



"from woodcut by George Wigland, 1860"

September 18, 2022

Faith & Democracy Sunday

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 "Prelude" from 'Prelude, Fugue and Variation' Cesar Franck
Arr. Franklin Ritter

WELCOME

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

CHORAL INTROIT

"O Taste and See"

R. Vaughn Williams

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ellen Bushmiller

*OPENING HYMN

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

(page 6)

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

Rev. Sam Mc Ferran

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF GOD

Rev. Sam Mc Ferran

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

Diane Brenneman

2 Samuel 1:17, 23-27

David keened this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son. Saul and Jonathan, beloved and delightful. In life and in death they were not parted; they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions. Daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you with scarlet, in luxury, who overlaid your garments with adornments of gold. How the mighty have fallen in the midst of battle! Jonathan upon your heights lies slain. I grieve over you, my brother, Jonathan; a great delight were you to me; your love to me was wonderful, more than the love of women. How the mighty have fallen, and the weapons of war destroyed!

SCRIPTURE READING

Lucille Dickinson

John 16:16-22

[Jesus said,] "A little while, and you all will not see me, and another little while, and you all will see me." Then some of his disciples said to one another, "What does this mean that he is saying to us, 'A little while, and you all will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and 'Because I am going to the Creator'?" They said, "What does he mean by this 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Are you all discussing among yourselves what I meant when I said, 'A little while, and you all will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you all will see me'? Very truly, I tell you all that you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you all will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy. When a woman is giving birth, she has pain because her time has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the tribulation because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world. So you all have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you."

SERMON

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

CHORAL ANTHEM

"The Prayer of Saint Francis"

Robert Delgado

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, which includes options to give through PayPal or Vanco. Consider signing up for auto-giving to sustain our ministries.

MOMENT FOR FAITH & DEMOCRACY

Michael Hopkins

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, PASTORAL PRAYER
& PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

**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.**

CLOSING HYMN

"For the Healing of the Nations"

(page 7)

BENEDICTION

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

POSTLUDE "Dona Nobis" (Give us Peace) from the XVIth Mass W. A. Mozart

Arr. George Blake

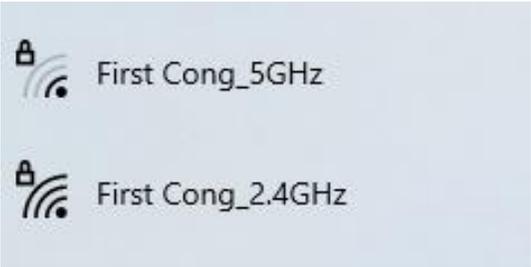
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*** indicates "Please rise in body or in Spirit"**

Connect with us!

If you are worshiping from afar but would like to connect with the First Church community, please [click here](http://www.firstuccdc.org) 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, 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.

Participating in Worship

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



Nurture Program on Worship: September 18

Join Rev. Amanda, Leela Koilpillai, and the Worship Commission to explore the purpose and flow of worship. Why do we worship? What role does music play? What elements of worship resonate with you, and what elements resonate with the person sitting next to you? How do we design worship services that meet the hunger of the heart and draw people nearer to God? What makes a worship service meaningful across generations, to longtime members, far-flung friends, and newcomers

alike? Join us for an engaging discussion as we hear from our Senior Minister, Director of Music Ministry, and listen to one another. This will be a hybrid program taking place after worship in the sanctuary and accessible by Zoom.



Reclaim our Vote Postcard Campaign: Volunteers Needed

Reclaim our Vote is a non-partisan voter outreach campaign from the Center for Common Ground that aims to empower underrepresented voters and combat voter suppression, one voter at a time. First Church is participating in conjunction with the Potomac Association Justice & Witness Action Network. Volunteers are needed to handwrite postcards to mostly rural, elderly voters of color that have been unknowingly deregistered in voter-suppressed states to assist them in re-registering. Active voters of color also need to be contacted via hand-written postcards to request pledges to vote and to stimulate community organizing. 9 million postcards were distributed in 2020. First Church has 1,000 postcards for the upcoming 2022 elections - please email Michael Hopkins at michael.hopkins.129@gmail.com if you'd like to be involved.

Parker Lecture @40 UCC Media Justice Ministry



Parker Lecturer
Maya Wiley
President and CEO
The Leadership Conference
on Civil and Human Rights

McCannon Awardee
Talila "TL" Lewis
Co-Founder
HEARD

Parker Awardee
Jessica J. González
Co-CEO
Free Press

September 22, 2022

First Congregational United Church of Christ in Washington, DC
and online



Learn more and buy tickets:
www.bit.ly/Parker40

Media Justice Ministry's Parker Lecture: Thursday, September 22

Join us at 8:00 am for breakfast or 8:30 am as the program gets underway in the sanctuary for the UCC Media Justice Ministry's annual Parker Lecture. The keynote lecturer will be Maya Wiley, President and CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil & Human Rights. Awardees include Talila "TL" Lewis of HEARD and Jessica Gonzalez of the Free Press. [Click here](#) to learn more or purchase tickets.



Sign Up as Scripture Reader or Liturgist this Fall

[Click here](#) to sign up to serve as a scripture reader or liturgist in worship this fall as we launch a new worship theme, "Gathered from the Four Corners of the Earth." 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.

Prayer List

Prayers of comfort for David Greer, following the death of his beloved father.

Prayers for Rose Berman as she continues to heal
from her knee surgery and hospitalization.

Prayers of healing for Joshua Hinzman, son of Carol Malone,
as he recovers from a heart attack.

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.

Prayers of healing for James Ross.

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.

When Morning Gilds the Skies

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries,
2 New strength comes night or day when from the heart we say,
3 Dis - cor - dant hu - man - kind, in this your con - cord find,
4 Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di - vine,

may Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let sin and e - vil fear,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this the e - ter - nal song,

one pur - pose I de - clare: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
when this sweet chant they hear: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
through all the a - ges long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

For the Healing of the Nations

1 For the heal - ing of the na - tions, God, we pray with
 2 Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your
 3 All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the
 4 You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on

one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing
 world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred,
 earth be banned; pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing,
 hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness

of the things that earth af - fords; to a life of
 all may come and go in peace. Show us how through
 dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our com - mon
 bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our re -

love in ac - tion help us rise and pledge our word.
 care and good - ness fear will die and hope in - crease.
 quest for jus - tice may we hal - low life's brief span.
 sponse and ser - vice earth its des - ti - ny may find.

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), Multiracial/Multicultural Church (2003), and an Anti-Racist Church (2021). 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.



**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



945 G Street NW, Washington DC 20001
Phone: 202.628.4317 • Fax: 202.347.4911
www.firstuccdc.org