



**July 31, 2022**

Sunday Worship

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)*

PRELUDE "Elegy" Harold Darke

WELCOME Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

\*OPENING HYMN "Awake, Awake to Love and Work" (see page 7)

CALL TO WORSHIP

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 MUSIC "WhitSunday" Edwin I. Lawrence  
Burt Ifill, Moira Jones

*Listen sweet dove, unto my song  
and spread thy golden wings in me;  
hatching my tender heart so long  
till it get wing and flie away with thee.*

*Where is that fire which  
once descended on thy apostles.  
thou didst then keep open house richly attended.  
feasting all comers by 12 chosen men.*

*Such glorious gifts thou didst bestow  
that the earth did like a heav'n appear;  
the stars were coming down to know  
if they might mend their wages and serve here.*

*The sunne which once did shine alone  
hung down his head and wish for night  
when he beheld twelve sunnes for one  
going about the world and giving light*

*Lord, thou we change, thou art the same  
the same sweet God of Love and Light:  
restore this day for they great name,  
unto his ancient and miraculous right*

SCRIPTURE READING

Moira Jones

Luke 2:21-24, 36-40

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

There was a prophet, Anna, daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

SCRIPTURE READING

Polly Gordon

1 John 5:1-5

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey God's commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey God's commandments. And God's commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

SERMON

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Deep River"

Burt Ifill

Deep River Quartet: Judith Gray, Burt Ifill, Moira Jones & Nora Marsh

OFFERING

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

As we worship both in person and virtually, we invite you to give in a variety of ways. Place your offering in the offering plate on the way out of the sanctuary, send your check to the office, or give online through our website at [www.firstuccdc.org](http://www.firstuccdc.org), which includes options to give through PayPal or Vanco. Consider signing up for auto-giving to sustain our ministries.

\*DOXOLOGY

"Old Hundredth"

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, PASTORAL PRAYER & PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

Rev. Amanda  
Hendler-Voss

**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

“Arise, Your Light Is Come”

(see page 8)

BENEDICTION

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

POSTLUDE

“Fantasia in A Minor” BWV 561

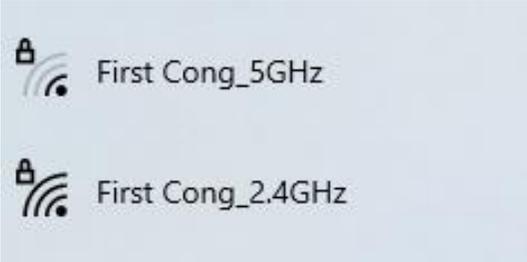
JS Bach

Music reprinted with permission by One License A-720443.

### **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](http://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, Barry Mills 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.*

**(\*) Indicates “Please rise in body or in Spirit”**

	<p>First Church Wi-Fi password:</p> <p><b>first1865</b></p> <p>To avoid echo/feedback, please mute your device when taking part in group discussions.</p>
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### WORSHIP NOTES

**Deep River** is an anonymous [African-American spiritual](#), popularized by [Henry Burleigh](#) in his 1916 collection *Jubilee Songs of the USA*. This setting of the traditional hymn was set by Roberto Ifill, a longtime friend of Moira Jones. Throughout his career, Dr. Roberto Ifill's work has been informed by three themes: a commitment to shared governance as the keystone supporting institutions of higher education; a commitment to strategic planning, not just as a management tool, but also as a vehicle for institutional renewal; and a commitment to building pluralistic communities, believing that this construction is not oxymoronic!

Dr. Ifill received his B.A. from Dartmouth College (NH) and his M.A., M.Ph., and Ph.D. in Economics from Yale University (CT). Bert and Moira first met when he was teaching Economics at Williams College. Moira convinced Bert to help with another quartet project singing New England shape note music for the opening of a special exhibition of early New England folk art.



