

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

OCTOBER 13, 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.

October 13, 2019

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*"I would maintain that thanks are the highest form of thought, and that gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder." - G. K. Chesterton*

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

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

Prelude: *Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound* arr. George Shearing

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty* arr. John Carter

†\*Call to Worship Rev. Kevin Porter

One: God be praised for turning seasons—blustery winter with its snow-face, the fragile wings of spring, and hot, heavy, growing, grazing summer.

**Many: Now two-faced autumn begins with burnished days and drizzling days.**

One: Autumn—September crimson, October orange and cat-black, November gray.

**Many: Autumn—golden leaves, ripe red Cortlands, school bells, football cheers, pumpkin pie, cider, mince, the smell of cold and smoke, the touch of homecoming.**

One: Autumn—when between the boughs of leaf-lost trees squirrels race winter. We gather in the harvest of our lives, the plenty, the good, and rake up the scatterings—dried hopes and fallen dreams.

**All: And we offer all the end-year bounty and gleanings before Almighty God.**

\*Hymn 551: *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

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

Prayer of Confession

**Awesome God, have mercy on us. Guide us through the fires of temptation, and save us from the floods of selfishness. Lift us from the burden of despair that would prevent us from walking forth as your people and answering your call. Heal us, O Jesus, as you healed the lepers of old. Forgive us, O God, and plant your seeds of forgiveness in our lives and in our church, that we might forgive, even as we are forgiven. Build us into your body of Christ, in this time and place.**

Silent Meditation

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\*congregation standing; †latecomers may be seated

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

Rev. Linda J. Jaymes

The First Lesson: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

Page 687 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: *It Is Well With My Soul*

Philip P. Bliss/arr. John Ness Beck

Text: Horatio G. Spafford

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;

Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well with my soul."

My sin, O the joy of this glorious thought, my sin, not in part, but the whole

Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more: Praise the Lord, O my soul!

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll:

The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend, even so it is well with my soul!

The Second Lesson: Luke 17:11-19

Page 75 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **ITS GRRREAT!**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

\*Hymn 2088: *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High* (from *Sing the Faith*) LIFT YOUR NAME ON HIGH

\*Affirmation of Faith—(from *The Heidelberg Catechism*)

One: Since we are redeemed from our sin and its wretched consequences by grace through Christ without any merit of our own, why must we do good works?

**Many: Because just as Christ has redeemed us with his blood he also renews us through his Holy Spirit according to his own image, so that with our whole life he may be glorified through us; and further, so that we ourselves may be assured of our faith by its**

fruits and by our reverent behavior may win our neighbors to Christ. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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.**

Offering

Offertory: *Adagio*

J.S. Bach

\*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Prayer of Dedication

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

\*Hymn 276: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

FAITHFULNESS

\*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

\*Congregational Response : #585

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Fugue in C Major*

Bach

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### **IN CELEBRATION**

Today's flowers are in honor of the celebration of marriage of Susan Mills Farrington and Vaughn MacDonald held here yesterday.

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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.

**COFFEE HOUR:** This week's host: CDFC. Next week's host: CE Committee. 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.

**THE MUSIC:** First Church Music Director Tony Thurman is preparing for his Longwood Gardens debut this afternoon. We give thanks to Jesse Padgett for leading the Chancel Choir 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.

**LONGWOOD GARDENS:** A field trip to Longwood Gardens departs today at 12 noon. Enjoy the beautiful fall colors of Longwood and an organ recital by Tony Thurman on the

largest pipe organ ever built for a private residence (10,000 pipes) at 3 p.m. The cost is \$35, which includes roundtrip bus transportation and Gardens admission. Sign up with Gloria Bethea during coffee hour to reserve your place. Read more about the Longwood online at [Longwoodgardens.org](http://Longwoodgardens.org).

**PHILADELPHIA INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK:** Soon our PIHN guests will move on to another congregation. Pray that doors open for them to obtain stable employment that offers a living wage and affordable housing in safe neighborhoods with safe schools. Thank you to all who have helped these past weeks. You are part of the 1,500 volunteers who annually help make this program work.

**OCTOBER CHALLENGE OFFERING PRESBYTERIAN PEACE & JUSTICE:** Presbyterian Peacemaking Offering is our Challenge recipient for the month of October. Without a doubt, our world is in need of peace. On our streets and in our communities, within our households and in our relationships, within groups and between factions, among nations and within the whole global community, we need peace. Stark reminders of our need for peace confront us every day, calling us to act and inviting us to engage in the works and witness of peacemaking. The Presbyterian Peacemaking Offering provides a concrete way for all of us to contribute to the work of peacemaking.

**THANK YOU:** Susan (Mills Farrington) and Vaughn MacDonald would like to thank everyone who joined us yesterday in the celebration of our marriage. It made the day very special for us and our families and it wouldn't have been the same without you.

