

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

APRIL 25, 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 25, 2021

"You must be bold, brave, and courageous, and find a way...to get in the way." - John Lewis

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

Prelude: *Andante con moto*

A.P.F. Boëly

Welcome and Announcements

†*Call to Worship

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: Jesus Christ, the Passover Lamb who was slain, lives!

Many: Worthy is the Lamb to receive power and wisdom and glory and blessing!

One: Myriads of the faithful, freed and called to be a nation of priests of God, sing praise:

All: Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto God, for ever and ever.

*Hymn 430: *Come Sing, O Church in Joy!*

DARWALL'S 148TH

Come sing O church in joy Come join O church in song! For Christ the Lord has led us
Through the ages long! In bold accord Come celebrate the journey now And praise the
Lord!

Long years have come and gone, And still God reigns supreme, Empowering us to catch
the vision Dream the dream! In bold accord Come celebrate the journey now And praise
the Lord!

Let courage be our friend, Let wisdom be our guide, As we in mission Magnify the Cruci-
fied! In bold accord Come celebrate the journey now And praise the Lord!

Come sing O church in joy Come join O church in song For Christ the Lord has tri-
umphed Over the ages long In bold accord Come celebrate the journey now And praise the
Lord!

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Revolutionary God, in raising Jesus Christ you loosed great energy, creating a new people who shared common life, witness, prayer, and belongings. Yet we confess that we are afraid to risk selves and goods in creating your new world. We are even afraid to pray honestly with one another. God, forgive us. Blow through us with the Spirit of your Christ. Give us new energy to build community, peace, and justice on earth.

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

Daniel Conner

The First Lesson: 1 John 3:16-24

Page 226 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: *Great Day*

trad. spiritual, arr. Hall Johnson

REFRAIN

Oh, Great Day! The righteous marching..
Great Day! God's gone to build up Zion's Wall.

Chariot moved on the mountain top,
God's gone to build up Zion's wall.
My Lord spoke and the Chariot stopped.
God's gone to build up Zion's Wall.

REFRAIN

This is the year of Jubilee,
God's gone to build up Zion's Wall.
When my Lord set His People free,
God's gone to build up Zion's Wall.

REFRAIN

When I was a mourner just like you,
God's gone to build up Zion's Wall.
I prayed and prayed till I come through,
God's gone to build up Zion's Wall.

REFRAIN

We want no cowards in our band
God's gone to build up Zion's Wall.
We call for valiant-hearted men,
God's gone to build up Zion's Wall.

REFRAIN

Laurice Kennel, Mezzo Soprano

The Second Lesson: Acts 4:5-12

Rev. Rebecca Segers
Page 113 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **THE FINEST FONT**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 356: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee: prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above.

*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: *Creation's Alleluia*

John Rutter

The strain upraise of joy and praise, Alleluia.

To the glory of their King shall the ransomed people sing, Alleluia.

And the choirs that dwell on high shall re-echo through the sky, Alleluia.

The planets glitt'ring on their heav'nly way the shining constellations join and say Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ye clouds that onward sweep, ye winds on pinions light, ye thunders, echoing loud and deep, ye lightnings wildly bright, in sweet consent unite your Alleluia!

Ye floods and ocean billows, ye storms and winter snow, ye days of cloudless beauty, hoar frost and summer glow, ye groves that wave in spring, and glorious forests, sing Alleluia.

First let the birds that sail on lofty wing exalt their great Creator's praise, and sing Alleluia!

Then let the beasts of earth, with varying strain, join in creation's hymn, and cry again Alleluia, alleluia!

Here let the mountains thunder forth there let the valleys sing in gentler chorus. Alleluia.

Thou jubilant abyss of ocean, cry Alleluia! Ye tracts of earth and continents, reply Alleluia!

To God, who all creation made our grateful hymn of praise be duly paid. This is the sound the Lord of all things loves.

This is the song that Christ Himself approves. We therefore sing with heart and voice.

With all creation joining to rejoice

With men and angels be outpoured, one endless Alleluia to the Lord.

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

Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 145: *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*

MARION

Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing! your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go; from youth to age, by night and
day, in gladness and in woe. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest, the pilgrims reach their home at
last, Jerusalem the blest. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

Then on, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing! your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

Postlude: *Fantaise and Fugue* in Bb Major

A.P.F. Boëly

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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WINDOW ON THE WEEK

- Sunday, April 25** 9:00 AM Online Bible Study (Luke Chapters 1 & 2)
Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95470590052>
- 10:00 AM Worship Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
- 11:15 AM Sunday School Grades K-5
Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/217065800>
- 11:30 AM Zoom Coffee Hour
Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/7217841109> or via phone by dialing 1-301-715-8592 and entering Meeting ID: 721 784 1109# when prompted to do so.
- 12:15 PM Confirmation Class
Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/635936034>
- 5:00 PM Faith @ 5:00 Worship Service
Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88252834960> or via phone by dialing 1-301-715-8592 and entering Meeting ID: 882 5283 4960# when prompted to do so.
- Monday, April 26** 10:00 AM Uncle Bobbie's Online with Rev. Kevin Porter
Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/7217841109> or via phone by dialing 1-301-715-8592 and entering Meeting ID: 721 784 1109# when prompted to do so.
- Tuesday, April 27** 7:00 PM Personnel Committee Meeting
- Wed, April 28** 10:00 AM Staff Meeting
- 12:30 PM Online Bible Study (Acts Chapters 1 &2)
Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95470590052>
- Thursday, April 29** 8:00 AM Uncle Bobbie's Online with Rev. Rebecca Segers
Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/7217841109> or via phone by dialing 1-301-715-8592 and entering Meeting ID: 721 784 1109# when prompted to do so.
- 10:00 AM GACM Food Distribution **(10-12pm)**
- 5:00 PM Livestream Taskforce Meeting
Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5907061661>
- Saturday, May 01** 9:30 AM CDFC Meeting
- Sunday, May 02** 9:00 AM Online Bible Study
Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95470590052>
- 10:00 AM Worship Rev. Rebecca Segers preaching
- 11:15 AM Sunday School Grades K-5
Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/217065800>
- 11:30 AM Zoom Coffee Hour
Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/7217841109> or via phone by dialing 1-301-715-8592 and entering Meeting ID: 721 784 1109# when prompted to do so.
- 12:15 PM Confirmation Class
Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/635936034>

Church Officers

Elders

2021

Marc DiNardo
Robert Seed
Jason Williams

2022

Ingrid Harris
Joseph Leube
Delores Solomon

2023

Drew Hood
Andrea Overton
OPEN

Clerk of Session:
Robert Seed

Deacons

2021

Dhyan Cassie
Rhonda Highsmith
Dani Howard

2022

OPEN
Dolores Shanks
Stephanie Garrett

2023

John Orandosh
Chris Scott Jr.
Carolyn Tarver

First Church Staff

Pastor	Rebecca Segers
Director of Community Life	Kevin L. Porter
Director of Urban Ministry	Eileen Jones
Director of Christian Education	Christian Heyer-Rivera
Director of Music Ministry	John Walthausen
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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