

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

ALIVE,

OCTOBER 6, 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 6, 2019

World Communion Sunday

"What I am not confused about is the world needing much more love. No hate, no prejudice, no bigotry, and more unity, peace, and understanding. Period." - Stevie Wonder

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: Two Spirituals arr. Charles Callahan
Let Us Break Bread Together on Our Knees
He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Come to Zion* Shaker hymn/arr. Ted W. Barr
Come to Zion sin sick souls in sorrow bound. Lay your cares upon the altar where true healing may be found. Shout Alleluia, alleluia! Praise resounds o'er land and sea. All who will may come and share the glories of this jubilee.

†*Call to Worship

One: Sometimes life is torn down, war does not cease, home is far away.

Many: Affliction comes. People weep. Suffering prevails.

One: So it is, in many places near and far.

Many: But it need not be the end. Let lament and compassion activate our faith this day.

All: Let us be the change the world needs to see.

The First Lesson: Lamentations 3:19-26 (in Portuguese) Page 720 OT Serafim Santos
(in English) Sara Greene

*Hymn 440: *In Christ There Is No East or West* MC KEE

The Second Lesson: Psalm 137:1-4 (in Tagalog) Page 544 OT Sylvia Clark
(in English) Sara Greene

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

God of light and love, whose Spirit blows life from generation to generation, blow among us this day. Transform our trembling hearts with courage to bear one another's suffering. Strengthen our will with passion enough to witness to your goodness. Teach us to trust you enough that our children may also know your Spirit in them, until that great day when all generations have finished their charge and are at rest in you.

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

The Third Lesson: 2 Timothy 1:3-4, 7, 11-14

(in Spanish) Page 199 NT

(in English)

Emanuel Heyer-Rivera

Sara Greene

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

Gospel Choir Anthem: *Healing*

The Fourth Lesson: Luke 17:5-10 (in French) Page 75 NT

(in English)

Danielle Ohemeng

Sara Greene

Sermon: **TOUGH STUFF**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Affirmation of Faith—The Apostles’ 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.

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Offering

Offertory: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

William Runyan/arr. Cindy Berry

Text: Thomas Obediah Chisholm

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine, for thee all the follies of sin I resign;

My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*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 all upon 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. This day we join together with those who worship and serve you around the world, acknowledging our brothers and sisters in Christ in this sanctuary, this community, this country, this hemisphere, this world. 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. When he was baptized by John, he was not alone, but surrounded by people, all coming to repent and be blessed together. In Jesus' life and ministry, he reached out to all people: he called fishermen and tax collectors, he served the poor and the friendless, he healed the synagogue leader's daughter and the Syro-Phoenician woman's daughter and the hemorrhaging woman and the ten lepers and many more from all walks and nationalities, and announced freedom from sin's bondage to everyone. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus broke the power of death and led the way to eternal life. For this we 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 hold 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 came for all people, and humbly pray that these in this sanctuary, along with all who are celebrating your supper today, might be the body of Christ together. 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 420: *God of Grace and God of Glory vv. 1,3,5*

CWM RHONDDA

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

*Congregational Response: #587

Jester Hairston

Postlude: *God of Grace, and God of Glory*

Paul Manz

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: Open. Many thanks to Rachel Circle for supplying last weeks munchies. 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: We welcome Sara Carter Blanford and our Gospel Choir back to the choir loft this morning. *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* is presented by the Chancel Choir in a fresh, new arrangement by Cindy Berry. The hymn text was written by Thomas Obediah Chisholm in 1923. Chisholm, who authored more than 1,200 other poems, was born in a log cabin in Franklin, Kentucky, in 1866. He worked as a school teacher, newspaper editor, Methodist minister, and insurance agent, then retired and spent his remaining days at the Methodist Home for the Aged in New Jersey. On this World Communion Sunday the hymn refrain reminds us, "All I have needed, thy hand hath provided." God's abundance is more than enough.

PHILADELPHIA INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK: Our Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) guests have settled in and will call FPCG home through Sunday Oct 27. Sunday school rooms provide them temporary private housing and congregation volunteers provide meals and other foods for them to make lunch and have snacks. A few vol-

unteer slots remain available. Sign up during coffee hour or speak to Delores Solomon or Eileen Jones.

FPCG SECURITY FORUM: Do you worry about safety during the morning worship or while here at other times during the week? If you have concerns, we want to hear them. If you have ideas on how we can improve security, we want to hear them. Please join us tomorrow, October 7th at 6:30 pm in the Finney Room for an initial discussion to get things started. It's a crazy world out there. Let's do our best to ensure our church is always a safe place to be.

SUSAN MILLS FARRINGTON & VAUGHN MACDONALD are pleased to invite members of the congregation to join them in the celebration of their marriage on Saturday, October 12th at 2pm in the sanctuary. It will be followed by a reception in Longstreth Auditorium, where you will have a chance to greet them and members of their family with the cutting of the cake and a champagne toast!

LONGWOOD GARDENS: A field trip is planned for Sunday afternoon, October 13, departing from the church at 12 Noon. Enjoy the beautiful fall colors of Longwood and an organ recital by First Church Music Director Tony Thurman performed on the largest pipe organ ever built for a private residence. The cost is \$35, which includes roundtrip bus transportation and Gardens admission. Sign up with Gloria Bethea during coffee hour or call the church office at 215-843-8811 to reserve your place. Read more about the Longwood online at Longwoodgardens.org.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

World Communion Sunday		
Sunday, Oct. 6	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	New Members Class—Finney Room
	1:30 PM	KSB Rehearsal—Longstreth Auditorium
Monday, Oct. 7	6:30 PM	FPCG Security Forum—Finney Room
Tuesday, Oct. 8	5:30 PM	KSB Percussion Rehearsal—Choir Room
	6:30 PM	Christian Education Meeting—Upstairs Office
Wed, Oct. 9	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting—Upstairs Office
	3:30 PM	KSB Rehearsal—Sanctuary, CR, Jennings, Longstreth
	5:30 PM	GACM Board Meeting—Upstairs Office
	6:00 PM	Friends of Vernon Park—Jennings Room
	7:00 PM	Session Meeting—Finney Room
Thursday, Oct. 10	5:00 PM	KSB Rehearsal—Jennings Room
	6:30 PM	Gospel Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
	7:45 PM	Voices in Bronze Rehearsal—Choir Room
Friday, Oct. 11	5:00 PM	KSB Small Group Ensemble—Choir Room
	6:30 PM	Middle/High School Youth Group—YL, Gym
Saturday, Oct. 12	8:00 AM	KSB Rehearsal—Sanctuary (8-12pm)
	8:00 AM	KSB Rehearsal—Longstreth, Choir Room (8-12pm)
	10:00 AM	Open Gym—Gym
	2:00 PM	Susan Farrington Wedding—Sanctuary, Longstreth
Sunday, Oct. 13	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
	12:00 PM	Longwood Gardens Trip

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

Director of Adult Education and Community Life	Pastor	Rebecca Segers
Director of Christian Education	Kevin L. Porter	Christian Heyer-Rivera
Director of Urban Ministry	Eileen Jones	F. Anthony Thurman
Director of Music	Sara C. Blanford	Evelyn Santiago
Director of the Gospel Choir	Heidi Mercado-Littles	Terry Boyer
Director of the Handbell and Children's Choirs	Parish Visitor	Cherese Akers
Building Manager	Bookkeeper	Cindy Osborne
Communications Management Fellow	Sextons	Tony Nixon, David Slaughter, Clinton (CJ) Cotton

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