**ANNA REIMANN** is celebrating her 100th birthday on Saturday, October 19, 2019 from 1:30-4:00pm at Rydal Park. All are welcome. Please RSVP by October 10th to Greta Reimann at [greta0301@gmail.com](mailto:greta0301@gmail.com).

**THE RACHEL CIRCLE**, an arm of the Presbyterian Women USA, will hold its monthly meeting Monday, October 21st at 11:00 a.m. in the Jennings Room. All women are welcome. Please bring your lunch. Drink and dessert will be provided.

**ACT & ENGAGE:** The Mission and Outreach Committee is happy to present a new program to educate, inform, and call our congregation to action around the important issues of our time. The first two topics we will address are Criminal Justice Reform and Environmental Sustainability. If you have a passion for either/both of these subjects, would like to help choose future topics and/or design the programs, speak to Rev. Rebecca or M&O committee member John Orandosh. Meanwhile, put Sunday, October 27, 2019 on your calendar and plan to join us after worship for our first gathering.

**DO YOU HAVE A FPCG STORY TO TELL?** Perhaps there is a time when the church supported you in crisis, or a reason you give of your time, talents or treasures the way you do. If you would be willing to share with the congregation in a unique and different way on Sunday, November 10th during worship, please speak with Discipleship Chair Daniel Conner or Rev. Rebecca Segers for more information.

**2020 CALENDAR SALE TO BENEFITS THE DEACONS:** After a three year hiatus, the Deacons will be selling 2020 Calendars featuring photography by Heidi Mercado-Littles. Calendars are \$15 and will be available in time for Christmas. You can see a sample and place your order during Coffee Hour through Sunday, November 24, 2019. Thank you for supporting the work of the Deacons.

**MESSIAH CONCERT:** Save the date! The Germantown Oratorio Choir & Orchestra will present our annual Messiah concert on Sunday, December 1, at 3 p.m. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays from 7-9 p.m. beginning October 29. For more information or to participate, please call the church office at 215-843-8811 or e-mail [music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com](mailto:music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com). The post-concert fellowship this year will be a dessert reception.

**PARKING LOT PROJECT:** The project was tentatively scheduled to begin in late August or early September but has been delayed due to new regulations and increased construction costs. It is likely to happen in 2020. More information about this project and storm water management is available on the Literature Table.

**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.

***Upcoming at First Church***

Sunday, October 20th, 11:30am

***3rd Sunday Intergeneration Bible Study***

Sunday, October 20th, 5:00-6:30pm

***Harvest***

***(formerly known as Bread & Cup)***

Sunday, October 27th, 11:30am

***Act & Engage***

Sunday, November 10th, 2:00-6:00pm

***Pedals, Pipes & Pizza***

**WINDOW ON THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday, Oct. 13</b>	9:00 AM	Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
	10:00 AM	Worship—Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
	11:30 AM	Chancel Choir—Choir Room
	12:00 PM	Longwood Gardens Bus Departure
<b>Wed, Oct. 16</b>	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting—Upstairs Office
	3:30 PM	KSB Rehearsal—S, CR, Jennings, Longstreth
	5:30 PM	A & E Planning Meeting—Finney Room
	7:00 PM	Property Meeting—Finney Room
<b>Thursday, Oct. 17</b>	8:00 AM	Rev. Rebecca at Uncle Bobbie's, 5445 Germantown Ave. (8-10 a.m.)
	5:00 PM	KSB Rehearsal—Jennings Room
	6:00 PM	Admin & Finance Committee Meeting—Finney
	6:30 PM	Gospel Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
	7:45 PM	Voices in Bronze Rehearsal—Choir Room
<b>Friday, Oct. 18</b>	5:00 PM	KSB Small Group Ensemble—Choir Room
	6:30 PM	Elementary School Youth Group—YL, Gym
<b>Saturday, Oct. 19</b>	8:00 AM	KSB Rehearsal—Sanctuary (8-12pm)
	8:00 AM	KSB Rehearsal—Longstreth, CR (8-12pm)
	9:30 AM	Worship, Music, and the Arts—Finney Room
	10:00 AM	Open Gym—Gym
	10:00 AM	Mission & Outreach Meeting—Jennings
	1:00 PM	Organ Rehearsal—Sanctuary
1:30 PM	Anna Reimann 100th Birthday Celebration	
<b>Sunday, Oct. 20</b>	9:00 AM	Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
	10:00 AM	Worship—Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
	10:15 AM	Sunday School Grades K-5
	11:30 AM	Chancel Choir—Choir Room
	11:30 AM	3rd Sunday Bible Activity—Longstreth Auditorium
	5:00 PM	Harvest—Longstreth Auditorium

# 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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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 C. 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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