

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

AUGUST 01, 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.*

August 01, 2021

"If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough." - Meister Eckhart

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

Prelude: *Andante* from *Fantasia K. 694*

W.A. Mozart

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 446: *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

AUSTRIAN HYMN

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God; God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for ablest abode. On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose? With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love, well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove; who can faint while such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage? Grace, which like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear for a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near; thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day, safe they feed upon the manna which God gives them when they pray.

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on us, great God of compassion, for our thoughts often dwell where they should not. Wash us completely of our many failings, for our actions often do no credit. Forgive us when we forsake your unity and concord in favor of division and mistrust. Heal us when we prefer the waters of resentment to the living waters of your grace. Put your truth deep inside us, and give us a hunger for our ways, that we may grow into Christ, who is the fullness of your love.

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

Ian Cameron

The First Lesson: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

Pages 60-61 OT

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'" In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

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: *Lord, I want to be a Christian*

arr. Maria Thompson Corley

Lord, I want to be a Christian
in my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving
in my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy
in my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Laurice Kennel, Soprano

The Second Lesson: John 6:24-35

Rev. Rebecca Segers
Page 92 NT

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered

them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **SOUL FOOD**

Rev. Rebecca Segers

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

Hymn 501: *Bread of Heaven, on Thee We Feed*

ARFON

Bread of heaven, on thee we feed, for thou art our food indeed. Ever may our souls be fed with this true and living Bread, day by day with strength supplied through the life of Christ who died.

Vine of heaven, thy love supplies this blest cup of sacrifice. 'Tis thy wounds our healing give; to thy cross we look and live. Thou our life! O let us be rooted, grafted, built on thee.

*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: *Let us Break Bread Together*

arr. Moses Hogan

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees.

Let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]

Let us praise God together on our knees.

Let us praise God together on our knees. [Refrain]

Laurice Kennel, 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

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord who is good.

People: God's love is everlasting.

Leader: Come, let us praise God joyfully.

People: Let us come to God with thanksgiving.

Leader: Eternal God, by your Holy Spirit, you breathed life into human form, and set us on the earth to praise and serve you. When we wander from your ways and are in need of healing and hope, you are there to love us and lead us back to you. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son to deliver us from sin and rescue us from evil. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Congregational Response: *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Richard Proulx

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord. God of pow-er and might.
6 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the
11 high-est, ho - san-na in the high-est. Blest is he who comes in the
16 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est, ho -
20 san - na in the high - est.

Leader: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Jesus was born into human form, to live as we live, and to experience our joys and our challenges, to show us the way to eternal life. He came to teach us, to guide us, to heal us, to forgive us. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus broke the power of death and led the way to be with you eternally. Great is the mystery of faith:

Congregational Response: *Memorial Acclamation*

Proulx

(organ) Christ has died; Christ is ri-sen; Christ will come a - gain.

Leader: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these gifts of bread and fruit of the vine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours almighty Father, now and forever.

Congregational Response: *The Great Amen*

Proulx



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

Distribution of the Elements

(We will come to the table to receive the elements of bread and wine/juice. Come forward using the center aisle, partake of the elements as you receive them, and return to your seat by the side aisle. Remember that the cups on the outside ring of the tray hold grape juice and the cups within the outside ring contain wine.)

Prayer After Communion

O God, you have so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us. Give us grace that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills and our works, a continual thank-offering to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, now and forever. Amen.

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn 281: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

CWM RHONDDA

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but Thou art mighty- Hold me with Thy powerful hand: Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more, Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, Whence the healing stream doth flow; Let the fire and cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through: Strong Deliverer, Strong Deliverer, Be Thou still my strength and shield, Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside; Death of death, and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side: Songs of praises, Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee, I will ever give to Thee.

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Rebecca Segers

*Congregational Response: #585

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: *Allegro* from Variations on CWM RHONDDA

David Hatt

GUEST MUSICIANS: 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 Boheme), 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 OperaDelaware.

NEXT ARTICINIA CONCERT: The final Articina concert will take place August 8th at 3:00 p.m. in our church sanctuary. We will be welcoming Pyxis Piano Trio. Pyxis has been a vibrant presence in the mid-Atlantic region since 2009, and is ensemble in residence at the Delaware Art Museum and for Market Street Music Festival Concerts (Wilmington, DE). Pyxis' concert will feature virtuosic trios of Beethoven and Brahms. A brief time of fellowship with cookies and beverages in the East Parking Lot will follow. A free will offering to support the artists will be taken. All are welcome.



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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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