

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

FEBRUARY 9, 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 9, 2020

Black History Month

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"Our human compassion binds us one to the other - not in pity or patronizingly, but as human beings who have learnt how to turn our common suffering into hope for the future." - Nelson Mandela*

## ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

### GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *Melody*

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Softly and Tenderly*

Thurman

†\*Call to Worship

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: Come and see! God's light is shining brightly.

**Many: God's light shines in us.**

One: When we honor God's commandments,

**Many: God's light shines in us.**

One: When we feed the hungry and give to those in need,

**Many: God's light shines in us.**

One: When we show mercy and compassion,

**Many: God's light shines in us.**

One: We are the light of the world!

**All: God's light shines in us. Amen.**

\*Hymn 281: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

CWM RHONDDA

### CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

**We call upon you, O God, crying out for strength to walk in your ways and to live in your truth. When we neglect the needs of the hungry and the homeless, turn our faces to see the face of poverty in our midst. When we ignore oppression and injustice, turn our attention to notice the needs of a world struggling for righteousness. When we cry out for you, but do not cry out for your people in need, speak to us of compassion and kindness, that we may return to your ways and live in your truth. Forgive our neglect. Forgive our inattention. Forgive our selfish cries. Guide us to water your world with compassion and love as you spring forth in our lives with compassion and grace.**

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

Susan Mills MacDonald

The First Lesson: Isaiah 58:1-9a

Page 647 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: *This Little Light of Mine*

Spiritual/arr. Craig Carnahan

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.

All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine.

The Second Lesson: Matthew 5:13-20

Page 4 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **GUIDED BY GOD**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

\*Hymn 354: *Guide My Feet*

GUIDE MY FEET

\*Affirmation of Faith (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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: *Blessed Assurance*

Gerald Near

\*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Prayer of Dedication

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

\*Hymn 563: *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

LIFT EVERY VOICE

\*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

\*Congregational Response : #587

Jester Hairston

Postlude: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

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 the Anna Doubeni 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 PRAISE & EVANGELISM TEAM** is meeting after worship today in the Primary Room. We will be discussing how we can better welcome visitors, Mt. Airy Day, and upcoming Faith @ 5:00 services. Please join us if you feel called to share in praising God and sharing the good news within the church walls or outside them.

**THE MUSIC:** During the month of February, we are recognizing Black History Month in our service music and anthems. Today we hear a fresh, new setting of *This Little Light of Mine* by Craig Carnahan. The Minnesota native has received more than 75 commissions for new music. His music has been described as "absorbing, richly textured and emotionally stirring" (Minneapolis *Star Tribune*).

**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*, Sun-

day, 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 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.

**THE RACHEL CIRCLE**, an arm of the Presbyterian Women USA, will hold its monthly meeting, Monday, February 17th at 11:00 a.m. in the Jennings Room. All women are welcome. Please bring your lunch. Drink and dessert will be provided.

**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.

**Upcoming at First Church**

Sunday, February 9th, 1:00pm

***The Long Journey: From Extracting the Past to  
Cultivating the Future  
PAIPL Climate Conference***

Sunday, February 16th, 11:30am

***Third Sunday Intergenerational Bible Study***

Sunday, February 23rd, 11:30am

***Leaving a Lasting Legacy with Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley***

Sunday, February 23rd, 3:00pm

***Sinfonia Concert***

Thursday, March 5th, 8:30am

***Food Cupboard Grand Re-Opening***

Sunday, March 15th, 4:00pm

***Beethoven Concert***

**WINDOW ON THE WEEK**

<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
	11:30 AM	Praise & Evangelism Meeting—Primary Room
	11:45 AM	Confirmation Class—CE Classroom Upstairs
	1:00 PM	PAI PL Conference—Jennings, Finney, Longstreth, K
	1:30 PM	Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
	3:00 PM	Presbytery Black Caucus Black History Celebration

**(Oxford Presbytery Church)**

**Monday, Feb. 10      Food Cupboard Renovations still underway!**

1:00 PM	Ladies Teen Challenge
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<b>Tuesday, Feb. 11</b>	5:30 PM	KSB Percussion Rehearsal—Choir Room
	6:30 PM	Christian Education Meeting—Upstairs Office
	7:00 PM	Oratorio Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary

<b>Wed, Feb. 12</b>	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting—Upstairs Office
	3:30 PM	KSB Rehearsal—Sanctuary, Longstreth, Choir Room
	5:30 PM	GACM Board Meeting—Jennings Room
	6:00 PM	Friends of Vernon Park—Finney Room
	6:00 PM	Basketball Practice—Gym

<b>Thursday, Feb. 13</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. 14</b>	3:00 PM	Drop-In Center—Youth Lounge, Gym
	5:00 PM	KSB Small Group Ensemble—Choir Room
	6:30 PM	Middle/High School Youth Group—YL, Gym

<b>Saturday, Feb. 15</b>	8:00 AM	KSB Rehearsal—Longstreth (8-3pm)
	8:00 AM	KSB Rehearsal—Sanctuary (8-1pm)
	10:00 AM	Open Gym—Gym
	1:00 PM	Organ Rehearsal—Sanctuary

<b>Sunday, Feb. 16</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
	11:30 AM	3rd Sunday Intergenerational Bible Study—Longstreth
	11:45 AM	Confirmation Class—CE Classroom Upstairs
	1:30 PM	Disciples Basketball Practice—Gym
	3:30 PM	KSB Rehearsal—CR, Sanctuary, Jennings, Finney
	6:30 PM	Elementary School Lock-in ( <b>Through 9:00am 2/17</b> )

# 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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