FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | | | | | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | | | | | |
| hours per response: | 0.5 | | | | | | | |

| \Box | Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| | Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See |
| $\overline{}$ | Instruction 1/b) |

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

| | | | | | | | (II) OI IIIC II | | | , | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* KELLOGG CLARK C JR | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME] | | | | | | | | | onship of Reportir Il applicable) Director | ng Person(s) to Issuer | | | <i>ı</i> ner |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 200 EAST JACKSON STREET | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/31/2021 | | | | | | | | | Officer (give til | tle below) | below) Other (specify | | |
| (Street) MUNCIE (City) | IN (State) | 47. (Zij | 305 | 4 | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | 6. Indivic | vidual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | |
| | | | Table I - | Non-D | erivativ | e Securi | ties Acc | uired, I | Disp | osed of | , or Be | neficially | Owned | | | | | |
| Da Title of Goodin'ty (mounty) | | | Date | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | | med on Date, | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Dis (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | sposed Of | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | | Direct (D) or | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial | | | |
| | | | ` ' | | | if any (Month/Day/Year) | Code | v | Amount | | (A) or (D) | Price | Transaction(s) (and 4) | | | | Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| Common Stock | | | 03/ | 31/2021 | 1 | | A | | 386 A | | \$46.5 | 3,679(1) | | D | | | | |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative | cise (Month/Day/Year) f ive | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Trans Code (In | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 6. Date Exercisable Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | • | Underlying Derivative Se | | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned | Ow Fo ly (D) | nership rm: Direct or lirect (I) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | Security | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisa | te Expiration Date | | Nu | | Amount or Number of Shares | 7 | Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | Ι, | (Instr. 4) | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 3,270 shares

Remarks:

Exhibit 24; Confirming Statement

<u>Logan Edon (Confirming Statement on File)</u> <u>04/02/2021</u>

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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).

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.

CONFIRMING STATEMENT

This statement confirms that the undersigned, Clark C Kellogg, has authorized and designated, Jennifer Mainord, Melanie Bowling and Logan I

___/s/Clark C Kellogg______ Clark C Kellogg

Date: December 11, 2020