

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

MAY 09, 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 09, 2021

Mother's Day

*"Christ tears away the wall of partition, the self-love, the dividing prejudice of nationality, and teaches a love
for all the human family." - Ellen G. White*

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

Prelude: Meditation on *Alleluia no. 1*

A.D. Miller

Welcome and Announcements

†*Call to Worship

Christian Heyer-Rivera

One: Sing joyful songs to God!

Many: Alleluia! We are Easter people!

One: God has worked miracles!

Many: Jesus is our joy!

One: Sing joyful songs to God!

Many: Alleluia! We are Easter people!

One: God's love for us lasts forever.

Many: Jesus makes us into family.

One: Sing joyful songs to God!

All: Alleluia! We are Easter people!

*Hymn 554: *Let All Things Now Living*

ASH GROVE

Let all things now living A song of thanksgiving To God our Creator triumphantly raise;
Who fashioned and made us, Protected and stayed us, By guiding us on to the end of our
days. God's banners are o'er us, Pure light goes before us, A pillar of fire shining forth in
the night: Till shadows have vanished, All fearfulness banished, As forward we travel from
light into Light.

By law God enforces. The stars in their courses, The sun in its orbit, obediently shine; The
hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, The depths of the ocean proclaim God
divine, We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing, With glad adoration a song let us
raise, Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving To God in the highest, hosanna and
praise.

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus Christ, you reach across every boundary, even death itself, and draw us into loving intimacy with you. Forgive us for resisting your love. You call us your children, yet we act like minor acquaintances or even strangers. You send us into the world to proclaim your love, yet we gape in astonishment when you include all people in your love. The light of your resurrection conquers the darkness in our lives, yet we act as if your love is a burden. Give us Easter lives, we pray, for you alone have the power to save 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

Madeline Valentine

The First Lesson: 1 John 5:1-6

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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: *Awake us Lord, and Hasten*

J.S. Bach

Awake us, Lord, and hasten.

Thy Holy Spirit give.

The old man in us chasten

That our new man may live,

On earth may know Thee only,

Our thoughts give to Thee wholly

And all Thy goodness own.

Ryan Battin, Bass

Jason Brocious, Tenor

Laurice Kennel, Mezzo Soprano

Rachael Lipson, Soprano

The Second Lesson: Acts 10:44-48

Rev. Rebecca Segers

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Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: The story of your grace.

Sermon: **INTERRUPTED BY JOY**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 144: *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!*

HYFRYDOL

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! His the scepter, His the throne. Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone. Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood: "Jesus out of every nation Hath redeemed us by His blood."

Alleluia! Not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now; Alleluia! He is near us; Faith believes, nor questions how. Though the cloud from sight received Him When the forty days were o'er, Shall our hearts forget His promise: "I am with you evermore?"

Alleluia! Bread of angels, Thou on earth our food, our stay! Alleluia! Here the sinful Flee to Thee from day to day. Intercessor, friend of sinners, Earth's redeemer, plead for me, Where the songs of all the sinless Sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal, Thee the Lord of lords we own; Alleluia! Born of Mary, Earth Your footstool, heaven Thy throne. Thou within the veil hast entered, Robed in flesh, our great High Priest; Thou on earth both Priest and Victim In the eucharistic feast.

*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: *We shall walk through the Valley*

Undine Smith Moore

Lord, we shall walk in peace,
We shall walk through the valley in peace,
If Jesus, himself shall be our leader,
We shall walk through the valley in peace.

There will be no trials there,
There will be no trials there.
If Jesus, himself shall be our leader,
We shall walk through the valley in peace.

Ryan Battin, Bass
Jason Brocious, Tenor
Laurice Kennel, Mezzo Soprano
Rachael Lipson, Soprano

Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn 438: *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

DENNIS

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear, and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin, we shall be free; and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

Postlude: *Trumpet Tune*

Andrew Carter

GUEST MUSICIANS:

Ryan Battin is a singer and public school teacher in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. As a choral vocalist, Ryan has performed with choirs throughout the Greater Philadelphia area, Delaware, and in cathedrals across Europe.

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 Bohème*), 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.

Notes on Music:

Undine Smith Moore was known in her lifetime as the “Dean of Black Women Composers.” Trained as a classical pianist, she is best known as a composer and particularly for her vocal music. She was a renowned professor of composition at Virginia State University and once stated that “teaching itself is an art.” In 1975 the state of Virginia named her Music Laureate.



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