



Cemetery in Gdynia, Poland during All Saints Day; photograph by Studio BezNazwy

November 2, 2025 All Saints 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

For those in the sanctuary, we invite you to place a photograph of a departed loved one on the worship table. If you are joining us from home, please set your table with the photograph of a departed loved one, a votive candle, and some form of bread and cup which we will bless together during communion.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

*OPENING HYMN

"For All the Saints"

page 6

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Trevor Bakker

God of remembrance, we confess that, at times, we forget your mercies of old, how you made a way out of no way for our ancestors. Sometimes we feel the burdens of the world fall entirely on our shoulders. We have been slow to put our trust in you and in the power of your beloved community. Return us, today, to your great cloud of witnesses. Remind us of our purpose and your faithfulness. Forgive what we have left undone, and draw us into your mercy once more. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

"We Are Forgiven"

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* PASSING THE PEACE OF GOD

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

Please greet those around you with words such as "The peace of God be with you." For those joining us online, please unmute to pass the peace. Let us bless one another with deep peace across time and space.

A READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Sophie Jones

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw: O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack, and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous; therefore judgement comes forth perverted.

I will stand at my watchpost and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what God will say to me and what God will answer concerning my complaint. Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Diana Gomez de Molina

Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it. One was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see Jesus, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." So Zacchaeus hurried down and was happy to welcome Jesus. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus replied, "Today salvation has come to this house, because Zacchaeus, too, is a child of Abraham. For the Human One came to seek out and to save the lost."

SONG OF PREPARATION

"Spirit, Open My Heart"

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SERMON

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

MUSICAL OFFERING

Your Lone Journey/Hallelujah
Katie Koza, violin; Ulung Tanoto, piano

Sam Amidon

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Reshmina William

OFFERING

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

As we worship virtually and in person, we invite you to give in a variety of ways. Place your offering in the plate, send your check to the office, or [give online](#) via PayPal or Vanco. Consider signing up for auto-giving.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss
& Rev. Sam McFerran

At First Church, all are welcome to God's table to celebrate the sacrament of communion, including children. We receive communion in the round, gluten free bread is available and all the cups are filled with grape juice. For those joining us online, please set your table with a form of bread and cup, which we will bless and break together. Taste and see that God is good!

Communion Prayer of Remembrance

Prayer of our Savior (wide shot)

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.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

"Bread of Life from Heaven"

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Prayer After Communion

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

*CLOSING HYMN

"When the Saints Go Marching In"

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BENEDICTION

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

POSTLUDE

When the Saints Go Marching In

Traditional

Music reprinted with permission by One License A-720443.

* 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](#) to fill out an online Visitor's Card and check out our newsletters at our website, www.firstuccdc.org. We welcome you warmly!

Families with Children at First Church

At First Church, we provide Sunday school during the academic school year for preschool - 6th Grade and nursery care for infants and toddlers in our Christian Education (CE) suite on the second floor. If you would like to be added to our listserv for First Church families, please contact Rev. Sam at mcferran.sam@gmail.com. We are so grateful to welcome your children into our life together at First Church!

Upcoming Coffee Hour Hosts

November 9: John Smeltzer, Diane Brenneman, Katie Koza

November 16: Andy Raver, Elise Villemmez

November 23: Kiss Family, Jamey Moore, Kevin Anderson

Thank You to Today's Worship Participants & Volunteers

Worship Leaders: Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss, Rev. Sam McFerran

Readers: Sophie Jones, Diana Gomez de Molina

Musicians: Ulung Tanoto, Katie Koza, Robin Olson, Rev. Sam McFerran, Dian Permana, Nora Marsh

Stewardship Moment: Reshmina William

Sanctuary Set-up: Ann Bushmiller & Chris Byrne

Ushers: Kristen Wheeler, Anne Mascolino

Zoom Moderator: Erin Williams

A/V Technician: Dwight Davis

Today Following Worship: Community Potluck

Please join us upstairs in the Community Hall immediately following worship for our fall Community Potluck. Vegan and gluten-free options will be available. We encourage everyone to attend!

FORGIVENESS

447

We Are Forgiven

The musical score for 'We Are Forgiven' is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of G major (one sharp), and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. Chord symbols are placed above the staff to guide accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The score is divided into three lines of music.

Chord symbols: G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, Dsus, D, G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, D, G.

Lyrics: We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

To sing, rather than simply say, a response to the Declaration of Forgiveness has the effect of making the moment both more affirmative and more corporate. The musical repetition of the two sentences also strengthens awareness of what it means to be assured of God's pardon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1995
Music © 1995 Hal H. Hopson

WE ARE FORGIVEN
10.8.10.8

For All the Saints

Heb. 12:1

William W. How, 1864; alt.

