

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

JULY 19, 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.*

July 19, 2020

"To bear with patience wrongs done to oneself is a mark of perfection, but to bear with patience wrongs done to someone else is a mark of imperfection and even actual sin." - Thomas Aquinas

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *God's Time Is the Very Best Time*

J.S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

†*Call to Worship

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: We wait with hope,

Many: For God's promises are sure.

One: We wait with patience,

Many: For God's time is a mystery.

One: Come and worship.

All: We will wait upon the Lord together.

*Hymn 478: *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

LAUDA ANIMA

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; To His feet thy tribute bring; Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, ever more his praises sing; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor To His people in distress; Praise Him, still the same as ever, Slow to chide, and swift to bless; Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like, He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He knows; In His hands He gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes; Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely as His mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him; Ye behold Him face to face; Sun and moon, bow down before Him; Dwellers all in time and space, Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

O Creator, search us and test us, that all wickedness may be purged from us. God save us from our futile striving after our own advantage. Reshape our will to conform with your intentions for us. We confess that we have allowed weeds to grow in our lives. Our focus has drifted from the harvest you intend to the fears and greed that hold us hostage. Release us from bondage to decay that we may grow in likeness to Jesus Christ. We want to bear fruit for you. Turn us to the brightness of a new day. 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

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Susan Mills MacDonald

The First Lesson: Romans 8:12-25

Pages 147-148 NT

Leader: God's Word is a lamp to our feet, and a light to our path.

People: Thanks be to God!

A Time for Children

Anthem: *Let Nothing Ever Grieve Thee*

Johannes Brahms

Germantown Oratorio Choir
Ted W. Barr, organ
F. Anthony Thurman, conductor

The Second Lesson: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Rev. Rebecca Segers
Pages 13-14 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **WHEAT WHEAT WHEAT**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 560: *We Plow the Fields and Scatter*

NYLAND

We plow the fields and scatter The good seed on the land, But it is fed and watered By
God's almighty hand; God sends the snow in winter, The warmth to swell the grain, The
breezes and the sunshine, And soft, refreshing rain.

You only are the Maker Of all things near and far; You paint the way-side flower, You light
the evening star; The winds and waves obey You, By You the birds are fed; Much more to
us, Your children, You give our daily bread.

We thank You, then, Creator, For all things bright and good, The seedtime and the har-
vest, Our life, our health, our food: Accept the gifts we to offer, For all Your love imparts,
And what You most would welcome, Our humble, thankful hearts.

*Affirmation of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Je-
sus 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 Fa-
ther 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 ever-
lasting. 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 Our Gifts

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 392: *Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord*

HALL

Take Thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray: Give us the mind of Christ each passing day; Teach us to know the truth that sets us free; Grant us in all our thoughts to honor Thee.

Take Thou our hearts, O Christ, they are Thine own; Come Thou within our souls and claim Thy throne; Help us to shed abroad Thy deathless love; Use us to make the earth like heaven above.

Take Thou our wills, most High! Hold Thou full sway; Have in our inmost souls Thy perfect way; Guard Thou each sacred hour from selfish ease; Guide Thou our ordered lives as Thou dost please.

Take Thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind and will; Through our surrendered souls Thy plans fulfill. We yield ourselves to Thee, time, talents, all! We hear, and henceforth heed Thy sovereign call.

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

*Congregational Response: #585

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Praise My Soul, the King Heaven*

Robinson

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

Ministers of Word and Sacrament, Honorably Retired

David Cassie, Linda Jaymes, Allison Seed

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