

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

FEBRUARY 2, 2020

**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.

February 2, 2020

Black History Month/The Lord's Supper

*"Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable....Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals."*

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

**ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM  
GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY**

Prelude: *Two Spirituals: Amazing Grace  
Blessed Assurance*

Gerald Near

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

Randy Clever

Introit: *Softly and Tenderly*

Thurman

†\*Call to Worship

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: Come, all who are poor in spirit; come, all who mourn; come, all who are meek; come, all who hunger and thirst after righteousness.

**Many: Come, all who would be merciful; come, all who would be pure in heart; come, all who would be peacemakers.**

One: Let us come together, the weak, the simple, the powerless, the foolish.

**All: Let us confess that the source of our life is Christ Jesus. Let us worship the God of every blessing.**

\*Hymn 464: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

**CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD**

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, your mercy seems foolish and your grace unfathomable. We do not always walk with you, let alone walk humbly with you. Forgive us when we stray. In a world that teaches power and selfishness, we do not always perceive what is just, let alone strive to bring it about. Forgive us when we turn away. In a time when cruelty seems to be a spectator sport, we are not always the face of compassion or the voice of kindness. Forgive us when we neglect a neighbor in need or cause hurt in another's life. Bless us with the gift of mercy, that even as you forgive us, we can forgive ourselves and others. In grace and gratitude, we pray.**

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

Jim Thompson

The First Lesson: Micah 6:1-8

Page 816 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: *Ain't That Good News*

Wilmington Chester Mass Choir

I've got a home up in that Kingdom, yes yes. Lay down this world, shoulder up my cross.  
Take it home to my Jesus, ain't that good news.

I'm gonna tell the story on my way to glory. I'm gonna sit at Jesus' feet, I'm gonna walk those golden streets. Gates of pearl, streets of gold, half has never been told. Good news ain't that good news.

Gospel Choir; Andrea Overton, soloist  
Sara C. Blanford, director

The Second Lesson: Matthew 5:1-12

Page 4 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **TO BE BLESSED**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

\*Hymn 405: *What Does the Lord Require*

SHARPTHORNE

\*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.**

Offering

Offertory: *Offertory*

John Ness Beck  
Text: Micah 6:6-8

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, shall I come before him with yearling calves?  
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil?  
Shall I give him my first born for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

He has shown you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you  
But to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

\*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, it is truly right to glorify you, and to give you thanks,  
for you made all things and filled them with your blessing; you  
created them and us to rejoice in your splendor. Countless throngs  
of angels serve you night and day, and offer you unceasing praise.  
We join with them, giving voice to every creature under heaven,  
lifting our voices in joyful praise:

Congregational Response: *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Thurman

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly; Lord, God of pow - er and might. Hea - ven and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est; Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Leader: We praise you, most holy God, for sending your only Son to live among us, sharing our joy and sorrow. He told your story, healed the sick, and was a friend of sinners. Obeying you, he took up his cross and died that we might live. We praise you that he overcame death and is risen to rule the world.

Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a - gain.

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, so that as we receive your blessings, you receive our gratitude. We lift our prayer using the words 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.**

Congregational Response: *The Great Amen*

A - men, A - men, A - men! \_\_\_\_\_

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 Communion

**God of all might and power, you have so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us. Give us grace that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills and our works, a continual thank-offering to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME**

\*Hymn 341: *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine*

ASSURANCE

\*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

\*Congregational Response: #587

Jester Hairston

Postlude: *Hymn to Joy*

Albert L. Travis

**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: Anna Doubeni. 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.

**THE LITURGY:** The Session, at the recommendation of the Worship Music and the Arts Committee, has approved celebrating the Lord's Supper on the 1st Sunday of every month. This will enable those who wish to partake to know exactly when it will happen as well as make it easier to serve those who are home-or institution-bound. Let us remember together our forgiveness and salvation in Christ every 1st Sunday.

**THE MUSIC:** During the month of February, we will be recognizing Black History Month in our service music and anthems. Today we hear two spirituals arranged by Gerald Near in the organ prelude, and a fresh, new setting of *Softly and Tenderly* as the introit. We are grateful for the Gospel Choir's participation in worship today and the gifts Sara Carter Blanford brings to our church.

**FEBRUARY CHALLENGE OFFERING:** February's Challenge Offering will be dedicated to the Deacons fund. This fund assists the Deacons in their mission: "to minister to those who are in need, to the sick and to any who may be in distress in the community of faith." Please give generously to support this mission of our congregation.

**COME JOIN PEOPLE OF FAITH AND ALL WHO ARE CONCERNED** about climate change as a moral issue at the Annual Conference of Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light *The Long Journey: From Extracting the Past to Cultivating the Future*, Sunday, February 9th, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. hosted right here at FPCG. The keynote speaker (streamed live) is Colette Pichon Battle of the Gulf Coast Center for Law and Policy. She will draw connections between the fossil-fuel entwined histories of Pennsylvania and Louisiana, and explore what we can learn from each as we build the movement for a sustainable future. There will be workshops on local issues as well as Malinda and Mark Clatterbuck of *Lancaster Against Pipelines* will be receiving an award and leading a workshop. Go to <http://www.paipf.org/> to learn more and to register.

