

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

JULY 18, 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 18, 2021

"Small minds are concerned with the extraordinary, great minds with the ordinary." - Blaise Pascal

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

Prelude: *Allegretto*, from *4 Skizzen für den Pedalfüßel*

Robert Schumann

Welcome and Announcements

†*Call to Worship

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: Are you weary from your labors?

Many: Here you will find rest.

One: Are you divided from family and friends?

Many: Here you will find peace.

One: Are you spent from your efforts to bring God's kingdom?

Many: Here you will find strength.

One: Are you looking for a shepherd to watch over you?

All: Here you will find the one who makes us whole.

Hymn 464: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

Joyful, Joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flowers before
Thee, Opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of
doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays, Stars and angels
sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise; Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flowery
meadow, flashing sea, Chanting bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus, Which the morning stars began; Love divine is reigning o'er
us, Joining all in heaven's plan. Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of
strife; Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life.

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

**Jesus, our Compassion, you see our suffering and seek all who have lost hope,
all who struggle to love one another. Forgive us when we build barriers of ha-
tred, and bring us together in your peace. Build us up in your hope and love,
that God may live in our lives.**

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

Jim Thompson

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

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 Lord's My Shepherd*

Bob Chilcott

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for His own Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill,
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

A table Thou hast furnished me
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling place shall be.

Jason Brocious, Tenor

The Second Lesson: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Rev. Rebecca Segers
Pages 38-39 NT

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **AN ORDINARY DAY**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

Hymn 171: *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

ST. COLUMBA

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never. I nothing lack if I am
his, and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth; and where the verdant
pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me; and on his shoulder gently
laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear Lord, beside me; thy rod and staff my com-
fort still, thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth; and oh, what transport of
delight from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never; Good Shepherd, may I
sing thy praise within thy house forever.

*Affirmation of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Je-
sus 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 Al-
mighty; 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 for-
giveness 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: *Balm in Gilead*

arr. Harry Burleigh

There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole,
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged
and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again. Refrain

If you cannot preach like Peter,

if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus
and say, "He died for all." Refrain

Jason Brocious, Tenor

*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 403: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

CONVERSE

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer! Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our refuge-- take it to the Lord in prayer! Do your friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer! In his arms he'll take and shield thee; you wilt find a solace there.

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

*Congregational Response: #585

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Nicht Schnell und sehr Markiert*, from *4 Skizzen für den Pedalflügel* Robert Schumann

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

FAITH @ 5:00: There will be an in-person worship service on Sunday, July 25, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. with the theme of Re-Entry/Re-vival or New Life. Location TBD (inside or outside) according to the weather. Plan to join us for this interactive service that acknowledges the challenges of the past season and celebrates its joys as well as the joy of being together again.

NEXT ARTCINIA CONCERT SUNDAY JULY 25, 2021, 3:00PM: Camerata Philadelphia, "an ensemble without boundaries" will present a program of music by Beethoven and Mendelssohn for strings and piano led by Venezuelan-born, Philadelphia-based violin virtuoso Luigi Mazzocchi. Come one, come all as we welcome musical performances back into our sanctuary.

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

The Session continues to revise procedures and protocols for worship as we gather in this new season. Please review our current parameters here.

- 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
 - * Masked congregational singing is permitted.
 - * Vaccinated Liturgists (Revs. Rebecca & Kevin, and the lay Reader) and Soloists 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

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