



**August 21, 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 "Song Without Words" Gustavo Holst  
Gabrieli Quintet: Paul Weiss (trumpet), Isaac Roberts (trumpet), Jeff Tucker (horn), Robin Olson (trombone), John Norden (tuba)

WELCOME Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

\*OPENING HYMN "O How Glorious, Full of Wonder" (see page 7)

CALL TO WORSHIP Peter Tracey

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.*

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY Andrew Hamilton

SCRIPTURE READING Polly Gordon  
*Acts 16:11-15*

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

SCRIPTURE READING Rev. Jason Carson Wilson  
*Acts 16:16-40*

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

When morning came, the magistrates sent the police, saying, "Let those men go." And the jailer reported the message to Paul, saying, "The magistrates sent word to let you go; therefore come out now and go in peace." But Paul replied, "They have beaten us in public, uncondemned, men who are Roman citizens, and have thrown us into prison; and now they are going to discharge us in secret? Certainly not! Let them come and take us out themselves." The police reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Roman citizens; so they took them out and asked them to leave the city. After leaving the prison they went to Lydia's home; and when they had seen and encouraged the siblings there, they departed.

SERMON

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

SPECIAL MUSIC  
Gabrieli Quintet

"Canzona"

Giovanni Gabrieli

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

“Great is Your Faithfulness”

(see page 8-9)

BENEDICTION

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

POSTLUDE

“Sonata XIII”

Giovanni Gabrieli

Gabrieli Quintet and organ

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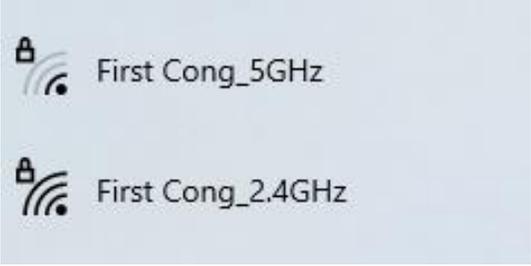
### **Connect with us!**

*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](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.*

### WORSHIP NOTES

The Gabrieli Quintet is made up of local musicians: Paul Weiss (trumpet), Isaac Roberts (trumpet), Jeff Tucker (horn), Robin Olson (trombone), and John Norden (tuba) who have played in numerous musical ensembles including the McLean Symphony and the Arioso Chorale Orchestra.

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

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



### **Second Sunday Special Offering: Pathways to Housing DC**

August's Second Sunday offering will support the work of Pathways to Housing DC, an organization that seeks to end homelessness in DC and support recovery for people with complex health challenges. Founded in 2004, the group has helped over 900 people move into permanent housing. 100% of the people that Pathways to Housing helps are overcoming mental illness, substance use, or severe health challenges. Their Housing First model begins by housing people directly from the streets, without preconditions. Then mental health, addiction, physical health, employment, and educational challenges are addressed via behavioral healthcare, an

urgent care clinic, a supported employment program, and a downtown day services center. Please considering donating to Pathways to Housing DC to directly aid the most vulnerable of our citizens.



### **Last Call for Adult Christian Education Interest Survey!**

Please take a few minutes (if you have not already) to help us strengthen the adult education offerings at First Church by responding to our survey by Saturday, August 20th. It's only 11 questions! No essays required! [Click here](#) to take the survey. Karen Byrne, Peter Byrne, Andrew Hamilton, Emily Laing, John Smeltzer, with staff guidance by Sam McFerran.



### **Music & Choral Survey from Leela Koilpillai**

Dear Congregation,

It's been a pleasure serving as Director of Music Ministry at First Church for the past two months. I've enjoyed and been blessed by your presence in my life and in the worship service. As we create a vision for music at our church, we desire to develop a program that best serves the congregation. We look to design worship experiences in which artistry and beauty interweave and create environments of sacredness and inspiration, reflecting the Christ presence. The Music & Choral Survey will help us understand your perspective and how you can best support and participate. Please [click here](#) to fill it out even if portions

are not relevant to your specific situation. Please don't hesitate to speak to me in person or by phone. Yours in love and service, Leela/Director of Music Ministry.



### **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.



JOIN CARE OF PARISH  
FOR A FIRST CHURCH

## Homecoming Sunday Ice Cream Social

Sunday, September 11  
Following church in place of  
Coffee Hour

Location: Franklin Park at  
13th and I St  
less than half a mile walk  
from the church

## O How Glorious, Full of Wonder

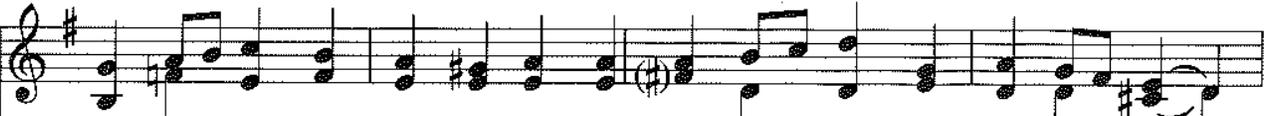
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*Curtis Beach, 1958, rev. 1980; alt.**Ps. 8*


1 O how glo-rious, full of won-der is your name o'er all the earth,  
 2 When we see your lights of heav-en, moon and stars, your power dis-played,  
 3 You have set us in com-mu-nion with the won-ders of your hand,  
 4 O how won-drous, O how glo-rious is your name in ev-ery land,



God, who wrought cre-a-tion's splen-dor, bring-ing suns and stars to birth!  
 Who are we that you should love us, crea-tures that your hand has made?  
 Made us fly with ea-gle pin-ion, pil-grims o-ver sea and land.  
 God, whose pur-pose shines be-fore us toward the goal that you have planned!



Rapt in rev-erence we a-dore you, mar-veling at your mys-tic ways.  
 Born of earth, yet full of yearn-ing, mix-ture strange of good and ill,  
 Soar-ing spire and ru-ined cit-y, these our hopes and fail-ures show.  
 Yours the will our hearts are seek-ing, con-scious of our hu-man need.



Hum-bly now we bow be-fore you, lift-ing up our hearts in praise.  
 From your ways so of-ten turn-ing, yet your love does seek us still.  
 Teach us more of hu-man pit-y, that we in your im-age grow.  
 Spir-it in our spir-it speak-ing, make us yours, O God, in-deed.

*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.

*Refrain*

Great is your faith-ful-ness! Great is your faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer - cies I see; All I have need - ed your

hand has pro - vid - ed, Great is your faith - ful - ness, God, un - to me!

## Prayer List

Prayers of strength for Monica, daughter-in-law to Diane Brenneman, and wife of Sara, after a recurrence of cancer.  
Prayers of healing and peace for Bonnie Rickert, Courtney McCaffrey's mother, as she has been hospitalized with gastrointestinal illness.  
Prayers of healing for James Ross.  
Prayers of comfort and strength for Ebony Fitzgerald, partner to Trista's daughter, as she prepares to undergo chemotherapy.  
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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