



January 30, 2022
Fourth Sunday After Epiphany
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 VOLUNTARY	Prelude in C Major	David N. Johnson
WELCOME		Rev. Sam McFerran
OPENING HYMN	"Joyful, Joyful We Adore You"	(see page 7)
CALL TO WORSHIP		Youth from Richmond Trip
PRAYER OF CONFESSION		Youth from Richmond Trip
WORDS OF ASSURANCE		Youth from Richmond Trip
PASSING THE PEACE OF GOD		Rev. Sam McFerran

(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	Amazing Grace	Phillip Keveren
SCRIPTURE READING		Nora Marsh

1 Corinthians 9:6-10

Who plants a vineyard and does not eat any of its fruit? Or who shepherds a flock and does not taste any of the milk of the flock? Do I say this as a human person? Does not the law also say the same? For it is written in the teaching of Moses, "You shall not muzzle a threshing ox." Is it for oxen that God cares? Or does God not, by all means, speak for our sake? It was indeed written for our sake, for the one who must plow should plow in hope and whoever threshes should thresh in hope of partaking.

SCRIPTURE READING		Diane Brenneman
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John 2:1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have

kept the good wine until now.” Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

SERMON Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

MUSICAL OFFERING “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms” Claudia & Dan Zanes

OFFERING Rev. Sam McFerran

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 THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss
and Rev. Sam McFerran

**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 8)

ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

CHORAL BENEDICTION “This Little Light of Mine”

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Toccatta (Psalm 150:4) Douglas E. Wagner

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Connect with us!

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, Abigail Cipparone 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 in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings.

Participating in Worship

First Church Choir

Karen Bartman, Guest Musician

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



Adult Nurture on Reproductive Justice: Sunday, January 30

11:45 am -12:45 pm on Zoom

The Texas law banning abortions after the detection of fetal heartbeat and recent Supreme Court hearing on the Mississippi ban after 13 weeks threaten reproductive rights of women guaranteed by Roe v. Wade in 1973. *What can people of faith do to protect a women's right to choose and access to safe*

reproductive health care? Join us for this timely discussion.

Welcome and introduction by the Rev. Barbara Gerlach, former minister of First Church, who will discuss the history of the struggle to legalize abortion and her involvement with the Clergy Consultation Service prior to Roe v Wade (which provided options counseling and referrals for safe abortions and advocated for legalization of abortion and the state-of-the-art abortion clinics).

Understanding Reproductive Justice by Essence Ellis, Intern, UCC Council for Health and Human Service Ministries (CHSSM), who will ground the issue of abortion in the context of reproductive justice at the intersection of racial, economic, and LGBTQ+ justice.

Making Decisions About Our Bodies, Our Lives by the Rev. Kaeley, McEvoy, Associate Pastor of Westmoreland UCC and member First Church, who will share her experience of having an abortion, the ethical and theological understandings that grounded her decision, and her advocacy work for reproductive justice.

Advocating for Reproductive Justice by Sandy Sorensen, Director of the UCC Justice & Witness Ministries (DC office), who will provide a legislative update on the Women's Protection Act, states in danger of ending access to legal abortion or have trigger laws to restrict abortion if the Supreme Court rules to end or erode Roe v Wade.

There will be time for Q & A and Rev. Amanda will close in prayer.



Note Regarding Translation

Today's gender-expansive translation of the biblical texts comes from the Rev. Dr. Wilda C. Gafney, a Hebrew biblical scholar and Episcopal priest, a former Army chaplain, and a congregational pastor in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. This translation hails from her new lectionary *A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church*, published by Church World Publishing Incorporated in 2021.



Sign Up as Scripture Reader or Liturgist this Winter

[Click here](#) to sign up to serve as a scripture reader or liturgist in worship this winter. We welcome members and friends, local and far flung, adults, youth and children to participate. Your voice helps make us who we are, so please take a moment to sign up. Our worship is enriched by your active participation. We are currently in Phase 2, which allows for scripture readers and liturgists to choose to lead by Zoom or in person in the sanctuary.



First Church Sponsoring Afghan Refugee Family

The Sanctuary Committee is thrilled to let you know that we have officially been matched with an Afghan family through the Lutheran Social Services Good Neighbor Program. As a level 2 partner, we will provide needed items for the family to settle into their housing and then support them over the next year as they integrate into their new community. This is in partnership with the Gurdwara Guru Gobind Singh Foundation in Rockville.

The **family is a 5-person unit including parents, and 3 children ages 14, 12, and 7** (we're confirming the gender of each child). They have been settled in Alexandria, VA. **Though they have already been placed in their**

housing, they currently lack any furniture that didn't come with the unit, including any beds!

