

*They are like trees planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season. Psalm 1: 3a*



November 21, 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

Stewardship Sunday

(Please prepare your heart and space for worship)

OPENING CHIMES

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Simple Gifts

arr. Stephen Nielson

WELCOME

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

OPENING HYMN

"In the Midst of New Dimensions"

(see page 8)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Peter Tracey

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Karen Tramontano

PASSING 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: *Perlude Op. 11, No. 13*

SCRIPTURE READING:

1 Samuel 1 and 2

Nora Marsh

On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her children, but to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the Lord had closed her womb. Her rival used to provoke her severely, to irritate her, because the Lord had closed her womb. So it went on year by year; as often as she went up to the house of the Lord, Peninnah used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. Her husband Elkanah said, "Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? Why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?"

Now Eli the priest was sitting beside the doorpost of the temple. Hannah was deeply distressed and prayed and wept bitterly. She made this vow, "O Lord of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant, and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a

son, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head.”

As she continued praying before the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore Eli thought she was drunk. So Eli said, “How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine.” But Hannah answered, “No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the Lord.”

They rose early in the morning and worshiped; then they went back to their house at Ramah. Elkanah knew Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. In due time she conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, “I have asked him of the Lord.”

Hannah prayed and said, “Hallelujah!...There is no Holy One like the Lord, no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God...The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength. Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil...The Lord raises up the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with royalty and inherit a seat of honor.”

SERMON:

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

Silent Meditation: Consider a word or phrase that stood out to you from today’s sermon. If you are joining us by Zoom you can share that word or phrase in the chatbox.

Anthem

“Lord of Feasting and of Hunger”

Herbert F. Brokering
setting by Carl Schalk
composed by Rusty Edwards

BLESSING OF THE PLEDGES

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

As we worship virtually, we invite you to give virtually. Send your check to the office, [give online](#) 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”

Prayers of the People, Pastoral Prayer and Prayer of our Savior:
Hendler-Voss

Rev. Amanda

Our God, 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.

CLOSING HYMN:

Now Thank We All Our God

(see page 9)

BENEDICTION:

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

CLOSING VOLUNTARY:

Now Thank We All Our God

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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Connect with us!

If you are worshiping from afar but would like to connect with the First Church community, please [click here](#) to fill out a Visitor's Card, and check out our newsletters on our website, www.firstuccdc.org. We are so grateful to be extending our reach beyond the DC region and welcome you warmly!

With gratitude we thank Alyx Cheng, Allison Truhlar, and Abigail Cippaorone 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.

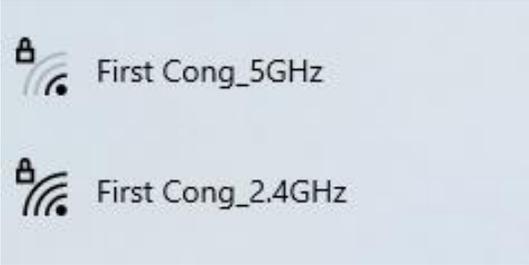
Participating in Worship

First Church Choir

First Church Ringers

Dr. Karen Bartman, guest musician

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

	First Church wifi password: first1865 To avoid echo/feedback, please mute your device when taking part in group discussions.
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Greening the Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas: November 21st

The Worship Commission invites you to help decorate the sanctuary and narthex on Sunday, November 21st, following worship. We'll start at 11:45 am or thereabouts. Join us! Following past practice, we'll order pizza for lunch. Please let Lucille Dickinson know if you plan to help: lucilledickinson@aol.com.



Poinsettia Orders

As we plan for our Christmas Eve services, we will order poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary. We invite you to order a plant in honor of or in memory of a loved one and those names will be listed in the Christmas Eve worship folder. Please fill out either the digital form ([click here](#)) or the paper form enclosed in worship folders. You may pay online via Vanco or PayPal (indicate poinsettias) or you may mail a check (with Poinsettias on the memo line) to the church at 945 G Street NW,

Washington, DC, 20001. The cost per plant is \$20. All orders must be received in the church office by November 28th

Prayer List

Prayers of comfort for the family and friends of Peg Lorenz, following her death.

Prayers of healing for Hugh Bushmiller

Prayer for the mother of Cynthia Hobbs as Cynthia cares for her

Prayers of healing for Bob Crossley as he recovers from a fall.

Prayers of healing for Liz and Lance Warren, as Liz recovers from a fall and Lance recovers from surgery.

Prayers of healing for Diane Brenneman's daughter Sara as she recovers from surgery.

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 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.

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 hum, rather than sing, the hymns.
- 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
Senior Minister – Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss
Associate Minister – Rev. Sam McFerran
Building Manager – Byron Adams
Administrative Assistant – Trista Dunlap
Sexton – Ines Marquez
Members in Discernment – Lynaya Morris, LaTayna Purnell

945 G Street NW, Washington DC 20001
Phone: 202.628.4317 • Fax: 202.347.4911

www.firstuccdc.org



IN THE MIDST OF NEW DEMENSIONS

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G7sus4 G7

1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,
 2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo - ple, war-ring fac-tions and de - spair,
 3 As we stand a world di - vid - ed by our own self - seek - ing schemes,
 4 We are man and we are wom-an, all per-sua-sions, old and young,
 5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with - draw in pain,

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G C

Who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples wan-dering in their sep - arate ways?
 Who will lift the ol - ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?
 Grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage, might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams.
 Each a gift in your cre - a - tion, each a love song to be sung.
 May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir - it res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

Refrain
Am Em F C F C G7 C Dsus4 D7 G7sus4 G7 Am

God of rain-bow, fier - y pil - lar, lead-ing where the ea - gles soar, We your

Em F C F C/E F C/E F C/E Dm7 G7 C

peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

1 Nun dank - et al - le Gott, mit Herz - en, Mund und Händ - en,
 1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
 2 O may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God our Mak - er now be giv - en,

der gro - sse Ding - e tut an uns und al - len End - en;
 Who won - drous things has done, in whom this world re - joic - es,
 With ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us,
 To Christ, and Spir - it, too, our help in high - est heav - en,

der uns von Mut - ter - leib und Kind - es - bein - en an
 Who, from our par - ents' arms, has blessed us on our way
 And keep us still in grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
 The one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heaven a - dore,

un - zäh - lig viel zu gut bis hier-her hat ge - tan.
 With count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 And free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 For thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.