

BUILDING A
JUST
&
LOVING
COMMUNITY

September 19, 2021

First Congregational United Church of Christ
945 G Street NW, Washington, DC

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

(Please prepare your heart and space for worship.)

OPENING CHIMES

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Brother James' Air* Dale Wood

WELCOME Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

OPENING HYMN *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You* (see page 6)

CALL TO WORSHIP Polly Gordon

One: Blessed are those who link arms with goodness, who walk
the path of righteousness, who sit at the table of truth;

Many: **For their delight is in the Spirit of Love.**

One: In Love's heart they dwell day and night,

Many: **They are like trees planted by streams of water,**

One: They bear fruit in good season,

Many: **and their leaves never wither.**

One: In all they do, they give life,

Many: **For Love knows the way of truth. Amen.**

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY Allison Truhlar

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF GOD Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

(Please unmute yourself and greet those around you with words such as "The peace of God be with you." Let us bless one another with deep peace across time and space.)

CENTERING MOMENT *The Lord's My Shepherd* Anna Laura Page

SCRIPTURE READING Meg Maguire

Mark 9:30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Human One is to be betrayed into human hands and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. Jesus sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking the child in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

SERMON

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

MUSICAL OFFERING

In God's Hands
General Synod Children's Choir

Tracy Howe

OFFERING

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

As we worship virtually, we invite you to give virtually. Send your check to the office, [give online](https://www.firstuccdc.org) through our website at www.firstuccdc.org, which includes options to give through PayPal or Vanco. Consider signing up for auto-giving in this time of physical distancing.

DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth
Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore
Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

Geneva Psalter

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, PASTORAL PRAYER & UNISON PRAYER

Rev. Amanda

**Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Love-Maker;
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by all peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
Sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.
Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN	<i>God of the Sparrow</i>	(see page 7)
BENEDICTION		Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss
CLOSING VOLUNTARY	<i>Tocatta in E minor</i>	Johann Pachelbel

Connect with us!

If you are worshipping from afar but would like to connect with the First Church community, please [click here](#) to fill out a Visitor's Card, check out our newsletters on our website www.firstuccdc.org, or meet us on Zoom for our weekly prayer times at noon. We are grateful to extend our reach beyond the DC region and welcome you warmly!

With gratitude we thank Alyx Cheng and Allison Truhlar for serving as our Zoom moderators each week. Their work makes our worship possible! We also thank Tom Sowers and Graham Marsh, our sound designers.

Following worship, please join us for our Zoom coffee hour, a time of fellowship with one another. The optional discussion question will be: What was the best thing that happened to you this week?

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP

First Church Ringers

First Church Choir

Dr. Karen Bartman

Pre-recorded hymns and anthems were created
under the direction of John Horman

Finance Ministry Conversation: September 26 following worship

All are invited to join the Finance Commission for a coffee hour conversation on Sunday, Sept 26. Come with comments and questions as David Greer, Lucille Dickinson, Karen Pence and John Smeltzer explain the budget process, FCC's endowment, when and how the racial justice audit may affect church planning and budgeting and answer questions. This conversation is scheduled

prior to our 2022 budget development process and stewardship campaign. We look forward to your participation.

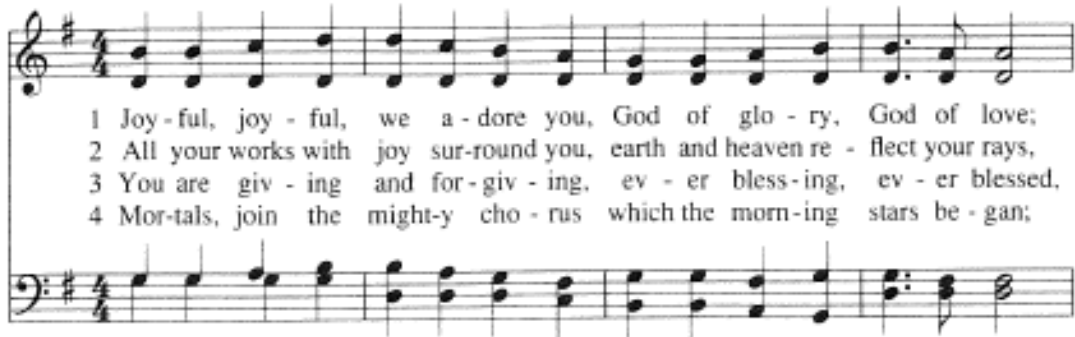
Drop-In Center Training: September 26 at 12:30 PM

