

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

OCTOBER 25, 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 25, 2020

ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

Prelude: How Great Thou Art

O STORE GUD

Welcome and Announcements

†*Call to Worship

One: God, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Many: You have loved us even before creation existed; from everlasting to everlasting you are our God.

One: Your time is not our time; but you renew us like the dawn refreshes and renews the earth.

All: God is with us in all places and all times. Let us worship God.

*Hymn 2236: *Gather Us In*

Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away, see in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in the lost and forsaken, gather us in the blind and the lame; Call to us now and we shall awaken. We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young our lives are a mystery, we are the old who yearn for your face, we have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away, but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own; gather us in all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you call us to love you with all our hearts, souls, and minds. We have failed. Not only do we find it hard to love our neighbors as ourselves. Our hearts flutter, our souls do not comprehend, and our minds seek tangible evidence of your love for us. We are loyal to little gods, gods that don't really matter. Refresh us and renew us as the rain of your love renews the earth. Forgive us our hardness of hearts and renew our love for one another.

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

Dani Howard

The First Lesson: Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17

Pages 517-518 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: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

The Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Rev. Kevin Porter
Pages 191-192 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **PEOPLE OF GOD**

Rev. Kevin Porter

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 322: *Spirit of the Living God*

LIVING GOD

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, Fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

*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 442: *The Church's One Foundation*

AURELIA

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord; She is His new creation By water

and the word; From Heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride; With His own
blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth; Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one
faith, one birth; One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food, And to one hope she
presses With every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder This world sees her sore oppressed, By schisms rent asun-
der, By heresies distressed. Yet saints their watch are keeping, Their cry goes up: "How
long?" And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song!

Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war, She waits the consummation Of peace for-
evermore; Till, with the vision glorious, Her longing eyes are blest, And the great church
victorious Shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union With God the Three in One, Any mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won: O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we, Like
them, the meek and lowly, May live eternally.

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Kevin Porter

Postlude: I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

I'M GONNA LIVE

GUEST MUSICIAN: Tom DiGiovanni is organist at Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church in Stewartsville, New Jersey. He holds a masters degree in orchestral conducting from Queens College, and an undergraduate degree from Lafayette College. Tom enjoys teaching high school choral music and guitar in Phillipsburg, New Jersey.

DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK AN HOUR NEXT SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31ST!



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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

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