

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

NOVEMBER 01, 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.*

November 01, 2020

All Saints Day

"That is your legacy on this Earth when you leave this Earth: how many hearts you touched."

- Patti Davis

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: *For All the Saints*

John Innes

Welcome and Announcements

†*Call to Worship

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: As we gather, we remember that we are not alone!

Many: We gather with the saints, who live in the presence of God, singing praises to the God of our salvation.

One: From every nation, race, clan and culture, God's people gather to worship the One-Who-Is-Without-Peer!

Many: To God and to the Lamb, all honor, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, strength and power.

One: Blessed be God, now and forever! Amen!

All: Amen!

*Hymn 138: *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

NICAEA

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee, Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee, Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee, Though the eye of sinfulness Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy! there is none beside Thee, Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we so often fail to remember how profoundly you love us. You bless us even when we are at our wit's end. You created us, and you love us as we are, even as you inspire our desire to be better through your Holy Spirit. Forgive us when we fail to remember that we are the body of Christ, saints-in-process. Empower us to begin anew, encouraged by the stories of those who live in your eternal presence. In the name of Jesus, and for the sake of the gospel, 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

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Siena Williams

The First Lesson: Psalm 34:1-10, 22

Pages 480-481 OT

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

The Second Lesson: Revelation 7:9-17

Rev. Rebecca Segers
Page 235 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **A RADIANT LEGACY**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 507: *I Come with Joy*

DOVE OF PEACE

I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved and free, in awe and wonder to recall his
life laid down for me, his life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed, the new community of love in
Christ's communion bread, in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends. The love that made us
makes us one, and strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His presence, always near, is in such friendship better
known; we see and praise him here, we see and praise him here.

Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways, and as his people in the world,
we'll live and speak his praise, we'll live and speak his praise.

*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.

*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: Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth, with joy we praise you and give thanks to your name. We praise you 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 to sinners. Obeying you, he took up his cross and died that we might live. He is still the friend of sinners. He overcomes every power than can hurt or divide, and when he comes in glory, we will celebrate victory with him. Great is the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

(Each of us brings the bread and cup to our table at home, knowing that they are blessed in our virtual community.)

Prayer After Supper

We have shared this meal together, surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, saints and martyrs, faithful people in every age.

Strengthened by their witness, and supported by their fellowship, may we be filled by the Spirit as they were, and given the power to serve you as they did. To you we give glory, O blessed Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

Offering Our Gifts

Litany of Remembrance

Leader: Today we come to this place made holy by the faith and witness of Presbyterian Christians 211 years ago.

People: We remember with gratitude.

Leader: Our mothers and fathers in the faith brought the word of God to this place. By their courage and commitment, the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown was gathered and given life. Let us not forget these exemplars of Christian witness.

People: We remember with gratitude.

Leader: We remember those members of the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown who have gone before us, naming those who entered the Great Cloud of Witnesses since November 2019:

Kevin Patterson (December 25, 2019)

(a bell tolls)

Peggy Garrett (January 12, 2020)

(a bell tolls)

Michael Brooks (March 30, 2020)

(a bell tolls)

Raymond Johnson (April 21, 2020)

(a bell tolls)

Faith Wolford (July 31, 2020)

(a bell tolls)

Grace Moragne (September 16, 2020)

(a bell tolls)

People: We remember with gratitude.

Leader: We remember those Christians who have gone before us, naming them aloud:

(please share aloud the names of those who have passed on and are now a Witness to the Resurrection)

People: We remember with gratitude.

Leader: Remembering those who Christians who have gone before, let us honor them by following as they followed in the way, the truth, and the life of Jesus Christ.

People: We dedicate ourselves anew to the faith that is Jesus Christ.

Leader: Knowing that God has made the Church God's instrument to minister to the world in all generations,

People: We dedicate ourselves anew to witness to Jesus Christ.

Leader: Trusting that God will continue to speak God's love for all people and that God will use to the Church today to bring God glory and honor,

People: We dedicate ourselves anew to being the Church, as we make bold to pray as our Lord has taught,

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.

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 526: *For All the Saints*

SINE NOMINE

For all the saints who from their labors rest, Who Thee by faith before the world confessed, Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress and their Might; Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight, Thou in the darkness drear, their one true Light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

Postlude: Fanfare alla Rondo

A.F. Schultz

GUEST MUSICIAN: Abigail LaVecchia is a pianist based in Philadelphia. She has been the organist and choir accompanist at Morrisville United Methodist Church since 2014. She is on faculty at Temple University's Boyer College of Music as a collaborative pianist, working for the Voice and Opera departments. She teaches piano at Friends Select School and is the principal pianist for the Pennsylvania Girlchoir and Montgomery County Choral and Orchestra. Originally from Bucks County, PA, Abigail now lives in South Philadelphia with her husband, Patrick, and dog, Wolfgang.

Church Officers

Elders

2021

Marc DiNardo
Robert Seed
Jason Williams

2022

Ingrid Harris
Joseph Leube
Delores Solomon

2023

Drew Hood
Andrea Overton
Fatima Robinson

Clerk of Session:
Robert Seed

Deacons

2021

Dhyan Cassie
Rhonda Highsmith
Dani Howard

2022

Dick Liberty
Dolores Shanks
Stephanie Garrett

2023

John Orandosh
Chris Scott Jr.
Carolyn Tarver

First Church Staff

Pastor	Rebecca Segers
Director of Adult Education and Community Life	Kevin L. Porter
Director of Urban Ministry	Eileen Jones
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

The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

35 West Cheltenham Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Phone 215-843-8811

FAX 888-333-5032

www.fpcgermantown.org