

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

MAY 30, 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 30, 2021

Trinity Sunday/Ordination & Installation of Officers

*"What we call a beginning is often the end. And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from." - T.S. Eliot*

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

Prelude: Meditation on *Carlisle*

Charles Callahan

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Let Us Make A Joyful Noise*

Douglas Wagner

Let us make a joyful noise unto the Lord.

Praise, O praise the Lord!

And make a joyful noise evermore!

†\*Call to Worship

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: Jesus calls, inviting us in.

**Many: Holy, holy, holy God, we gather as your children.**

One: The Spirit calls, inviting us to listen.

**Many: Holy, holy, holy Christ, we sit at your feet.**

One: The Father calls, adopting us as family.

**All: Holy, holy, holy Spirit, we come to worship.**

Hymn 138: *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty*

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;

Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee, Casting down their golden crowns around the  
glassy sea; Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee, Who wert, and art, and ever-  
more shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee, Though the eye of sinfulness Thy glory  
may not see; Only Thou art holy! there is none beside Thee, Perfect in power, in love, and  
purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth, and  
sky, and sea; Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

**CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD**

Prayer of Confession

**Forgive us, Spirit of truth, when we neglect your wisdom or close our minds to your call. Forgive us, Spirit of love, when we neglect the needs of our world or harden our hearts to the needs of mercy and compassion. Forgive us, Spirit of God, when we neglect your guidance or close our spirits to your presence. Blow where you will, Spirit of freedom, but please blow through our lives. Open our minds. Open our hearts. Open our spirits, that our spirits may blow through your world with love, compassion, justice, and truth. In your Holy Spirit, we pray.**

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

Peter Smith

The First Lesson: Isaiah 6:1-8

Pages 597-598 OT

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

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: *Christ be With Me*

K.Lee Scott

Christ be with me, Christ within me,  
Christ behind me, Christ before me,  
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,  
Christ to comfort and restore me,  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me,  
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

***Mario Delano, Tenor***

***Sarah Folsom-Kovarik, Soprano***

***Robert Phillips, Bass***

***Marcia Sommers, mezzo-soprano***

The Second Lesson: John 3:1-17

Rev. Rebecca Segers  
Page 88 NT

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus an-

swered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above. Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

People: **The story of your grace.**

Sermon: **CALLED AND SENT**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

### **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

A Time for Meditation on the Word

Hymn 316: *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

TRENTHAM

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew, that I may love what Thou dost love,  
and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure, until with Thee I will one will, To do  
and to endure.

Breathe on me, breath of God: Till I am wholly Thine, Until this earthly part of me Glows  
with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, breath of God; so shall I never die, but live with thee the perfect life of  
Thine eternity.

Ordination and Installation of Officers

#### **Presentation**

As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

**There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling.**

In baptism, Randy Clever, Arlene Grace, Sheila Heyer-Rivera, Rhonda Highsmith, Krista Hoekema-Boerman, Duane Horne, William Lewis, and Contina Lee Lundy were clothed with Christ, and are now called by God through the voice of the church to enter into ministries of service and governance, announcing in word and deed the good news of Jesus Christ.

**We remember with joy our common calling to serve Christ, and we celebrate God's particular call to our brothers and sisters.**

### Ordination and Installation

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

**To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.**

Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

### Statement on Ordination and Installation

#### Profession of Faith

With the whole church, let us confess our faith. Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### Constitutional Questions

#### Questions to the Congregation

Do we, the members of the church, accept Randy Clever, Arlene Grace, Sheila Heyer-Rivera, Rhonda Highsmith, Krista Hoekema-Boerman, Duane Horne, William Lewis, and Contina Lee Lundy as deacons or ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**

### The Laying on of Hands/Prayer of Ordination

#### Declaration of Ordination (and Installation)

#### Welcome

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: *Walk with Me*

trad. Spiritual, arr. Rosephanye Powell

Walk with me, Lord.

Walk with me.

All along this tedious journey,

Walk with me, Lord.

Please walk with me.

When I'm burdened, walk with me.

When my head is bowed down in sorrow, walk with me, Lord,

Please walk with me.

Along this tedious journey, Lord, Walk with me.

You are my shield. You are my sword.

Lord, walk with me.

Until I make it safely home.

Lord, walk with me.

I am weary.

Lord, please walk with me.