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who to the
 2 You were their rock, their refuge, and their might: you, Christ, the
 3 Still may your people, faithful, true, and bold, live as the
 4 Ringed by this cloud of witnesses divine, we feebly
 5 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the

world their steadfast faith confessed, your name, O Je - sus,
 hope that put their fears to flight; 'mid gloom and doubt, you
 saints who nobly fought of old, and share with them a
 struggle, they in glory shine; yet in your love our
 ear the distant triumph song, then hearts are brave a -

be for - ev - er blessed.
 were their one true light.
 glorious crown of gold. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 faithful lives entwined.
 gain, and faith grows strong.

692 Spirit, Open My Heart

Capo 3: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A7)
F B \flat F B \flat C7

Refrain

Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of
liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing
and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart. *Fine*

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
sis - ter, broth - er. In the wel - come of

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
Christ, may we wel - come one an - oth - er.

to Refrain

497 Bread of Life from Heaven

Refrain C G Am Am7 F G7 C

Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en, we

F G7 C Am F G7 C Last time

eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.

G G7 C F Last time

1 Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice; giv - ing thanks,
 2 Seek not the food that will pass a - way; set your hearts
 3 Love as the One who, in love for you, gave him - self
 4 Dwell in the One who now dwells in you; make your home
 5 Drink of this cup and de - clare his death; eat this bread

G C Bdim7 E7

hun - gry ones, gath - er round. Eat, all of you, and be
 on the food that en - dures. Come, learn the true and the
 for the life of the world. Come to the One who is
 in the life - giv - ing Word. Know on - ly Christ, ho - ly
 and be - lieve Eas - ter morn; trust his re - turn and, with

Am Am7 D D7 Gsus G7 to Refrain

sat - is - fied; in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.
 liv - ing way, that the full - ness of life may be yours.
 food for you, that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.
 One of God, and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.
 ev - ery breath, praise the One in whom you are re - born.

This Lord's Supper hymn began with the music of the refrain, an Argentine melody for the *Sanctus*. Then the refrain text was written to fit that music, followed by stanzas based on themes from John 6. Finally, a melody for the stanzas was composed in the style of the refrain.

TEXT: Susan R. Briebl, 2001

MUSIC: Refrain, Argentine melody; stanzas, Marty Haugen, 2001
 Text and Music © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc.

ARGENTINE SANTO | BREAK NOW THE BREAD
 9.9.9.9 with refrain

595 WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHING IN

See, the Lord is coming with ten thousands of His holy ones, to execute judgment on all...

Jude 14-15

1. O when the saints go march-ing in, O when the
 2. O when the sun re-fused to shine, O when the
 3. O when they crown Him Lord of all, O when they

saints go march-ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that
 sun re-fused to shine, crown Him Lord of all,

num-ber when the saints go march-ing in.
 when the sun re-fused to shine.
 when they crown Him Lord of all.

Text: Negro spiritual

Tune: WHEN THE SAINTS, 88 10 7; Negro spiritual; arr. by Stephen Key, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

Prayer List

Prayers of comfort for Rev. Amanda and her family following the death of her grandmother, Inez Graham.

Prayers of comfort for Garnell Yarbrough, following the death of his mother.

Prayers of comfort for Alyx Cheng and her family, following the death of her father, Alan, and of gratitude that he helped save the lives of three people through organ donation.

Prayers of comfort for Diana Gomez de Molina following the death of her wife, Mari Castellanos, beloved member of First Church.

Prayers of strength for the people of Chicago & Portland as they stand with the most vulnerable to peacefully protest the violent detentions and deportations of their neighbors.

Prayers of comfort for Liz and Lance Warren as Liz heals from a broken hip.

Prayers of compassion and care for all federal workers facing chaos, cruelty, and uncertainty.

Prayers of courage and strength for our democracy.

Prayers of support for Dale Ostrander, living with memory loss.

Prayers that God's strength and wisdom surround the

Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, the UCC's General Minister and President.

Prayers for a lasting cease-fire in Gaza and the release of hostages and prisoners.

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

Prayers of mercy for families struggling to eat and make ends meet.

Prayers for Peoples Congregational UCC, our sibling congregation.

Prayers of strength for Rev. Laura Simmons and Rev. Diana Gomez de Molina, serving 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 one of 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.



Ministers – Friends & Members of the Church
Senior Minister – Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss
Associate Minister – Rev. Sam McFerran
Director of Music Ministry – Ulung Tanoto
Building Manager – Byron Adams
Sexton – Ines Marquez
Administrative Assistant – Whitney McColley
Member in Discernment – Lynaya Morris

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