

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

APRIL 11, 2021

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.*

April 11, 2021

**ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 AM
GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY**

Prelude: *Entrata Festiva*

Flor Peeters

Welcome and Announcements

†*Call to Worship

Christian Heyer– Rivera

One: God welcomes us here and walks beside us on our journey.

Many: Give God praise and thanks.

One: Call upon the name of God and praise God in our midst.

All: We are precious in God's sight.

*Hymn 118: *The Day of Resurrection*

LANCASHIRE

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad; the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God. From death to life eternal, From this world to the sky, Our Christ hath brought us over, With hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light; and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain, his own "All hail!" and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth the song begin! Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is therein! Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend, for Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that hath no end.

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Risen Lord, how often you come to us, and we do not recognize you. In friends and strangers, who seek and offer kindness; in words that make sense of our lives and the world around us; in living, enduring promises that we have all but forgotten, you come, O God, but our hearts are slow to see and honor you. Forgive us, we pray. Do not leave us, but stay with us, and awaken us to your presence. Kindle within us deep and genuine love for you, and for the brothers and sisters you give to us.

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

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: *I Know that My Redeemer Liveth*

G.F. Handel

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.

And though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.

For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first-fruits of them that sleep.

Rachael Lipson, Soprano

The Second Lesson: Luke 24:13-35

Rev. Kevin Porter
Pages 44-45 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **THE MEANING OF IT ALL**

Rev. Kevin Porter

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 403: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

CONVERSE

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer! Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our refuge-- take it to the Lord in prayer! Do your friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer! In his arms he'll take and shield thee; you wilt find a solace there.

*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

Offertory: *Away with Gloom, Away with Doubt*

Away with gloom, away with doubt!
With all the morning stars we sing;
With all the sons of God we shout
The praises of a King,
Hallelujah!
Of our returning King.

Away with death, and welcome life;
In Him we died and live again;
And welcome peace, away with strife!
For He returns to reign.
Hallelujah!
The Crucified shall reign.

Then welcome beauty, He is fair;
And welcome youth, for He is young;
And welcome spring; and everywhere
Let merry songs be sung!
Hallelujah!
For such a King be sure!

Rachael Lipson, Soprano
Laurice Kennel, Mezzo Soprano
Jason Brocious, Tenor
Rob Phillips, Bass

Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 302: *I Danced in the Morning*

SIMPLE GIFTS

I danced in the morning when the world was begun, And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth; At Bethlehem I had my birth. Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he, And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee, But they would not dance, and they wouldn't follow me; I danced for the fishermen, for James and for John; They came with me and the dance went on. Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he, And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame: The holy people said it was a shame. They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high, And they left me there on a Cross to die. Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he, And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black; It's hard to dance with the devil on your back. They buried my body and they thought I'd gone; But I am the Dance and I still go on. Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he, And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

They cut me down and I leap up high; I am the life that'll never, never die; I'll live in you if you'll live in me: I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. Dance, then, wherever you may be; I

am the Lord of the Dance, said he, And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, And I'll lead
you all in the Dance, said he.

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

Postlude: *Fanfare and Processional*

Lynn Trapp

GUEST MUSICIANS:

Tenor **Jason Brocious** sings with the Christ Church Choir of Christiana Hundred, the Brandywine Singers, and the Reading Choral Society. As a soloist, he also performs arias and art songs in concerts and recitals. Jason is a CPA and lives in Collegetown with his wife Francine and their canine pal, Theia.

Laurice Simmons Kennel, Soprano, was born and raised in Southwestern Michigan. She now resides in Philadelphia, PA with her Husband. She received her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Michigan State University and her Master of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Currently, Ms. Kennel studies privately with Sharon Sweet. Laurice has performed a wide range of operatic roles. She has sung the role of Mimi (*La Boheme*), Micaela (*Carmen*), Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*), Violetta (*La Traviata*) and Suor Angelica (*Suor Angelica*). Ms. Kennel has sung with the Opera Company of Philadelphia, New York City Opera at Lincoln Center, Lyric Opera Company Los Angeles and Opera Delaware.

Rachael Lipson, a Philadelphia native, enjoys frequent collaboration with churches and professional choirs located throughout the Tri-State area. She received her Bachelor of Music at Westminster Choir College, and went on to graduate with her Masters of Music in Voice Performance at the University of Delaware in 2016, where she studied under Noël Archambeault. Since then, she has explored diverse repertoire as both a soloist and as a choral scholar, and is currently a staff singer at St. Mark's Church, Philadelphia.

Robert Phillips attended Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey specializing in Vocal Performance. After performing for several seasons with The Westminster Choir at The Spoleto Festival of Two Worlds he then continued his studies in New York City. Presently, Mr. Phillips has been a member of many musical groups in the Philadelphia region including Opera Philadelphia, Choral Arts of Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Singers, and The Crossing. Church music has been a large part of Mr. Phillips musical life also having sung in choirs at First Presbyterian Chestnut Hill, St. Marks Church of Philadelphia and First Presbyterian Church Germantown.

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Robert Seed
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2022

Ingrid Harris
Joseph Leube
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2023

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OPEN

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2021

Dhyan Cassie
Rhonda Highsmith
Dani Howard

2022

Dick Liberty
Dolores Shanks
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2023

John Orandosh
Chris Scott Jr.
Carolyn Tarver

First Church Staff

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Director of Urban Ministry	Eileen Jones
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Ministers of Word and Sacrament, Honorably Retired

David Cassie, Linda Jaymes, Allison Seed

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