

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

OCTOBER 11, 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.*

October 11, 2020

"Partnership is the way. Dictatorial win-lose is so old-school." - Alanis Morissette

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: Fugue B-flat major BWV 890

J.S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

†*Call to Worship

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: Come away from the valleys of misplaced loyalty. Come, seeking to meet the God of all worlds.

Many: We have come to praise God and give thanks. We believe God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: We come together that our faith might be strengthened. We seek the strength to live by all we profess.

Many: God's awesome deeds saved our ancestors. Surely God's steadfast love continues with us.

One: God continues to deliver us in times of distress. God's steadfast love endures forever.

All: We rejoice that God is near and available to us. We hear God welcoming us to this time of prayer.

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

CWM RHONDDA

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but Thou art mighty- Hold me with Thy powerful hand: Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more, Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, Whence the healing stream doth flow; Let the fire and cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through: Strong Deliverer, Strong Deliverer, Be Thou still my strength and shield, Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside; Death of death, and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side: Songs of praises, Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee, I will ever give to Thee.

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Praise the Lord, for God is good!

On this we rely, for we have forsaken God's ways, like our ancestors before us. Our sins are the same. We have worshipped idols of our own making—idols of money, possessions, and lust. We have exchanged the glory of God for politics, power, and profit. We have forgotten Christ our savior, and have turned our backs on God's love and our baptismal calling. For these we offer our repentance, knowing that even in your righteous anger, you abound in steadfast love.

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

Carolyn Ballard Freeman

The First Lesson: Exodus 32:1-14

Pages 75-76 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

Anthem: How Lovely are Thy Dwellings

Samuel Liddle

baritone. Josef Samargia

The Second Lesson: Matthew 22:1-14

Rev. Rebecca Segers

Page 23 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **EXCUSE ME?!**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 319: *Spirit*

<https://digitalsongsandhymns.com/songs/3373#tab-lyrics>

*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.

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 341: *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!*

ASSURANCE

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, Visions of rapture now burst on my sight; Angels descending bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest; Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

Postlude: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Oliver Holden

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 Chorale and Orchestra. Originally from Bucks County, PA, Abigail now lives in South Philadelphia with her husband, Patrick, and dog, Wolfgang.

GUEST SOLOIST: Josef Samargia is an American baritone from South Florida, where he began his career as a boy soprano. He made his foray into professional opera in 2015 with the Imperial Symphony Orchestra, singing comprimario parts in *La traviata* and *Die Fledermaus* with star casts. He returned to ISO in 2018 to sing Marco in *Gianni Schicchi*, and in the 2019-'20 season appeared as The Page in Boheme Opera New Jersey's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, sang with the Opera Philadelphia chorus, and had contracts to sing at Opera Delaware in *Les contes d'Hoffman* and *Speed Dating Tonight*, and at The Princeton Festival in *La traviata*. His master's studies at Temple University included roles in *Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria* (Eumete), Milhaud's *Le pauvre Matelot* (Son ami), and *Così fan tutte* (Guglielmo cover). When studying at Florida Southern College, he sang leading roles in *La Périchole*, *The Old Maid and the Thief*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*. Currently residing in Philadelphia, he enjoys his musical relationships with Old St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's parishes in the city and St. John's Episcopal Church in Concord; he also loves singing across a range of genres with his family's vocal group, The Parson Brown Singers.



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