

First Congregational United Church of Christ

A Just Peace, Open and Affirming,
Multiracial and Multicultural Congregation
Intentionally Inclusive...Expect the Unexpected



stained glass window on Emmaus United Church of Christ in Vienna, VA

“Broken, Shed, Healed”

April 3, 2011 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

Ask an usher for large-print bulletins and/or hearing phones.

- CD recordings of today’s worship service are available following worship.
- Families and children are invited to sit together in the first two rows on the left hand side of the church facing the lectern.

Lent is our Christian season for intentional reflection, greater self-discipline, and, of course, prayer in preparation for Easter. The season began with Ash Wednesday and will culminate in the joyful and profound affirmations of Easter Sunday. You are invited to hold this Lenten season in personal ways as, Sunday by Sunday, as a congregation of disciples, we move along the road to Emmaus.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

PRELUDE	Dennis Turner
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS	Randy Herrick-Stare
CALL TO WORSHIP	Ann Bushmiller
*OPENING HYMN	<i>Mothering God (HOTM)</i> (please see at the end of the bulletin)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O God, we want to believe that we understand ourselves and our times. But in truth, we usually see things only from a narrow and self-interested perspective.

We want to believe that we are doing good things, those things that need to be done, and we are quick to take credit for our accomplishments. But God, we are slow to acknowledge our limited perspective, reluctant to admit that we have often set our goals too low, and embarrassed to acknowledge that we have not always accomplished the limited good we set out to do.

And we are least able to ask for help in times when we need it the most. Yet now, today, as we feel the pulses of spring in our lives, we do ask for your help. God, illuminate our minds so we may have a more broad and caring perspective on the people and events of the world. Teach our hearts to seek out the light in other people, and to value it. Embolden us to accept your love for us, and to share that love in meaningful ways with the people around us and the people who need us. Walk with us, and by so doing give us strength for the journey.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM

A Gaelic Blessing

words from an old Gaelic rune, music by John Rutter

Text:

Deep peace of the running wave to you, deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you, deep peace of the shining stars to you,
Deep peace of the gentle night to you, moon and stars pour their healing light
on you,
Deep peace of Christ, the Light of the world, to you,
Deep peace of Christ to you.

PROCLAIMING

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24: 28-32

Ann Bushmiller

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

*SERMON HYMN

Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way

NCH, #465

MEDITATION

Broken, Shed, Healed

Gordon Forbes

RESPONDING

SHARING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

*All are welcome - to Christ's Table at First Church UCC- No exceptions!
We come forward to gather around the table as the music is played.
[Front pews are left open for those who would prefer to sit.]*

INVITATION TO THE TABLE *(spoken in unison)*

We come to this table
Not because we must, but because we may;
Not because we are strong, but because we are weak;
Not because we have any claim on God's blessing,
But because we stand in constant need of God's mercy.
We come not express an opinion or a doctrine,
But to seek a Presence and to pray for a Spirit.

OFFERING *(received as we gather around the Table)*

*COMMUNION HYMN

*Be Known To Us In Breaking Bread
(please see at the end of the bulletin)*

NCH, #342

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastoral prayer, prayers of the People, Lord's Prayer

Our God, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name:
Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is 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

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*COMMUNION PRAYER

*SHARING BREAD AND CUP

(Our tradition is to dip the bread in the cup of grape juice.)

*THANKSGIVING PRAYER (in unison)

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

***CLOSING HYMN**

*Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing
(please see at the end of the bulletin)*

NCH, #77

THIS WEEK

2:00 pm Fellowship Hour - Hosts: Anne & Richard Grifis, Dwight & Kenya Davis

Monday, April 4

7:00 pm Social Action & Awareness

Wednesday, April 6

4:30 pm Volunteers at Thrive DC

5:30 pm Installation Service for Ron Hopson, Thurman Chapel, Howard University Divinity School

6:30 pm Worship Commission

7:00 pm Finance Commission

Thursday, April 7

7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, April 9

9:00 am Service Project: Celebrate Earth Day by participating in the Anacostia Watershed Cleanup

Sunday, April 10

11:00 am Care of Parish

12:00 pm Bible Workbench

12:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

1:00 pm Worship Service. Earth Sunday
Green Second Sunday Offering

2:00 pm Fellowship Hour & Earth Sunday Festivities. - Hosts: Hosts: Jessica & Scott Prentice, Suzanne Snyder, Virginia Gaddis

2:30 pm Cluster Meeting in First Trinity Lutheran's parlor.

Birthdays:

April 8 - Jennie Hunt

POSTLUDE

Dennis Turner

Those who are able are invited to stand.

NCH = New Century Hymnal

The Lenten Journey

We welcome the **Reverend Gordon Forbes** as our preacher in the journey through Lent to Easter. Gordon was senior minister of Westmoreland Congregational UCC in Bethesda for 17 years. He and Janet are members of Christ Congregational UCC in Silver Spring.

