FORM 4

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Washington, | D.C. | 20549 |  |
|-------------|------|-------|--|
|-------------|------|-------|--|

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: 3235-0287    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average burden |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response: 0.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  | tion 1(b).  | iuc. See                                      |                          | Filed    |  |       |  |       |                                      |  | ies Exchang<br>mpany Act o |              | f 1934  |  |                     | nours  | per re   | esponse: | 0.5         |  |
|--|---|---|--------------------------|----------|--|-------|--|-------|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--------------|---|--|---------------------|--|--|----------|-------------|--|
| Name and Address of Reporting Person*     Sherman Patrick A  |   |   |                          |          | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [ FRME ] |       |  |       |                                      |  |                            |              | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  X Director 10% Owner |  |                     |  |  |          |             |  |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 200 E JACKSON STREET                 |   |   |                          |          | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/31/2020                      |       |  |       |                                      |  |                            |              | Officer (give title below)  |  |                     |  | Other (specify below)  |          |             |  |
| (Street) MUNCII (City)                                       |   |   | 7305<br>Zip)             |          | 4. If A  |       |  |       |                                      |  |                            |              |   | 6. Ind<br>Line)<br>X   | ·/                  |  |  |          |             |  |
|  |   | Table   | I - No                   | n-Deriva | tive S   | Secui | ritie  | s Acc | uired                                | , Dis  | posed of                   | , or B       | enef  | iciall   | y Own               | ed   |  |          |             |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transact Date (Month/Day |   |   | Execut<br>y/Year) if any |          | P.A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>f any<br>Month/Day/Year)                       |       | Transaction Disposed (Code (Instr. 5)                          |       | es Acquired (A)<br>Of (D) (Instr. 3, |  | 4 and Secu<br>Bene         |              | ially<br>Following  | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4)  |                     | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)        |  |          |             |  |
|  |   |   |                          |          |  |       |  |       | Code                                 | v  | Amount                     | (A) o<br>(D) | Pri   | ce   | Transa<br>(Instr. 3 | ction(s)   |  |          | (111501. 4) |  |
| Common   | Common Stock 03/3   |   |                          | 03/31/2  | 2020   |       | A  |       | 589                                  | A  | \$2                        | 26.49        | 41,3  | 320.057  |                     | D  |  |          |             |  |
| Common   | Stock   |   |                          | 04/01/2  | 2020   |       |  |       | P                                    |  | 19.501                     | A            | \$2   | 25.64  | 41,33               | 1,339.558 <sup>(1)</sup> D   |  |          |             |  |
|  |   | Tal   | ole II -                 |          |  |       |  |       |                                      |  | osed of, convertib         |              |   |  | Owne                | d  |  |          |             |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)          | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | cise (Month/Day/Year) if any (Month/Day/Year) |                          |          | Transaction of Code (Instr. Derivative   |       | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |       |                                      | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr<br>3 and 4) |                            |              |   | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficiall<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactio<br>(Instr. 4) | у                   | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |          |             |  |

Date Exercisable

Expiration

**Explanation of Responses:** 

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 3,287 shares

## Remarks:

Addison Nicoll (Confirming Statement on File)

of Shares

Title

04/02/2020

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Code

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.

(D)