

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

FEBRUARY 23, 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 23, 2020 Black History Month 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Leaving a legacy behind is huge.” - Aaron Donald, L.A. Rams

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

Prelude: *Adoration*

Florence B. Price

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Softly and Tenderly*

Thurman

†*Call to Worship

Rev. Rebecca Segers

One: In the beginning before time, before people, before the world began,

Many: God was.

One: Here and now among us, besides us, enlisting the people of earth for the purposes of heaven,

Many: God is.

One: In the future, when we have turned to dust and all we know has found its fulfillment,

Many: God will be.

One: Not denying the world, but delighting in it, not condemning the world, but redeeming it, through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit,

All: God was, God is, God will be.

*Hymn 420: *God of Grace and God of Glory*

CWM RHONDDA

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

One: Holy One, we long to be faithful stewards of your abundant grace.

Many: To serve each other in love and humility. To serve your world with wisdom and energy.

One: Forgive us when we stumble over pride, when our words and actions are not guided by love.

Many: Turn our hearts when we act in folly. Restore our energy when it is gone.

One: Sometimes, many times, O God, our efforts fail.

Many: But your abundant grace is strong and eternal,

All: And forgiveness is ours through Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God. Amen.

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

The First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Page 691 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 Lord's My Shepherd*

Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen

arr. Dan R. Edwards

arr. Bill Ingram

Voices in Bronze Handbell Choir

Evelyn Santiago, director

The Second Lesson: John 1:1-5

Page 86 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **GOD'S LEGACY OF LOVE**

Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 392: *I Love To Tell The Story* (w. 2,3) (see insert)

*Affirmation of Faith—The Nicene Creed (Ecumenical)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father (and the Son), who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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: *Great Day*

Spiritual/arr. Moses Hogan

Great day! Great day, the righteous marching.

Great day! God's gonna build up Zion's wall.

Great day my brother. Great day my sister.

*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 343: Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley

*Congregational Response : #587

Jester Hairston

Postlude: *Toccata on Great Day*

Adolphus Hailstork

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: Pernell Jackson. Many thanks to Andrea Overton 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 De-lores Solomon if you feel called to provide snacks or hands-on support.

WE WELCOME THE REV. ELLIE JOHNS-KELLEY: The Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley serves as the Ministry Relations Officer for the Presbyterian Foundation covering the Northeast Region. She works with congregations to create a culture of generosity, offers seminars and workshops, develops gifts and fundraising plans for ministries, and provides coaching to finance, stewardship and endowment committees. "Building on relationships and resourcing churches to help them increase funding for their ministry are my top priorities," said Ellie. "I want to help others realize the vast amount of resources available through the Foundation and work in collaboration with other agencies of the PC(USA)." Prior to joining the Foundation, Ellie served nearly four years as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Warren, Pennsylvania. Previously, she served as Director of the Summer Youth Institute and Assistant Director of Admissions at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. A member of the Presbytery of Lake Erie, Ellie most recently served as co-moderator of the presbytery's Administrative Committee and was a member of the Trustees. Previous service to the larger church includes the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission, Regional Resource Person for the Theological Education Fund in the Synod of the Trinity and the synod's Campus Ministry Task Force. Ellie received a Bachelor of Science in biology at Muskingum College and a Master of Divinity from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. She resides south of Pittsburgh in the town of Carmichaels with husband Dr. Eric Kelley and two young daughters.

THE MUSIC: During the month of February, we are recognizing Black History Month in our service music and anthems. We give thanks to Evelyn Santiago and the Voices in Bronze handbell choir for their musical offerings today. Florence Price, the composer of the prelude, was the first African-American woman to enjoy success as a symphonic composer. The Arkansas native studied organ and piano at the New England Conservatory of Music. The symphonic influence in her organ compositions can be heard in the orchestral strings, French horns, and chimes, all of which evoke an invitation to the Divine. Moses Hogan is best known for this spiritual arrangements. The New Orleans native graduated from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and attended Juilliard for graduate studies. He enjoyed a great career in music before a brain tumor took his life at age 45. We hear *Great Day* sung by the Chancel Choir and in a stirring arrangement for the organ postlude. Adolphus Hailstork, a Rochester, N.Y., native enjoys a distinguished career as a composer and educator. Hailstork earned a doctorate in music composition from Michigan State University, a master's degree from the Manhattan School of Music, and studied composition with Nadia Boulanger at the American Institute in Fontainebleau, France. He is professor of music and composer-in-residence at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va.

HOW BLESSED WE ARE - HOW CAN WE PASS THE BLESSING ON? Please join us for worship and conversation afterward today, 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 Longstreth Auditorium. 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.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY COMING SOON: "The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life" will be the book we use, leading us through our walk with Jesus in this holy season. See Don Carlin to sign up after worship today Sunday, February 23, or call into the office and let one of the volunteers know of your interest. Books are available at a suggested donation of \$5.00 each, but available for free if this is a hardship. The study will occur twice weekly beginning the first week in Lent: on Sundays at 11:30 a.m. following worship in the Finney Room, and on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and fellowship with the study starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Risse home, 812 E. Gravers Lane, Wyndmoor, PA 19038. Please join us for what is sure to be a meaningful time together as we grow closer to one another and the Lord.