Therefore, we need your help! If you have any materials you would like to donate to our family, please check out [this google spreadsheet](#) that includes all of the materials we need to provide. You can sign up for any item(s) you have to donate. There is a 2nd tab for miscellaneous donations, so if you have an item that is not on the required list, feel free to note it on the 2nd tab (clothing, for example).

A few notes:

- Please only enter your name in an open gray cell in the sheet
- If you've already contacted Lindsay Swisher about having an item to donate, she has included your name in the sheet next to that item. Feel free to remove it if your donation is no longer available.

[Enter Donations Here](#)

Lindsay Swisher and Susan Saudek will be available this **Saturday morning (1/29) in the First Church parking garage from 8:30am - Noon for folks to drop off their donations.** Exit the P3 parking lobby and turn right. Our storage cage is in the northwest corner of the garage. If you're not able to drop off your item(s) on Saturday morning or if you need a pick-up arranged for your item(s), please contact one of them directly so they can work out alternate arrangements. Our hope is to get our family many of the needed supplies by the end of this weekend! This won't be the last opportunity to support our family, and the entire Sanctuary committee thanks you in advance for your enthusiastic commitment to this process.



Inquirers' Gathering: February 13

Save the date of February 13, following worship, to join Rev. Amanda, Rev. Sam, Moderator Susan Anderson, members of our Outreach & Membership Commission, and newcomers for our winter Inquirer's Gathering. This will be a time of getting to know one another, sharing stories, exploring the history of First Church and the UCC, and answering any questions about membership. All newcomers are welcome to attend! This virtual gathering will happen by Zoom following worship at 11:40; those

who plan to attend can remain on the worship Zoom call. If you plan to attend, please email Rev. Amanda at ahendlervoss@gmail.com; however, you do not have to RSVP to attend.

Prayer List

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

Prayers of strength for LaTayna Purnell as she provides care for her ailing parents.

Prayers of support for Andre, the mother of Scott Prentice, as she battles leukemia.

Prayers of support for Diane Brenneman and her daughter Sara.

Prayers of healing for Liz and Lance Warren.

Prayers of mercy for the people of Afghanistan and Afghan families resettling in the U.S.

Prayers for Monte Hillis and her husband Bert, as she faces the rapid onset of dementia.

Prayers of peace and liberation for Ukraine, Nicaragua, Cuba, and Haiti.

Prayers of healing for Dwan Reece as she recovers from surgery.

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.

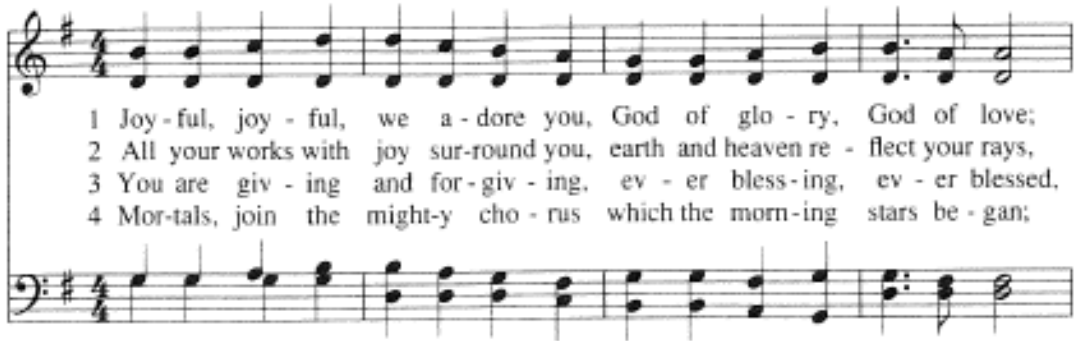
Families struggling to eat and make ends meet.

People's UCC, our sibling congregation.

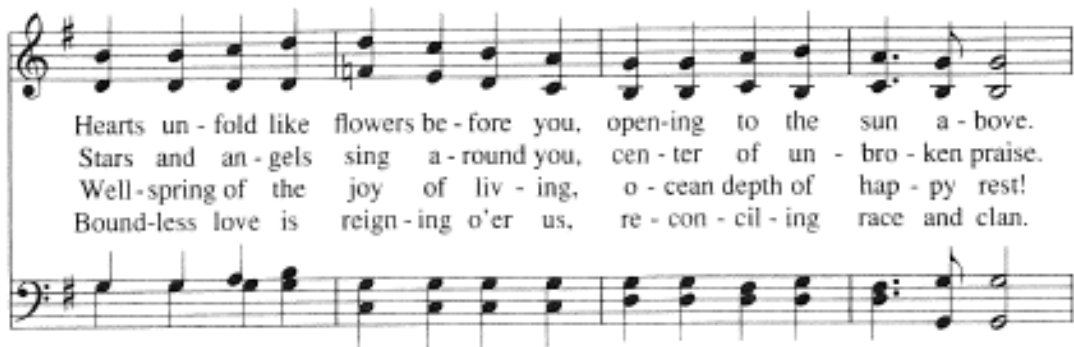
Emmanuel Okorie-Dunn and Ellen Bushmiller, who serve as nurses.