Join us for a training with Sasha Bruce Youthworks entitled "Making Community with Our Neighbors," led by Pam Lieber, Program Manager of the Drop-In Center. This session is an important opportunity to learn about DC youth and young adults who are homeless or precariously housed, the work of Sasha Bruce, and our Tuesday evening Drop-In Center. Participation will also qualify you to volunteer in the future, and we need new volunteers! Table Church members will join us, along with our new Drop-In Center Coordinator, Mr. Jarred Bowman. The training will last one hour. Stay tuned for a link.

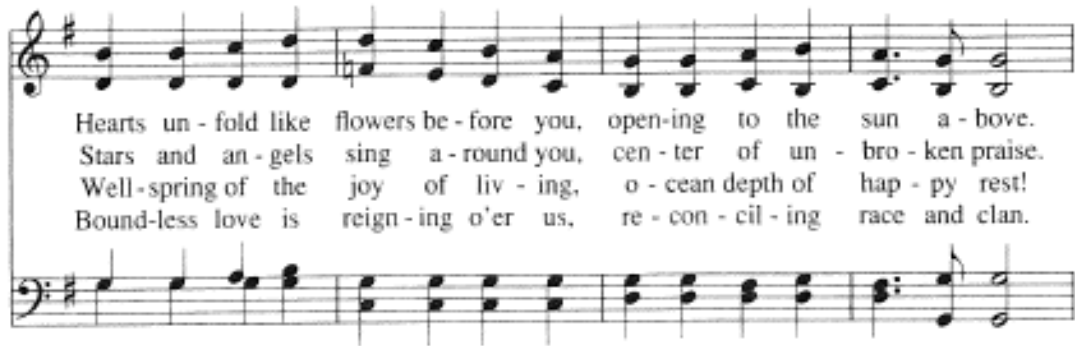
Prayer List

Prayers for Priscilla Waters upon the loss of her sister, Pat
Prayers of mercy for the people of Afghanistan and Afghan families resettling in the U.S.
Prayers of strength for the people of Haiti as they mourn
those lost in the earthquake and begin to rebuild.
Prayers of comfort for the family of Joan King, following her death,
and for this community who loved her.
Prayers for Monte Hillis and her husband Bert, as she faces the rapid onset of dementia.
Prayers of healing for Lance Warren.
Prayers of peace and liberation for Nicaragua, Cuba, and Haiti.
Prayers of healing for Dwan Reece's daughter, Maya, with long haul COVID
Prayers of comfort for Grace Bassler following Don's death.
Byron Adams' niece, Valerie, undergoing treatment for breast cancer.
Prayers of hope for our Racial Justice Audit yearlong process.
All those who mourn the loss of a beloved one.
Families struggling to eat and make ends meet.
People's UCC, our sibling congregation
Emmanuel Okorie-Dunn and Ellen Bushmiller, who serve as nurses.
Rev. Laura Johnson and Rev. Diana Gomez de Molina, who serve as chaplains.
Prayers of recovery for Rev. Sam's mother after surgery.

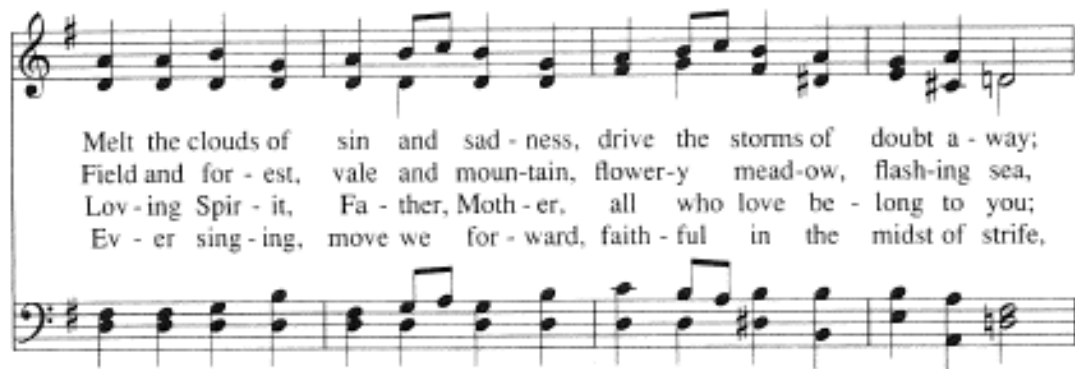
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You