***Mario Delano, Tenor***

***Sarah Folsom-Kovarik, Soprano***

***Robert Phillips, Bass***

***Marcia Sommers, mezzo-soprano***

\*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow: Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise  
God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*Prayer of Dedication

**GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME**

Hymn 139: *Come Thou, Almighty King*

ITALIAN HYMN

Come, thou Almighty King, help us thy name to sing, help us to praise. Father, all glorious,  
o'er all victorious, come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, thou Incarnate Word, gird on thy mighty sword, Our prayer attend: Come, and Thy  
people bless, And give Thy word success; Spirit of holiness, On us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour. Thou who almighty art,  
now rule in every heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

To thee, great One in Three, The highest praises be, Hence evermore! Thy sovereign maj-  
esty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

\*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

\*Congregational Response: #585

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Thornbury Fanfare*

Malcolm Archer

## **GUEST MUSICIANS:**

**Mario Prospero Delano** is a singer, songwriter, and arranger based out of the Greater Philadelphia area. As a freelance choral singer, Mario has sung in Cathedrals across Europe.

**Sarah Folsom-Kovarik**, soprano, is a native of Tallahassee, FL, and completed her bachelor's in music at Florida State University. She is currently a member of The Choristers, where she is a board member, and The Philadelphia Chorus, where she has been a featured soloist in works such as Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Rutter's *Magnificat*, and Forrest's *Requiem for the Living*. Sarah also performs with local theater groups including the Savoy Company, Methacton Community Theater, Everybody's Theater Company, and Bucks County G&S, with which she will be performing this July as Constance in *The Sorcerer*.

**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.

**Marcia Sommers**, a graduate of Westminster Choir College, is the Executive Assistant at the Organ Historical Society at Stoneleigh in Villanova. Prior to that she served for 25 years as Director of Music and Fine Arts at First Presbyterian Church in West Chester. She also sings with and is the Assistant Director of The Brandywine Singers in West Chester.



*Welcome Back*

MEMBERS & FRIENDS!



**Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown! We are so delighted to have you worshipping with us. We would like for you to be as safe and comfortable as possible as we enter this new season together. Here are a few guidelines to ease your way:**

- Reservations
  - \* There is no need for pre-registration
  - \* All who come are welcome
    - ◇ Masks must be worn at all times (will be available if you don't bring one)
    - ◇ Hand sanitizer will be at each entrance
    - ◇ There will be no temperature checks
    - ◇ No proof of vaccination required
    - ◇ If you are a visitor, you will be asked to fill out a contact card in case of need of contact tracing
    - ◇ If you are a member, your attendance will be noted by a member of the Re-opening Task Force in case of need of contact tracing
- Parking
  - \* You may park in all the usual spots: east parking lot, west parking lot, street, etc.
- Arrival/Entry
  - \* There will be locations where you may enter
    - ◇ Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry entrance is the handicapped entrance
    - ◇ One of the sanctuary doors
    - ◇ Office door
  - \* There will be signs posted to direct you to other areas of the church when necessary
  - \* An usher will be at each entrance to welcome & to seat you
- Seating
  - \* You will be seated in organized socially-distanced spacing
  - \* Spacing is organized in pods of 1, 2, 3 & 4
  - \* You may sit with others not in your own family if agreed upon by the entire pod
- Order of Worship
  - \* Your bulletin will include scripture lessons & hymn lyrics, so there will be no need to use the Bibles or hymnals
  - \* No congregational singing
  - \* There will be a masked four person "choir" that will sing anthems and all hymns
  - \* Liturgists (Revs. Rebecca & Kevin, and the Lay Reader) will not be masked when leading, but will be while seated
    - ◇ They will be at least 12 feet away from anyone in the congregation
    - ◇ The exception is the Children's departments
      - Children will be invited to the front pew socially-distanced
      - All including Rebecca will remain masked for this portion
  - \* Direct physical contact is discouraged (e.g. no handshaking, hugging, touching during passing of the peace, etc.)
  - \* Offering plates will be located by each entrance/exit and you are invited to give your gifts as you depart
- Restrooms
  - \* To minimize traffic, please try to use the restroom, if necessary, before or after the service
  - \* Please follow signs to use restrooms
  - \* Only the first floor restrooms will be open
  - \* Only one person in any restroom at any time
  - \* If the door is closed, do not use the restroom
- Exiting
  - \* Each row will be dismissed by an usher and leave before the next row's dismissal
  - \* Please do not congregate in the building or on the sidewalks
  - \* Maintain social distancing as you exit

# Church Officers

## Elders

### 2022

Ingrid Harris  
Joseph Leube  
Delores Solomon

### 2023

Drew Hood  
Andrea Overton  
Sheila Heyer-Rivera

### 2024

Randy Clever  
Duane Horne  
Contina Lee Lundy

Clerk of Session:  
Robert Seed

## Deacons

### 2022

Krista Hoekema-Boerman  
Dolores Shanks  
Stephanie Garrett

### 2023

John Orandosh  
Chris Scott Jr.  
Carolyn Tarver

### 2024

Arlene Grace  
Rhonda Highsmith  
William Lewis

## First Church Staff

---

Pastor	Rebecca Segers
Director of Congregational Care	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

## The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

35 West Cheltenham Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Phone 215-843-8811

FAX 888-333-5032

[www.fpcgermantown.org](http://www.fpcgermantown.org)