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LOCK-IN COMING SOON:** Save the date of Sunday, February 16th at 6:00pm through Monday, February 17th (Presidents Day) at 9:00am as Elementary School Youth are invited to join Rev. Rebecca Segers, Contina Lundy, and Christian Heyer-Rivera in fun, fellowship, and faith around the theme "We're All in This Together" based on Corinthians 3:9. Speak to any of the chaperones to reserve your spot.

**HOW BLESSED WE ARE - HOW CAN WE PASS THE BLESSING ON?** Please join us for worship and conversation afterward on Sunday, February 23rd. Ellie Johns-Kelley, our Ministry Relations Officer at the Presbyterian Foundation, will lead us in worship that day and then we will enjoy a light lunch with a presentation and conversation in the Jennings Room. During our time together, we will discuss: how to discern your legacy, how to share that message with our church and those you love, and how to make a planned gift to continue to your ministry here. Our church has a long history of passing along a deep and abiding faith, a faith that is vibrant and hopeful and makes an impact in people's lives. We are planning now to equip future generations with faith like this. We'd like to invite you to join that tradition and consider the following: What is your lasting legacy of faith to the next generations in our church? Please join us in exploring how we can continue to be the presence of Christ in the world through our church and even beyond our lifetime.

**LOOKING AHEAD:** The Germantown Oratorio Choir, with concert pianist Gayle Martin, will present a Beethoven Festival Concert on Sunday, March 15, at 3 p.m. The program will feature the choral music of Beethoven, including the *Choral Fantasy*, in commemoration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the composer's birth. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays from 7-9 p.m. in the Sanctuary. For more information or to participate, call the church office at 212-843-8811 or e-mail [music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com](mailto:music.fpcgermantown@gmail.com).

**PUERTO RICO SERVICE TRIP:** The CE committee is asking all persons interested in the upcoming trip to Puerto Rico for a commitment and a deposit of \$350 by Sunday, March 15th in order to secure reasonable airfare and travel reservations. Please reach out to Christian Heyer-Rivera by text 267-972-5662 or email [cheyer-rivera@fpcgermantown.org](mailto:cheyer-rivera@fpcgermantown.org) to reserve a spot or for answers to any questions about the trip.

**WINDOW ON THE WEEK**

	<b>Lord's Supper</b>	
<b>Sunday, Feb. 2</b>	9:00 AM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
	10:00 AM	Worship—Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
	10:15 AM	Sunday School Grades K-5
	11:30 AM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room
	11:45 AM	Confirmation Class—CE Classroom Upstairs
	1:30 PM	Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
	3:30 PM	KSB Rehearsal—CR, Sanctuary, Jennings , Finney
<b>Monday, Feb. 3</b>	<b>GACM Closed—Food Cupboard Renovations</b>	
	1:00 PM	Ladies Teen Challenge
	6:30 PM	Disciples Basketball Game ( <b>GFS Fieldhouse</b> )
<b>Tuesday, Feb. 4</b>	7:00 PM	Oratorio Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
<b>Wed, Feb. 5</b>	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting—Upstairs Office
	3:30 PM	KSB Rehearsal—Sanctuary, Longstreth, Choir Room
	6:00 PM	Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
	7:00 PM	Session Meeting—Finney Room
<b>Thursday, Feb. 6</b>	8:00 AM	Rev. Rebecca at Uncle Bobbie's, 5445 Germantown Ave. (8-10 a.m.)
	5:00 PM	KSB Rehearsal—Jennings Room
	6:30 PM	Gospel Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
	7:30 PM	Voices in Bronze Rehearsal—Choir Room
<b>Friday, Feb. 7</b>	10:00 AM	GACM Staff Meeting—Finney Room
	3:00 PM	Drop-In Center—Youth Lounge, Gym
	5:00 PM	KSB Small Group Ensemble—Choir Room
	6:30 PM	Elementary School Youth Group—YL, Gym
<b>Saturday, Feb. 8</b>	8:00 AM	KSB Rehearsal—Longstreth (8-3pm)
	8:00 AM	KSB Rehearsal—Sanctuary (8-1pm)
	10:00 AM	Open Gym—Gym
	10:00 AM	Mission & Outreach Committee Meeting—Jennings
	1:00 PM	Organ Rehearsal—Sanctuary
<b>Sunday, Feb. 9</b>	9:00 AM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
	10:00 AM	Worship—Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
	10:15 AM	Sunday School Grades K-5
	11:30 AM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room
	11:45 AM	Confirmation Class—CE Classroom Upstairs
	1:00 PM	The Long Journey: PAIPL Climate Conference—L,J,F
	1:30 PM	Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
	3:30 PM	KSB Rehearsal—Choir Room

# 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, Clinton (CJ) Cotton

## The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

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