Ministers – Members of the Church
Lenten Preaching Minister – The Reverend Gordon Forbes
Associate Minister for CE – The Reverend Bonnie Hardy
Director of Music - Gary Fitzgerald
Guest Musician – Dennis Turner

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HYMN

Mothering God (HOTM)

Jean Janzen, creator of the text for *Mothering God*, is a life-long Mennonite poet. This work is based on her study of Julian of Norwich, the medieval English mystic and author of *Sixteen Revelations of Divine Love*, regarded as the first book written in the English language by a woman. The tune is from 17th century France, adapted by Ana Hernandez for use with this text, and harmonized by Gary Fitzgerald. The hymn first appeared in this form in *Voices Found: Women In The Church's Song*, a hymnal supplement published by Church Publishing devoted to the contribution of women from the earliest times to the present.



Mo - ther - ing God, You gave me birth
 Mo - ther - ing Christ, You took my form,
 Mo - ther - ing Spi - rit, nur - tur - ing One,



in the bright morn - ing of this world.
 of - fer - ing me Your food of light,
 in arms of pa - tience hold me close,



Cre - a - tor, Source of e - v'ry breath,
 Grain of life, and grape of love,
 so that in faith I root and grow

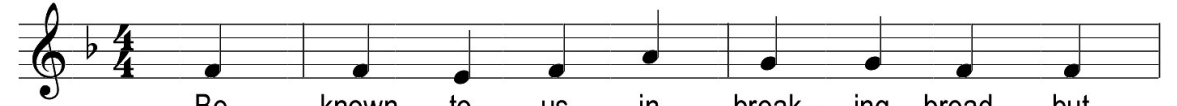


You are my rain, my wind, my sun.
 Your ve - ry Bo - dy for my peace.
 un - til I flow - er, un - til I know.

COMMUNION HYMN

Be Known To Us In Breaking Bread

NCH, #342



Be known to us in break - ing bread, but
 Here share with us in love di - vine, your




do not then de - part; O Sa - vior, stay with
 bo - dy and your blood; That liv - ing bread, that




us and spread your ta - ble in our heart.
 heav'n - ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.



Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing;
 We give thanks and a do - ra - tion
 So that when your love shall call us,




fill our hearts with joy and peace; Let us each your
 for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound; May the fruits of
 Sa - vior, from the world a - way, Fear of death shall



love pos - sess - ing, tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace:
 your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a bound:
 not ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey:



Oh, re - fresh us, oh, re - fresh us,
 E - ver faith - ful, e - ver faith - ful
 May we e - ver, may we e - ver



trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
 to the truth may we be found.
 live with you in end - less day.



Easter Lily Order Form

My (our) names (s)

In Honor of

OR

In Memory of

Number of plants to order at \$13.00 a piece _____

*Enclose payment - Write a check to: **First Trinity Lutheran Church***

Please mark "Easter Lily" on the check memo

1] drop check and order form in the offering

2] mail them to the church at 309 E St., NW., Washington, DC 20001

3] send the requisite information to Jennie Hunt - jhunt@cpcug.org

Please respond by the 10th of April

*Money received beyond the cost of lilies needed
 will be added to the Flower Fund*



- **Pat Ashbrook**
- **Brooks Pumphrey**
- **Regina Saxton**
- **Jannie Champ**
 - **Jim Green**
- **Claricia Cummings**
 - **Kathi Wolfe**

Bible Workbench meets 12:00-12:55 PM every Sunday in Fellowship Hall. No preparation required. Lectionary texts and resources are sent monthly by email. Come, join in these thoughtful conversations.

APRIL ADULT NURTURES

Updated March 25, 2011

- April 3** No nurture this Sunday.
April 8-10 Cluster Meetings hosted by the Transition Task Force
April 17 "Poetry and Prayer: The Practice of Contemplative Reading". Hosted by Bonnie Hardy and the CE Commission.
April 24 Easter

Intergenerational Event

- **April 7, 6:30 pm.** Washington National Cathedral, "Faith, Values, and Foreign Policy: U.S. Leadership in a Changing Middle East." Tickets \$10.

List of Intergenerational Service Projects

- **April 9th**, 9am, celebrate Earth Day by participating in the Anacostia Watershed Cleanup
- **April 30th**, 9am, help DC Schools via Hands-on-DC
- **June 18th**, we don't know yet! Let us know if you have an idea for a way we can serve together in June.

Cluster Meetings

We invite you to attend a Cluster meeting to discuss the next phase of our journey together

Friday, April 8

6:00 pm - **Cluster Meeting** at Dwight and Kenya Davis's home, 4914 7th Street NE, Washington, DC. 609-510-9718

Saturday, April 9

2:00 pm - **Cluster Meeting** at Susan and Doug Anderson's home, 9815 Parkwood Drive, Bethesda, MD. 301-897-0782

5:00 pm - **Cluster Meeting** at Carolyn and John Marsh's home, 1419 North McKlinley Road, Arlington, VA. 703-534-0215

Sunday, April 10

2:30 pm - **Cluster Meeting** in First Trinity Lutheran's parlor.