### **Coffee Hour is Back: Check Your Hosting Date**

Care of Parish has taken the liberty of signing folks up for coffee hour through the end of the year (with the exception of the July 4th weekend when there will be no coffee hour), using emails in the church directory. This is a return to our pre-COVID system of scheduling coffee hour hosts and one that has worked well in the past. You should get an email reminder for the date when you are signed up to host, but [click here](#) to take a look at get it on your calendar now. If you can't make your date, please try to either trade with someone or find a substitute. No one should be signed up more than once for the rest of 2022 unless you volunteered for a dual sign-up, but if you find that you are signed up more than once feel free to either find a substitute or let Mark Jensen, Chair of Care of Parish, know. [Click here](#) to view instructions for hosting coffee hour. Thank you for helping bring coffee hour back!



### **New Church Directory Now Available**

Thanks to the hard work of Trista, our Administrative Assistant, the 2022 church directory is now available in print. You can pick up a copy any Sunday when you attend worship. As a reminder, the online directory is also always available with the most updated information. [Click here](#) to access our online directory.



First Church Returns to Nationals Stadium on July 31<sup>st</sup>!

After two summers away, we are thrilled to return to the ballpark to support our Nationals!

Washington Nationals vs St. Louis Cardinals

1:35 PM on July 31<sup>st</sup>

If you have already reserved a ticket, Rev Sam will email them to you the week prior to the game.

If you have not reserved a ticket but would like to go, please email Rev. Sam no later than July 15<sup>th</sup> at [mcferran.sam@gmail.com](mailto:mcferran.sam@gmail.com) . Tickets are \$31 each.

Go Nats! Go First Church! Go God!

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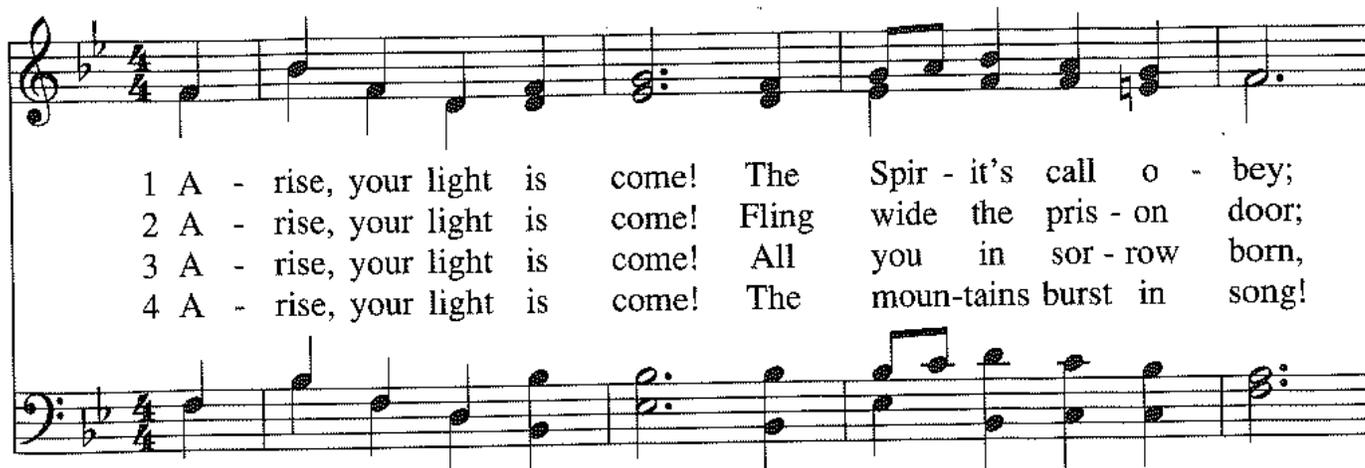
## Awake, Awake to Love and Work

