Sunday, July 20th

*Youth Triennium*

Sunday, July 20th

*Freedom School Fundraiser*

Saturday, July 27th

*Beach Day*

Sunday, August 11th

*Communion Sunday*

Friday, August 16th - Sunday, August 18th

*Camping Trip*

**WINDOW ON THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday, July 14</b>	<b>Puerto Rico Service Trip—(through Sunday)</b>
10:00 AM	Worship—Rev. Kevin Porter preaching
10:15 AM	Sunday School Grades K-5
<b>Monday, July 15</b>	<b>Freedom School—Mon-Fri</b>
<b>Tuesday, July 16</b>	<b>Triennium Trip—Tues-Sat</b>
<b>Thursday, July 18</b>	6:00 PM Admin & Finance Committee Meeting—Finney Room
<b>Friday, July 19</b>	6:30 PM Elementary School Youth Group—Youth Lounge, Gym
<b>Saturday, July 20</b>	9:00 AM Presbytery Stated Meeting & Family Fun Day (9am - 3pm) Oxford Presbyterian Church 8501 Stenton Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19150
<b>Sunday, July 21</b>	10:00 AM Worship—Rev. Kevin Porter preaching
	10:15 AM Sunday School Grades K-5

# Church Officers

## Elders

### 2020

Gloria Bethea  
Andrea Overton  
J. Randall Rosensteel

### 2021

Marc DiNardo  
Robert Seed  
Jason Williams

### 2022

Ingrid Harris  
Joseph Leube  
Delores Solomon

Clerk of Session:  
Robert Seed

## Deacons

### 2020

Randy Clever  
John Orandosh  
Carolyn Tarver

### 2021

Dhyan Cassie  
Rhonda Highsmith  
Dani Howard

### 2022

Dick Liberty  
Dolores Shanks  
OPEN

## First Church Staff

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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		

## The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

35 West Cheltenham Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Phone 215-843-8811

FAX 888-333-5032

[www.fpcgermantown.org](http://www.fpcgermantown.org)