Rev. Laura Johnson and Rev. Diana Gomez de Molina, who serve as chaplains.


Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You



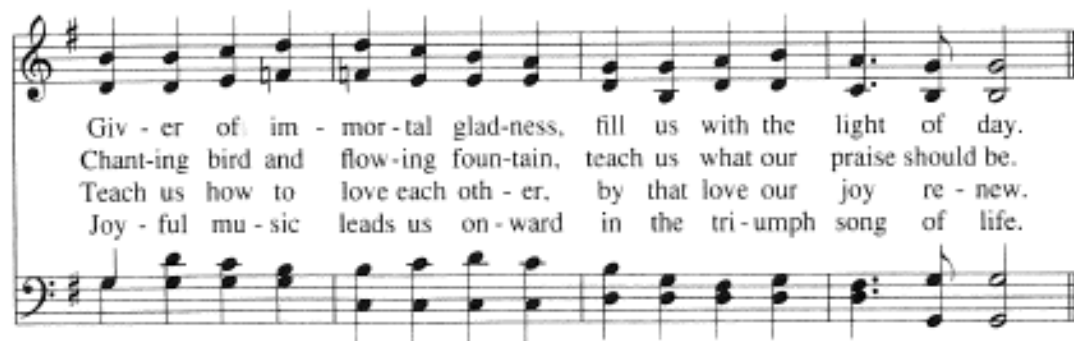
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, God of love;
2 All your works with joy sur-round you, earth and heaven re - flect your rays,
3 You are giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blessed,
4 Mor - tals, join the might - y cho - rus which the morn - ing stars be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

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6

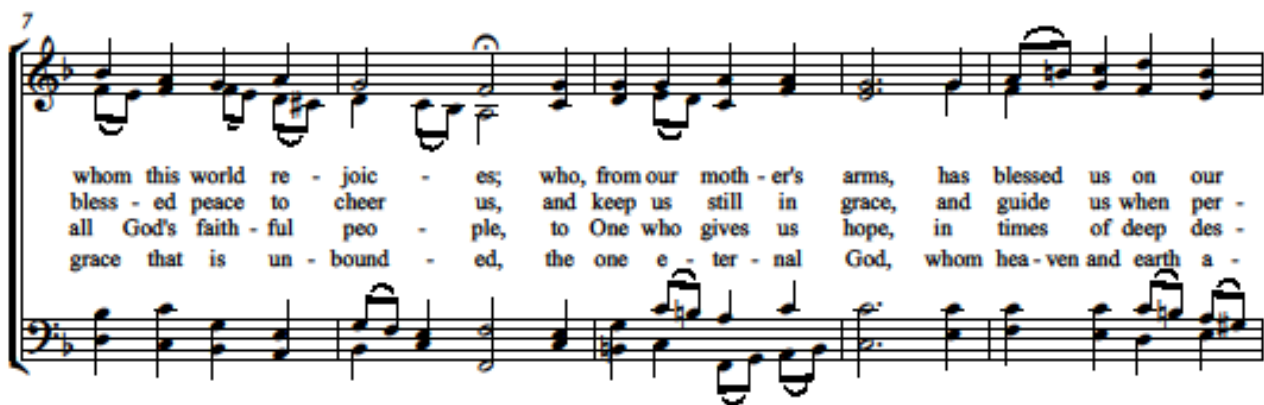
Martin Rinkart c. 1858: alt.

Stanza 3 and 4 by Mary Nelson Keithahn

Johann Crüger, 1648



Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es, who won-drous things has done, in
O may this boun-teous God through all our lives be near us, with ev - er joy - ful hearts and
In tem - ple, sy - na - gogue, from min - a - ret and stee - ple, let songs of praise ring out from
Sing praise and thanks to God whose rule in love is ground - ed, who cares for all our needs with



7
whom this world re - joic - es; who, from our moth - er's arms, has blessed us on our
bless - ed peace to cheer us, and keep us still in grace, and guide us when per -
all God's faith - ful peo - ple, to One who gives us hope, in times of deep des -
grace that is un - bound - ed, the one e - ter - nal God, whom hea - ven and earth a -



12
way with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
plexed, and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
pair, that peace will come one day, and jus - tice will be fair.
dore, the God who was and is, and shall be ev - er more.



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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