*Geoffrey A. Studdert-Kennedy, 1921; alt.*

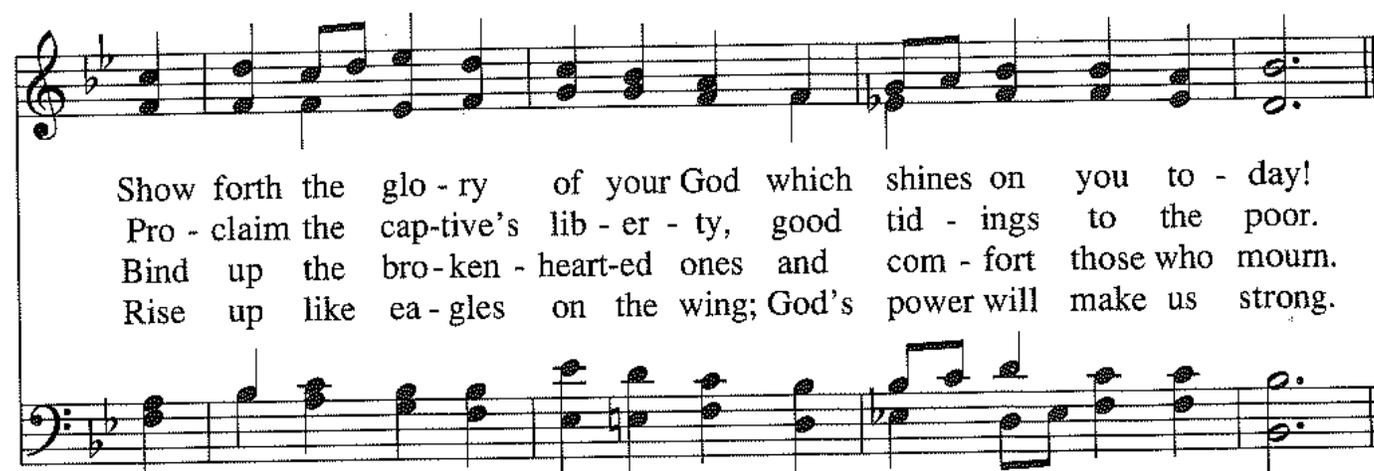
1 A - wake, a - wake to love and work! The lark is in the sky;  
 2 Come, let your voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of praise;  
 3 To give and give, and give a - gain, as God's own grace is free;

the fields are wet with dia - mond dew; The worlds a - wake to cry  
 See how the gi - ant sun soars up, God's gift for all your days!  
 To spend your-self nor count the cost; To serve most glo - rious - ly

their prais-es to the Fount of Life; Christ Je - sus pass-es by.  
 So let the love of Je - sus come and set your soul a - blaze,  
 the God who gave all worlds that are, and all that are to be.

*Isa. 60:1; 61:1-2; Luke 4:14-21**Ruth Duck, 1973*


1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
 2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
 3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,  
 4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song!



Show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day!  
 Pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
 Bind up the bro-ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

## Prayer List

Prayers of strength for Monica, daughter-in-law to Diane Brenneman, and wife of Sara, after a recurrence of cancer.

Prayers of comfort for the communities of Buffalo and Uvalde as we mourn lives lost to white supremacy and gun violence.

Prayers of joy as we celebrate LGBTQ + Pride!

Prayers of comfort for Priscilla Waters and her family following the death of her grand-niece Janiya.

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

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.

Byron Adams' niece, Valerie, undergoing treatment for breast cancer.

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.

We are an Open & Affirming congregation, welcoming all LGBTQ+ individuals and families into the full life and leadership of our church.



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](mailto:churchoffice@FirstUCCDC.org) or 202.628.4317.



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Ministers – Friends & Members of the Church  
Senior Minister – Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss  
Associate Minister – Rev. Sam McFerran  
Building Manager – Mr. Byron Adams  
Director of Music Ministry – Leela Koilpillai  
Administrative Assistant – Ms. Trista Dunlap  
Sexton – Ms. Ines Marquez

Members in Discernment – Lynaya Morris, LaTayna Purnell

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