

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



CHURCH IN GERMANTOWN

JANUARY 16, 2022

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.*

January 16, 2022

2nd Epiphany After Epiphany

"Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step."

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

"All are encouraged to join in singing our hymns and responses while remaining masked"

Prelude: *Vater Unser*

Georg Böhm

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Sing, O Sing this wonderful morn*

Douglas Wagner

O Sing, O sing, this wonderful morn.
Our highest praises now we bring.
To Christ, the morning light, we sing.

Alleluia!

†*Call to Worship

Christian Heyer-Rivera

One: We gather to worship God,

Many: Who creates us and loves us;

One: Who gifts us with diversity and makes us a community;

Many: Who gives Jesus Christ to show us how to live;

One: Who inspires children, youth, young adults, and people of all ages,

Many: To seek justice, share power, and live together in love and equality;

One: Who invites us to join the struggle for wholeness and wellbeing for all,

Many: And whose presence, grace, and love sustain us in our living.

One: We gather to worship God.

All: To God be all glory, honor, and praise!

*Hymn 276: Great is thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

"All are encouraged to join in singing our hymns and responses while remaining masked"

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father, There is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou
changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not; As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon and stars in their courses
above, Join with all nature in manifold witness To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

*congregation standing; †latecomers may be seated

CONFESSING OUR SINS TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Just and loving God, you call us to live in community. We know that you grant us the opportunities and the strength to be the “headlights not the taillights of society.” Yet, in our sinfulness, we become separated from one another through the wrongs we commit or allow to happen. Through your forgiveness and grace, we ask that you empower us to work toward restoring justice for all people as shown to us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We pray in the name of the one that came that we might have life abundant. Amen.

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

Ernest Freeman

The First Lesson: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

Pages 821-822 OT

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous—therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the LORD answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

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: *Be Thou My Vision*

John Rutter

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Be all else but nought to me, save that thou art;
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord;
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
Be thou mine inheritance now and always;
Be thou and thou only the first in my heart:
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won;
Great heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Be still thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

The Second Lesson: John 2:1-11

Rev. Kevin Porter
Page 87 NT

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Leader: God, we thank you for your Word.

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

Sermon: **OUR MOMENT IN GOD'S TIME**

Rev. Kevin Porter

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Time for Meditation on the Word

*Hymn 404: *Precious Lord*

PRECIOUS LORD

"All are encouraged to join in singing our hymns and responses while remaining masked"

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire, And lighten with celestial fire; Thou the anointing Spirit art, Who dost Thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above Is comfort, life, and fire of love; Enable with perpetual light The dullness of our mortal sight.

Teach us to know the Father, Son, And Thee, of both, to be but one; That through the ages all along This may be our endless song:

Praise to Thine eternal merit, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*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: *Christ the Solid Rock*

Clayton White

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and Righteousness.

I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ the solid rock I stand.

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
In every high and storming gale
My anchor holds within the veil.

On Christ the Solid Rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, his covenant, his blood
Support me in the whelming flood.
When all around, my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

When he shall come with trumpet sound

Oh, may I then in him be found.
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne!

On Christ the Solid Rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand.

*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 361: How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

"All are encouraged to join in singing our hymns and responses while remaining masked"

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in God's excellent
Word! What more can be said than to you God hath said, To you who for refuge to Jesus
have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause you to stand, Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent
hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless, And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;

The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

“The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not, desert to its foes; That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake!”

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Kevin Porter

*Congregational Response: #585

McNeil Robinson II

Postlude: Postlude on "*How Firm a Foundation*"

Dale Wood

PLEASE PARDON OUR APPEARANCE!: In the same spirit of the signs you see when a building is under renovation, thank you for your patience with the staff of FPCG as we are in this time of transition in pastoral leadership! We are grateful for the addition of Cari States-Codding as our new Office Administrator and Don Carlin for taking on the ministry of reaching out to our FPCG members and friends to ask for your joys and concerns so that the staff may continue our ministry of sending you notes lifting you in prayer. David Cassie has stepped into leadership of the Thursday Bible study via zoom. In addition, our elders, deacons, and everyone listed as staff on the back of your bulletin has leaned into whatever is required to keep our ministry and witness for Christ strong. We covet your prayers and understanding when we might experience miscommunication or a missed deadline! Please feel free to reach out to Rev. Kevin via text or phone at 215-518-1675 or at statedclerk@presbyphl.org with any questions or concerns you may have.

WORSHIP NEWS: During the month of January, the choir will be reduced to a quartet of section leaders and coffee hour canceled to limit possibility for spread of contagion. At the end of the month we will reevaluate bringing back the full choir and coffee hour based on the status of the pandemic. We are thankful for your prayers and flexibility as our ministry continues to adapt to ever changing circumstances.

WINDOW ON THE WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 16	8:45 AM	No Choir Rehearsal in January
	10:00 AM	Worship—Rev. Kevin Porter preaching
	10:15 AM	Sunday School K-5
	11:30 AM	Confirmation Class
Monday, Jan. 17	CLOSED FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	
Wed, Jan. 19	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting—Upstairs Office
	7:00 PM	Property Committee Meeting—Finney Room
Thursday, Jan. 20	10:00 AM	GACM Food Distribution (10-12pm)
	12:30 PM	Bible Study
	7:15 PM	No Choir Rehearsal in January
Friday, Jan. 21	6:30 PM	Elementary School Youth Group
Sunday, Jan. 23	8:45 AM	No Choir Rehearsal in January
	10:00 AM	Worship—Rev. Sarah Colwill preaching
	10:15 AM	Sunday School K-5
	11:30 AM	Confirmation Class

IN MEMORIAM

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God
in loving memory of Linda M. Leube

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
- Seating
 - * Please observe the ropes to maintain social distancing between pew
 - * Please seat yourselves socially distanced at least six feet beside, in front, and behind those not with you
- 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 (Rev. Kevin, Guest Preacher, 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. Kevin 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

Acting Pastor/Head of Staff	Kevin L. Porter
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	Bill Cleary
Communications Manager	Cherese Akers
Church Administrator	Cari States-Codding
Bookkeeper	Cindy Osborne
Sextons	Tony Nixon, Robert Patterson, Kevin Gregory

Ministers of Word and Sacrament, Honorably Retired

David Cassie, Linda Jaymes, Allison Seed

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