

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

MAY 02, 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.*

May 02, 2021

The Lord's Supper

"Love cures people - both the ones who give it and ones who receive it." - Karl A. Menninger

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

Prelude: *Arietta with Variations*

Johann Pachelbel

Welcome and Announcements

†*Call to Worship

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: Come to the household of love, for God is love.

Many: As we abide in love, we abide in God.

One: Come to the vineyard of grace, for God is gracious.

Many: As we abide in the vine, we bear the fruit of salvation.

One: Come bathe in baptismal waters, for God's Spirit awaits.

Many: As we abide in God's Spirit, we abide in peace.

One: Come to the household of love, for God is love.

All: Come! All are welcome here.

*Hymn 485: *To God Be the Glory*

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God be the glory, great things He has done! So loved He the world that He gave us His Son, who yielded His life an atonement for sin, and opened the life gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory, great things he has done!

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; but purer and higher and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory, great things He has done!

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

God of life and death, we confess that sometimes we are not alive to the possibilities you offer. In the midst of pain, unfairness, and fear, we find little reason for hope. We feel despair or blame others, but we do not turn to you for help. Forgive us and show us how to share the new life you offer, through Jesus Christ.

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

Matthew Grewe

The First Lesson: 1 John 4:7-21

Pages 226-227 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: *The Call*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:

Such a Way, as gives us breath:

Such a Truth, as ends all strife:

Such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, My Light, my Feast, my Strength:

Such a Light, as shows a feast:

Such a Feast, as mends in length:

Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:

Such a Joy, as none can move:

Such a Love, as none can part:

Such a Heart, as joys in love.

Jason Brocious, Tenor

The Second Lesson: Acts 8:26-40

Rev. Rebecca Segers

Page 119 NT

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **ALL IN ONE**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 335: *Though I May Speak*

O WALY WALY

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, and have not love,
my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess, but not be given by love
within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love
guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

*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.

Offering Our Gifts

Offertory: *My Eyes for Beauty Pine*

Herbert Howells

My eyes for beauty pine,
My soul for Goddës grace:
No other care nor hope is mine,
to heaven I turn my face.
One splendour thence is shed
From all the stars above:
Tis named when Goddës name is said,
'Tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.
And every gentle heart,
That burns with true desire,
Is lit from eyes that mirror part
Of that celestial fire.

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

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

The Words of Institution

Prayer After Communion

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 150: *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

MADRID

Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen! Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia!
Amen! let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice; praise is his gracious choice.

Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen! Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen! He is
our guide and friend; To us He'll condescend; His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen! Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen! On
heaven's blissful shore, His goodness we'll adore, Singing forevermore, Alleluia! Amen!

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

Postlude: *Praeludium in D*

Dietrich Buxtehude

GUEST MUSICIANS:

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.

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 OperaDelaware.

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 Collegeville with his wife Francine and their canine pal, Theia.

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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