

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

JUNE 13, 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.*

June 13, 2021

The Lord's Supper

*"And the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom." - Elizabeth Appell*

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

Prelude: *Adoration*

Florence Price

Welcome and Announcements

†\*Call to Worship

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: The Holy Spirit has given us life and pours on us the power to become new people!

**Many: The winds of the spirit have given us breath and the fire of the spirit has enkindled in us a love for God and each other.**

One: Come here in faithfulness and be ready for the surprises that God's Spirit brings.

**All: We open our lives to the presence of God and trust God's promise to us that we can live new lives of freedom and grace. May God help us to be true people, letting the Holy Spirit fill our days!**

Hymn 473: *For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

For the beauty of the earth, For the glory of the skies, For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies, Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night, Hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
Sun and moon, and stars of light, Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grateful  
praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and mind's delight, For the mystic harmony Link-  
ing sense to sound and sight, Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, Brother, sister, parent, child, Friends on earth, and friends  
above, For all gentle thought's and mild, Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn of  
grateful praise.

For Thy church that evermore Lifteth holy hands above, Offering up on every shore Her  
pure sacrifice of love, Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grateful praise.

**CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD**

Prayer of Confession

**God of love and compassion, we take pride in our power, rather than in your ho-  
ly name. We have focused on our outward appearances, wanting people to think  
well of us. We have forgotten that you alone can make seeds sprout and grow.  
We have lived selfishly, thinking only of our own needs and desires. We have not  
walked by faith. Forgive us, Holy One, when we live as if we had not been made  
new by the power of your Spirit.**

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

Annie Kotto

The First Lesson: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Pages 737 OT

Thus says the Lord GOD: myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

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: *Song of Manasseh*, from *Judith*

Hubert S. Parry

I will bear the indignation of God,  
Because I have sinned against Him.  
The Lord hath sore corrected me,  
But he hath not given me over unto death.

I will wait for the salvation of God.  
For he will hear and deliver me.

He shall bring me forth into the light, and I shall behold his righteousness.  
Then will I praise him all the days of my life, even as the heavens do praise Him,  
Whose Glory shall be forever more.

***Jason Brocious, Tenor***

The Second Lesson: Mark 4:26-34

Rev. Rebecca Segers

Page 36 NT

He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **THE KINGDOM GARDEN**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

A Time for Meditation on the Word

Hymn 560: *We Plow the Fields and Scatter*

NYLAND

We plow the fields and scatter The good seed on the land, But it is fed and watered By  
God's almighty hand; God sends the snow in winter, The warmth to swell the grain, The  
breezes and the sunshine, And soft, refreshing rain.

You only are the Maker Of all things near and far; You paint the way-side flower, You light  
the evening star; The winds and waves obey You, By You the birds are fed; Much more to  
us, Your children, You give our daily bread.

We thank You, then, Creator, For all things bright and good, The seedtime and the harvest,  
Our life, our health, our food: Accept the gifts we to offer, For all Your love imparts,  
And what You most would welcome, Our humble, thankful hearts.

\*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: *My Soul's been Anchored in the Lord*

Florence Price

In the Lord, in the Lord,  
My soul's been anchored in the Lord.  
Before I'd stay in hell one day,  
My soul's been anchored in the Lord;  
I'd sing and pray myself away,  
My soul's been anchored in the Lord.  
I'm going to pray and never stop,  
My soul's been anchored in the Lord;  
Until I've reached the mountain top,  
My soul's been anchored in the Lord.

***Jason Brocious, Tenor***

\*Congregational Response 592: *Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDT

**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 306: *Fairest Lord Jesus*

CRUSADERS' HYMN

Fairest Lord Jesus! Ruler of all nature! O Thou of God and man the Son! Thee will I cherish,  
Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fairer still the woodlands, Robed in the blooming garb of spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fairer still the moonlight, And all the twinkling starry host; Jesus  
shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, Than all the angels heaven can boast.

\*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

\*Congregational Response: #585

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Voluntary in A minor*

John Stanley

**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 Colledgeville with his wife Francine and their canine pal, Theia.

**NOTES ON MUSIC:** Florence Price was an American classical composer, pianist, organist, and teacher, and was the first African-American woman to have her music played by a major orchestra. Her song "My Soul's been anchored in the Lord" was popularized by Marian Anderson. After Price's death, her music fell into relative obscurity, and a number of her compositions were nearly lost. Since the early 2000s, there has been a revival of interest in her work, including a performance of her Piano Concerto by the Philadelphia Orchestra with pianist Michelle Cann in the fall of 2020.

**ANNA REIMANN:** We are saddened to inform you of the passing of Anna Reimann which occurred on Wednesday June 09, 2021. There will be a graveside service for the family on Tuesday, June 15 with a Memorial Service planned for Saturday, June 17th at 10:30 a.m. Condolence cards may be sent to Glenn & Greta Reimann, 305 Green Street, Phila, PA 19123.

**LIVESTREAM NEWS:** Soon we will have an advanced Livestream System that will enable us to more professionally share our worship services, concerts, and more. If you would like to help us brainstorm on the many ways we might be able to use this new technology to share the Good News of the Gospel, please join us at a Brainstorming Session on Tuesday, June 15th at 7:00 p.m.

**THE WORSHIP MUSIC AND THE ARTS COMMITTEE** asks you to Save the Dates for three summer concerts by Artcinia on Sundays, July 11, July 25, and August 8 at 3:00 p.m. Look for more information on each individual concert in upcoming Windows and bulletin Announcements.

**BEACH PARTY:** You're invited to spend a day at the beach with your FPCG friends and family. This day of fun in the sun will occur on Saturday, July 17th and is sponsored by the CE Committee. All are welcome.

## **I was glad when they said unto me, “Let us go into the house of the Lord!” - Psalm 122**

The Reopening Task Force is continuing to adapt procedures and protocols as we gather together in the sanctuary for worship. These are our current guidelines:

- 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
- 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
    - ◇ East Sanctuary door on Cheltenham Avenue
    - ◇ 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 you & give you a bulletin and mask (if needed)
- Seating
  - \* You will be seated in organized socially-distanced spacing
  - \* Spacing is organized in pods of 1, 2, 3 & 4. An usher can assist if you are a larger group.
  - \* You may sit with others not in your own family if agreed upon by the entire group
- 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 & Rev. 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 sermon
      - Children will be invited to the front pew socially-distanced
      - All including Rev. Rebecca will remain masked for this portion
  - \* Direct physical contact is discouraged (e.g. no handshaking, hugging, touching during passing of the peace, etc.)
- Restrooms
  - \* 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
  - \* Please minimize congregating 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:  
Andrea Overton

## 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, Robert Patterson, 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)