

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

JANUARY 26, 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.

January 26, 2020

Alternative Worship @ 5:00pm

"O never give me over to my own heart's desires, nor let me follow my own imaginations!" - John Wesley

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Morning Has Broken*

Charles Callahan

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty*

John Carter

†*Call to Worship

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

Many: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One: One thing I asked of the Lord, to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Many: "Come," my heart says, "seek the face of the Lord." Your face, Lord, do I seek.

All: Let us worship God!

*Hymn 487: *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

LAUDES DOMINI

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

God of our light and our salvation, sometimes we prefer to live in darkness, embracing the safety and anonymity of the shadows; sometimes we delight in our divisions, believing we are better than others; sometimes the yoke of our calling feels too heavy, and we seek to slip out from under the bar across our shoulders. Forgive our fear. Forgive our aversion to the light. Forgive our unresponsiveness to your call. Forgive our willful blindness and deafness to the Way. Help us to know deep in our souls that you are our light and our salvation, our joy and our wonder, our very life. Hear us as we cry aloud in our need.

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

Carolyn Ballard Freeman

The First Lesson: Matthew 4:12-23

Page 3 NT

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: *For the Beauty of the Earth*

Conrad Kocher
arr. Carol Lynn Mizell

Voices in Bronze Handbell Choir
Evelyn Santiago, director

The Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Page 155-156 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **FOLLOW THE LEADER**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 2242: *Walk with Me* (from Sing The Faith)

GLASER

*Affirmation of Faith (from *The Second Helvetic Confession*)

Since there is always but one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, Jesus the Messiah, and one Shepherd of the whole flock, one Head of this body, and, to conclude, one Spirit, one salvation, one faith, one Testament or covenant, it necessarily follows that there is only one Church. We, therefore, call this Church catholic because it is universal, scattered through all parts of the world, and extended unto all times, and is not limited to any times or places. 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: *Will You Come and Follow Me*

Scottish Melody
Arr. Tom Trenney

Text: John L. Bell and Graham Maule

"Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?"

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,

way to go, so if you haven't taken the opportunity to commit your time, talent, and treasure to the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown yet, please pick up a pledge card on the literature table (or use the one that was mailed to you), fill it out, and place it in the box on the literature table or in Bookkeeper Cindy Osborne's box in the Church Office. Thank you for your gift and the covenant you're making with the Lord and the church in this offering!

THE MUSIC: The choral anthem heard at the offertory, commonly known as *The Summons*, is a hymn from the Iona Community in Scotland based on a Scottish melody. The text speaks of Christ's call to discipleship in the first four stanzas, and our Christian response in the last. This fresh new arrangement was prepared by Tom Trenney, the minister of music at Plymouth Congregational Church in Lincoln, Neb.

MCLEAN MEMORIAL ORGAN CENTENNIAL CONCERT SERIES: If you were unable to attend last Sunday's concert, please enjoy the livestream video recording of Marvin and Philadelphia Brass. The link can be found on the church website www.fpcgermantown.org and Facebook page.

MLK DAY OF SERVICE 2020 THANK YOU: Our Annual MLK day of service was a success. We made our goal and packaged 25,000 meals to feed those in need around the worked. Thank you very much to everyone who donated and to the 174 volunteers who came out and worked so hard to Rise Against Hunger. Thank you to the Mission & Outreach team for making sure everyone had a nourishing meal for breakfast and lunch.

ACT & ENGAGE: Act & Engage is a new initiative that offers the opportunity to wrestle with important issues as followers of Christ: to listen, to learn, to engage through the lens of our Christian faith. Our first topic is Criminal Justice and we have held two programs around it thus far. One that focused on the book "Just Mercy", and a second that looked at Veterans with PTSD. Our January program is a look at what scripture says, some information from attorney Daniel Conner, a look at Maurice Horne's "Horne Act", and then discussion around next steps. Join us today immediately following worship. Please save the date and join us as we strive to discern how God is calling us to respond to this issue.

THE RACHEL CIRCLE, an arm of the Presbyterian Women USA, will hold its monthly meeting tomorrow, Monday, January 27th at 11:00 a.m. in the Jennings Room. All women are welcome. Please bring your lunch. Drink and dessert will be provided.

JANUARY CHALLENGE OFFERING BIBLE BASED TRAUMA HEALING FOR AFRICA: January's Challenge Offering will be dedicated to Bible Based Trauma Healing for Africa. Africans have been experiencing conflict and trauma for decades. But 20 years ago, Bible-based trauma healing was pioneered in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Since then, hundreds of African pastors, counselors, and community leaders have launched ministries to help people who suffer deeply. Each healing group is led by a trained ministry leader using a simple curriculum. Based on foundational truths from God's Word, the lessons use art, stories, activities, and questions to help people engage deeply with themselves, with God, and with each other. 100% of all donations received will go directly to the bible ministry. For more information or to give please visit americanbible.org.

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.paipl.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 8:00am 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.

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 Beethoven, including the *Choral Fantasy*, in commemoration of the 250th 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.

Upcoming at First Church

Sunday, January 26th, 11:30am

Act & Engage: The Criminal Justice System

Sunday, January 26th, 5:00pm

Faith @ 5:00 Alternative Worship Service

Followed by dinner

Sunday, February 9th, 1:00pm

The Long Journey: From Extracting the Past to

Cultivating the Future

PAIPL Climate Conference

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 26	9:00 AM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
	10:00 AM	Worship—Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
	11:30 AM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room
	11:30 AM	Deacons Meeting—Finney Room
	11:30 AM	Act & Engage Meeting—Jennings Room
	11:45 AM	Confirmation Class—CE Classroom Upstairs
	1:30 PM	KSB Rehearsal—CR, Sanctuary, Jennings , Finney
	1:30 PM	Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
	5:00 PM	Faith @ 5:00 Worship—Sanctuary, Longstreth
Monday, Jan. 27	GACM Closed—Food Cupboard Renovations	
	11:00 AM	Rachel Circle—Jennings Room
	1:00 PM	Ladies Teen Challenge
	6:30 PM	Disciples Basketball Game (GFS Field House)
Tuesday, Jan. 28	7:00 PM	Oratorio Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
Wed, Jan. 29	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting—Upstairs Office
	3:30 PM	KSB Rehearsal—Sanctuary, Longstreth, Choir Room
	6:00 PM	Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
Thursday, Jan. 30	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
Friday, Jan. 31	3:00 PM	Drop-In Center—Youth Lounge, Gym
	5:00 PM	KSB Small Group Ensemble—Choir Room
Saturday, Feb. 1	8:00 AM	KSB Rehearsal—Longstreth (8-3pm)
	8:00 AM	KSB Rehearsal—Sanctuary (8-1pm)
	9:30 AM	CDFC Meeting—Finney Room
	10:00 AM	Open Gym—Gym
	1:00 PM	Organ Rehearsal—Sanctuary
Sunday, Feb. 2	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

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

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

35 West Cheltenham Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Phone 215-843-8811

FAX 888-333-5032

www.fpcgermantown.org