

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Margaret Lorenz

March 9, 1926 – November 15, 2021



December 18, 2021

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Washington, D.C.

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

Mädi Green

SCRIPTURE READING

Rev. Jean Alexander

Romans 8:31-39

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? God who did not withhold the Son, but gave him up for all of us, will God not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through the one who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

Betsy Landergren

MUSICAL OFFERING "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"
(Polly Gordon, soprano; Judith Gray, alto)

Thomas A. Dorsey

PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS

Rev. Sam McFerran

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE		Joe Lorenz
A LIFE IN PHOTOGRAPHS		
COMMENDATION		Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss
HYMN	“My Life Flows on in Endless Song”	(see page 7)
BENEDICTION		Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss
POSTLUDE	<i>Fantasy on “When the Saints go Marching In”</i>	John Horman

Participating in Worship

The First Church Singers

John Horman

Polly Gordon

Judith gray

(All pre-recorded hymns created under the direction of John Horman)

The flowers on the altar were given and arranged by Byron Adams.

Margaret Lorenz

LORENZ MARGARET ANN LORENZ Margaret "Peg" Lorenz died in Falls Church, VA at the age of 95 on November 15, 2021. Born in Newark, N.J., she moved as a young child with her family to Washington, D.C., where she later met her husband Bob. They settled and raised their family in Arlington, VA. As a young girl during the Depression, Peg spent summers on a farm in the Finger Lakes region of New York, the ancestral home of many generations preceding her. She attended Mt. Holyoke College and earned her B.A. from George Washington University. Community and social justice were central values in her life, which she expressed in many ways.

Peg was an elementary school teacher who spent much of her career teaching English as a second language, helping to assimilate children from around the world into the local community. Following the tradition of her mother, Grace, a suffragist, Peg was active in the civil rights movement in the late 1950s and 1960s, advocating for fair housing and the dismantling of Jim Crow laws. She participated in the March on Washington in 1963. Peg's spiritual

community was at First Congregational United Church of Christ in Washington, D.C., where she met Bob and married in 1947.

She was an active member of the church for 80 years. There, she served on almost every commission and leadership position in the church, including stints as Moderator and as editor of the weekly newsletter. Through the church's affiliation with Howard University, Peg sponsored for eight students at holiday gatherings with her family. After her retirement from Arlington Public Schools, she took on many volunteer activities including serving as a docent at the Smithsonian, delivering Meals on Wheels, and in recent years, knitting sweaters for children in need through World Vision.

She also served as Chair of the Resident Council at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads and volunteered in hospice care. Peg was active in Arlington County Democratic politics for many years. She took pride in being part of the "kitchen crew" at many fundraisers, making her famous vegetarian chili for the annual Labor Day chili cookoff. Many organizations honored her social activism in the community. Peg received Arlington's 2001 Person of Vision Award at the 15th annual Women's History Month Dinner at the Fort Myer Officers Club. This award recognized her contributions to the education, health, and well-being of the Arlington community since the early 1960s, when she served on the Arlington Council on Human Relations, which led the drive to desegregate public facilities. For her advocacy of fair housing, Peg was an honored recipient of the Ellen Bozman Affordable Housing Award in 2014. In 2017, she was recognized at the National Cathedral by the Seabury Resources for Aging for her life's work of service.

Peg loved to travel, taking family camping trips to National Parks throughout the country from the 1950s into the 1970s. After their retirement, Peg and Bob travelled around the world, visiting every continent except Antarctica. After her husband's death in 1996, she continued travelling well into her 90s, including a 90th birthday celebration cruise around Tierra del Fuego.

Peg was predeceased by both her husband of nearly 50 years, Robert J. Lorenz, and by her youngest son, James (Janette Regan). She is survived by sons Jay (Wendy Dembo) and John (Chris Simpson), six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. A memorial service will be held at First Congregational Church UCC (and broadcast via Zoom) on Saturday, December 18. In-person attendance will be limited due to Covid considerations. Memorial gifts may be sent to First Congregational Church UCC and the Goodwin House Foundation. Memorial gifts may be sent to First Congregational Church UCC and the Goodwin House Foundation.

THANKSGIVING

423

Great Is Your Faithfulness

Lam. 3:22-23

Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923; alt.

1 Great is your faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,*
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace so en - dur - ing,

with you no shad - ow of turn - ing we see.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,
 your own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide.

You do not change, your com - pas - sions they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

all of your good - ness for - ev - er will be.
 to your great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine with ten thou - sand be - side.

*originally "my Father"

This hymn was one of a number sent by poet Thomas O. Chisholm to composer William M. Runyan for musical settings. It became a favorite of Will Houghton, president of Moody Bible Institute, whose enthusiasm helped establish its popularity.

Tune: FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10. with refrain
 William M. Runyan, 1923

COMFORT AND ASSURANCE

476

My Life Flows on in Endless Song
(How Can I Keep from Singing)

Ps. 46:1-7; 1 Cor. 3:21-23; 2 Cor. 5:17

Anon. in *Bright Jewels for the Sunday School*,
ed. Robert Lowry, 1869; alt.
St. 3, Doris Plenn, c. 1957

1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en -
2 What though my joys and com - forts die? My Sav - ior still is
3 When ty - rants trem - ble, sick with fear, and hear their death knells
4 I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a -

ta - tion, I hear the sweet, though far - off hymn that
liv - ing. What though the shad - ows gath - er 'round? A
ring - ing; When friends re - joice both far and near, how
bove it; And day by day this path - way smooths, since

hails a new cre - a - tion. Through all the tu - mult
new song Christ is giv - ing. No storm can shake my
can I keep from sing - ing? In pris - on cell and
first I learned to love it. The peace of Christ makes

and the strife, I hear the mu - sic ring - ing; It
in - most calm, while to that Rock I'm cling - ing; Since
dun - geon vile our thoughts to them are wing - ing; When
fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing; All

Regathering Protocol:

- *masking required for all over the age of 2
- *please observe distancing
- *a musical duet will be sung live in the sanctuary (masked)
- *congregational singing will take place for the closing hymn only (masked); other hymns will be instrumental
- *an optional reception will follow in the Community Hall



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 – Mr. Byron Adams
Administrative Assistant – Ms. Trista Dunlap
Sexton – Ms. Ines Marquez
Members in Discernment – Lynaya Morris, LaTayna Purnell



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