LOOKING AHEAD: Today at 3 p.m., the Philadelphia Sinfonia will present a concert in our church sanctuary. Joining them will be the Germantown Oratorio Choir in a performance of the *Hymn to the Fallen* (from *Saving Private Ryan*) by John Williams. 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 rarely performed *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.

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.

PUERTO RICO 2020 WORK TEAM: We are officially on our way! We will be having a planning meeting on **Sunday March 1 at 11:30am**. During this meeting, we will be discussing the fundraising opportunities as well as answering any questions you may have about the work, the trip, and the island! If you're still unsure if you want to join us this summer or not, we encourage you to come to this meeting! Any questions, feel free to contact Sheila or Christian Heyer-Rivera.

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 to reserve a spot or for answers to any questions about the trip. The trip will happen on July 18, 2020 through July 26, 2020.

2020 MEMBERS DIRECTORY: We are working on publishing the members directory for 2020. If you have an address change, phone number change or would like to update your directory photo please let us know. Information updates can be emailed to fpcg.germantown@gmail.com or can be called in to the church office any morning of the week, 9 - 1 Monday through Friday. If you would like a new photo you may send a selfie to Lois Bethea at 215-771-1469 or see her in coffee hour for a quick snapshot. We will also have a copy of the current directory available during coffee hour for the next few weeks if you want to double check your listing.

CHURCH SECURITY: Next Thursday, February 27th at 6:00pm, the church will begin a discussion on church safety and measures that maybe appropriate for FPCG. Today all public spaces are vulnerable and enhancing security has become increasingly important. If you are able to attend the meeting, your input and observations are welcome. For further information or questions please contact Ernest Freeman at 215-438-2956.

Upcoming at First Church

Sunday, February 23rd, 11:30am

Leaving a Lasting Legacy with Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley

Sunday, February 23rd, 3:00pm

Sinfonia Concert

Tuesday, February 25th, 5:00—7:00pm

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

Sunday, March 1st, 3:00pm & 6:00pm

KSB Annual Jack Asher Concert

Thursday, March 5th, 8:30am

Food Cupboard Grand Re-Opening

Sunday, March 15th, 4:00pm

Beethoven Concert

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

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| Sunday, Feb. 23 | 9:00 AM | Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary |
| | 10:00 AM | Worship—Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley preaching |
| | 10:15 AM | Sunday School Grades K-5 |
| | 11:30 AM | 1809 Legacy Society Workshop—Longstreth |
| | 11:45 AM | Confirmation Class—CE Classroom Upstairs |
| | 12:30 PM | Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room |
| | 1:30 PM | Oratorio Rehearsal—Choir Room |
| | 1:30 PM | Basketball Practice—Gym |
| | 3:00 PM | Sinfonia Concert—Sanctuary, Jennings Room |
| Monday, Feb. 24 | Food Cupboard Renovations still underway! | |
| | 1:00 PM | Ladies Teen Challenge |
| Tuesday, Feb. 25 | 10:00 AM | GACM Weatherization Workshop—Jennings Room |
| | 5:00 PM | Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper—Longstreth Auditorium |
| | 5:30 PM | KSB Percussion Rehearsal—Choir Room |
| | 7:00 PM | Oratorio Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary |
| Wed, Feb. 26 | 10:00 AM | Senator Haywood Mobile Office—Jennings (9-2p) |
| | 10:00 AM | Staff Meeting—Upstairs Office |
| | 6:00 PM | Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary |
| | 7:00 PM | Ash Wednesday Worship—Sanctuary |
| Thursday, Feb. 27 | 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 | Security Meeting—Finney Room |
| | 6:30 PM | Gospel Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary |
| | 7:30 PM | Voices in Bronze Rehearsal—Choir Room |
| Friday, Feb. 28 | 9:00 AM | Organ Tuning—Sanctuary (9-6p) |
| | 3:30 PM | Drop-In Center—Youth Lounge, Gym |
| | 5:00 PM | KSB Small Group Ensemble—Choir Room |
| | 6:30 PM | Middle/High School Youth Group—L, Gym |
| Saturday, Feb. 29 | 8:00 AM | KSB Rehearsal—Longstreth (8-3pm) |
| | 8:00 AM | KSB Rehearsal—Sanctuary (8-1pm) |
| | 9:00 AM | Readers Choice—Offsite |
| | 10:00 AM | Open Gym—Gym |
| | 1:00 PM | Organ Rehearsal—Sanctuary |
| Sunday, March 1 | 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 | Faith @ 5 Planning Meeting—Finney Room |
| | 11:30 AM | Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Choir Room |
| | 11:45 AM | Confirmation Class—CE Classroom Upstairs |
| | 1:30 PM | Basketball Practice—Gym |
| | 3:00 PM | KSB Annual Jack Asher Concert—Sanctuary |
| 6:00 PM | KSB Annual Jack Asher Concert—Sanctuary | |

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

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www.fpcgermantown.org