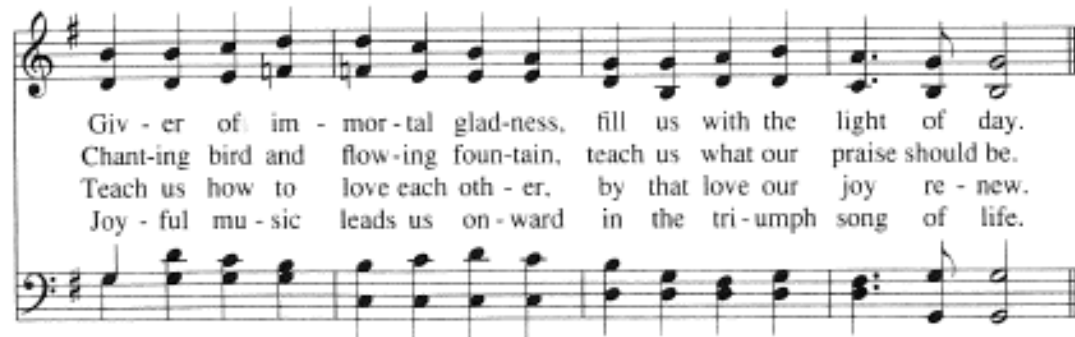
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, God of love;
2 All your works with joy sur - round you, earth and heaven re - flect your rays,
3 You are giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blessed,
4 Mor - tals, join the might - y cho - rus which the morn - ing stars be - gan;



Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore you, open - ing to the sun a - bove.
Stars and an - gels sing a - round you, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
Well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!
Bound - less love is reign - ing o'er us, re - con - cil - ing race and clan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the storms of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flower - y mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Lov - ing Spir - it, Fa - ther, Moth - er, all who love be - long to you;
Ev - er sing - ing, move we for - ward, faith - ful in the midst of strife,



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
Chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, teach us what our praise should be.
Teach us how to love each oth - er, by that love our joy re - new.
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us on - ward in the tri - umph song of life.

God of the Sparrow

1 God of the spar - row God of the whale
 2 God of the earth-quake God of the storm
 3 God of the rain - bow God of the cross
 4 God of the hun - gry God of the sick
 5 God of the neigh - bor God of the foe
 6 God of the a - ges God near at hand

G7 C FM7 E7 Am Em

God of the swirl - ing stars God of the trum - pet blast God of the emp - ty grave God of the prod - i - gal God of the prun - ing hook God of the lov - ing heart	How does the crea-ture say How does the crea-ture cry How does the crea-ture say How does the crea-ture say How does the crea-ture say How do your chil-dren say
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FM7 Em7 Am Dm 1-5 Gsus4 G 6 C

Awe Woe Grace Care Love Joy	How does the crea-ture say How does the crea-ture cry How does the crea-ture say How does the crea-ture say How does the crea-ture say How do your chil-dren say	Praise Save Thanks Life Peace Home.
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Phase 3 Protocol for In-Person Worship:

- Please keep your mask on at all times
- Observe physical distance from those outside your family group
- Please refrain from singing
- One family group at a time in the elevator
- Remain in the sanctuary for an optional time of fellowship with one another



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Welcome to First Congregational UCC. We were founded in 1865 by abolitionists as the first racially integrated church in Washington, D.C. In 1867 our mission committee played a prominent role in the founding of Howard University. The church has been located at its present site at 10th and G Streets NW since 1868. In more recent years, the church affirmed its vision as an Open and Affirming (ONA) Church (1987), a Just Peace Church (1985), and a Multiracial/Multicultural Church (2003). Our new building, constructed according to Gold LEED standards, was dedicated in 2012.

First Church continues to follow its faith journey into the future, and to be a prophetic voice for the Spirit in the nation's capital. If you would like to know more about First Church or would like to make it your spiritual home and community, please contact churchoffice@FirstUCCDC.org or 202.628.4317.

Ministers – Friends & Members of the Church
Designated Senior Minister – Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss
Associate Minister – Rev. Sam McFerran
Building Manager – Mr. Byron Adams
Sexton – Ms. Ines Marquez
Members in Discernment – Lynaya Morris, LaTayna Purnell



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