

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

JULY 04, 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.*

July 04, 2021

*"Never trust anyone completely but God. Love people, but put your full trust only in God."  
- Lawrence Welk*

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

Prelude: *Prelude on "Amazing Grace"*

Dale Wood

Welcome and Announcements

†\*Call to Worship

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: Come, let us worship Almighty God.

**Many: Let us lift up our songs, our prayers, our praises.**

One: Come, let us honor Christ Jesus.

**Many: Let us love Christ with our hearts, our minds, our spirits.**

One: Come, let us be filled with the Spirit of the Living God.

**All: Breathe in us, Breath of God. Alleluia.**

Hymn 488: *The God of Abraham Praise*

LEONI

The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above;  
The Ancient of Eternal Days, the God of Love!  
The Lord, great I Am, by earth and heaven confessed;  
We bow before Your holy name forever blest.

Your spirit still flows free, High surging where it will;  
In prophet's word You spoke of old  
And You speak still. Established is Your law,  
And changeless it shall stand, Deep writ upon  
the human heart, On sea, or land.

You have eternal life Implanted in the soul;  
Your love shall be our strength and stay,  
While ages roll. We praise You, living God!  
We praise Your holy name; The first, the last,  
beyond all thought, And still the same!

**CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD**

Prayer of Confession

**Jesus Christ, child of God, we would rather know you as victorious and worship you as all-powerful, than see you as a vulnerable human being, insulted and rejected by others. We prefer strength and victory in our lives over weakness and failure. Forgive us when we turn away from pain and humiliation, and do not look for your grace and power in servanthood and weakness. In all the happenings of our lives, may your grace be sufficient for our needs.**

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.**

**PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

Ernest Freeman

The First Lesson: Ezekiel 2:1-5

Pages 720-721 OT

He said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

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: *Simple Song*

Leonard Bernstein

Sing God a simple song  
Lauda laude  
Make it up, as you go along  
Lauda laude  
Sing, like you like to sing  
God loves all simple things  
For God, is the simplest of all  
For God, is the simplest of all  
I will sing the Lord a new song  
To praise him, to bless  
him, to bless the Lord  
I will sing his praises, while I live  
All of my days  
Blessed is the man who loves the Lord  
Blessed is the man who praises him  
Lauda lauda laude  
And walks in his way  
I will lift up my eyes  
To the hills from whence comes my help  
I will lift my voice to the Lord  
Singing lauda laude  
For the Lord, is my shade  
Is the shade upon my right hand  
And the sun shall not smite me by day  
For the Lord my knight  
Blessed is the man who loves the Lord  
Lauda lauda laude  
And walks in his name  
Lauda lauda laude  
Lauda lauda di da di de-eh-eh  
All of my days

***Rachael Lipson, Soprano***

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. <sup>13</sup> They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

Hymn 563: *Lift Every Voice & Sing*

OMNI DIE

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty. Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us. Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us. Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died; yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet come to the place for which our fathers sighed? We have come over a way that with tears has been watered. We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered, out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the way, thou who hast by thy might led us into the light, lest us forever in the path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee; lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee; shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

\*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: *Ride on, King Jesus*

arr. Hall Johnson

Ride on, King Jesus,  
No man can a-hinder me,  
Ride on, King Jesus, ride on,  
No man can a-hinder me.  
Jesus Christ, the First and Last;  
No man a-works like Him.  
He is King of Kings, He is Lord of Lords.  
Jesus Christ, the First and Last,  
No man a-works like Him.  
King Jesus rides on a milk-white horse,  
No man a-works like Him;  
The river of Jordan he did cross,  
No man a-works like Him.  
Jesus rides in the middle of the air:  
No man a-works like Him.  
Calls the saints from evr'ywhere  
No man a-works like Him  
Ride on, King Jesus,  
No man can a-hinder me,  
Ride on, King Jesus, ride on,  
No man can a-hinder me.  
He is the King, He is the Lord,  
Ride On!

*Rachael Lipson, 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

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: *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord; he is trampling out the vintage  
where the grapes of wrath are stored; he hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible

swift sword; his truth is marching on. Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

I have seen him in the watchfires of a hundred circling camps, they have builded him an altar in the evening dews and damps; I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaming lamps; his day is marching on. Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat; he is sifting out the hearts of all before his judgment seat. O be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet! Our God is marching on. Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea, with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me; as he died to make us holy, let us die to make all free, while God is marching on. Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

\*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

\*Congregational Response: #585

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Finale* from "Concert Variations on 'The Star Spangled Banner'"

**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.

**SESSION RETREAT:** On Sunday, July 11, the session will be gathering immediately following worship with a shared meal followed by a retreat led by Rev. Paul Rhebergen from 12:30-4:30 p.m.

**ARTICINIA CONCERTS:** FPCG is hosting concerts again! Save the dates of Sundays, July 11 and 24, and August 8 at 3:00 p.m. for a concert series to be held in our sanctuary.

**FPCG IS HEADED TO THE JERSEY SHORE:** Those who sign up will meet Sat, July 10th at the church at 9:00a and return to the church by 9p. Those able to drive are encouraged to do so. Those needing a ride can reserve a spot on the church bus by calling Christian by Wednesday July 7th at 267-972-5662. There are only 14 spots available so sign up quickly as the spots are limited. if you need a ride. Beach tags must be purchased the day before after 5p to insure a tag is available for you the next day. Please use the following link to download your beach tag app on to a smartphone, create an account and then purchase and download your tags to your phone. <https://www.vielypass.com/ocean-grove-beach-badges/>. If you lack a smartphone please contact Christian Heyer-Rivera by Thursday July 8th to have him purchase a tag on your behalf. Beach tags are \$12 ages 12 and up, free for children 11 and under.

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

The Session is grateful for the Reopening Task Force's faithfulness is bringing us back together in worship again. As we continue to gather, the session will adapt procedures and protocols in the days ahead.

- 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
  - \* 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



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# 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

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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

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David Cassie, Linda Jaymes, Allison Seed

## The First Presbyterian Church in Germantown

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