



June 14, 2026
Pride 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

*During the prelude, we invite you to quiet your heart,
meditating on God's presence as we prepare for worship.*

PRELUDE

True Colors
Reshmina William, piano

Cyndi Lauper

WELCOME

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

*OPENING HYMN

"Sing a New World Into Being"

page 7

CALL TO WORSHIP

David Greer

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Riley Kiss

Psalms 139:13-14

"For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well."

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Sam McFerran

* PASSING THE PEACE OF GOD

Rev. Sam McFerran

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

All Belong Here

The Many

A Collaboration between the First Church Choir and Witness & Wonder:
Casey Capsambelis, guitar and vocals; Reshmina William, piano and vocals

Chorus

Come and re-mem-ber who you are here. Do this to— re-mem-ber who I

am. Come and re-mem-ber you be-long here. All be-long here.

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Abby Goodman-Johnson

Ruth 1:16-17

Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you, to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people and your God my God. Where you die, I will die and there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!"

READING FROM THE SECOND TESTAMENT

Ellen Bushmiller

Acts 10:34-35, 44-47

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every people anyone who fears God and practices righteousness is acceptable to God."

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"

SONG OF PREPARATION

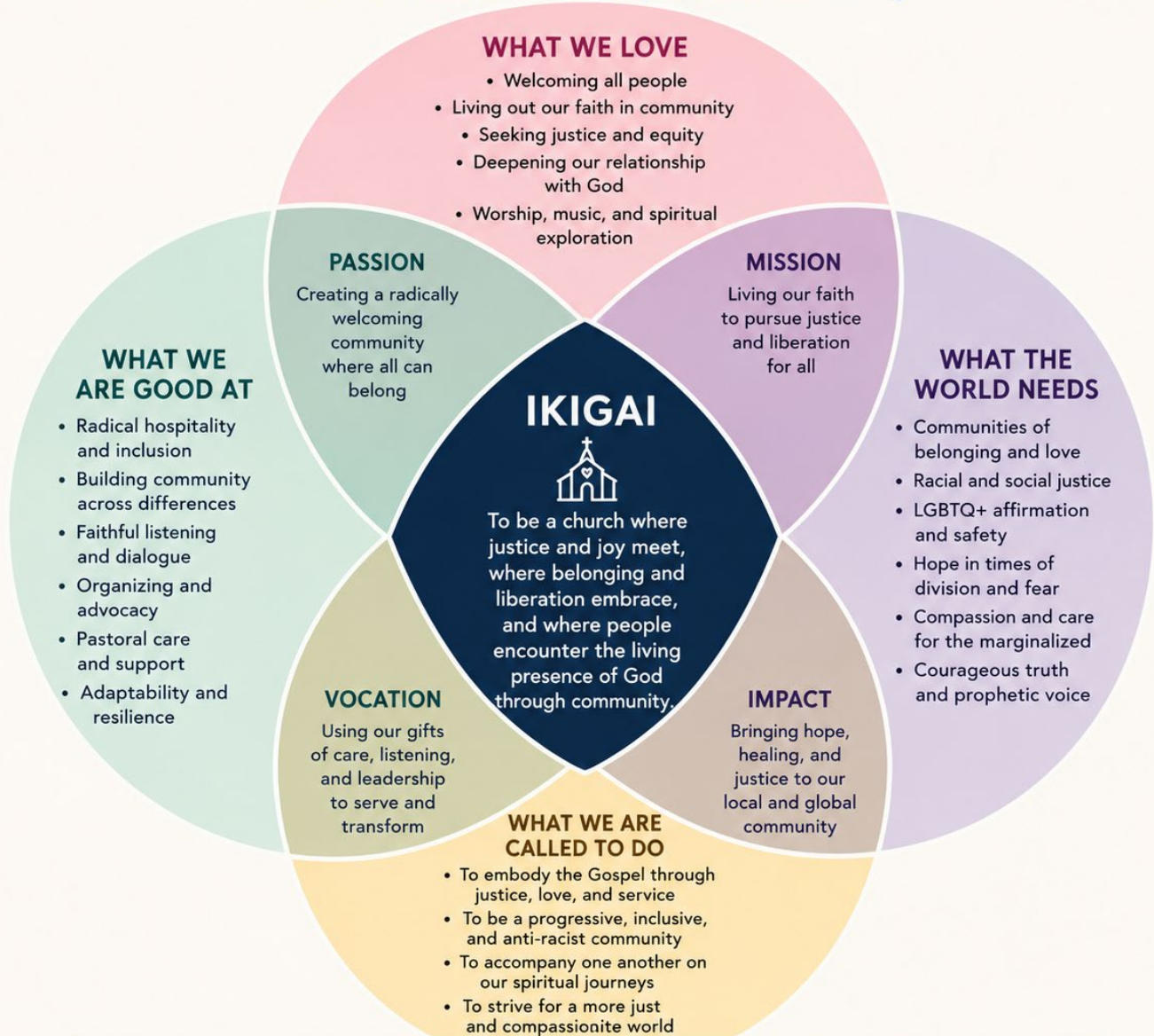
"Spirit of the Living God"

#283

Please remain seated during the song of preparation; we will sing through twice.

First Church's Ikigai

The intersection of our purpose and our calling



Guided by our ikigai, First Congregational UCC DC continues the holy work of becoming more loving, more just, more courageous, and more rooted in the liberating message of Christ.



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.

MOMENT FOR JUSTICE

Rev. Mahogany Thomas, Bread for the City

SENDING BLESSINGS FOR THE REV. DR. LATAYNA PURNELL

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss &
Rev. Jason Carson Wilson

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

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

Adapted by Fred F. Keip

Indwelling God, infused throughout all existence, we honor you with many names; your realm is within the human heart. We accept life for all that it can be, on earth as throughout all creation. May we continue to draw sustenance from this earth, and may we receive forgiveness equal to our own. May we ever move from separation toward union, to live in grace, with love in our hearts, forever and ever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss

*CLOSING HYMN

"God of Many Faces"

page 8

POSTLUDE

Cradle Me

Deborah Dougherty-Harris

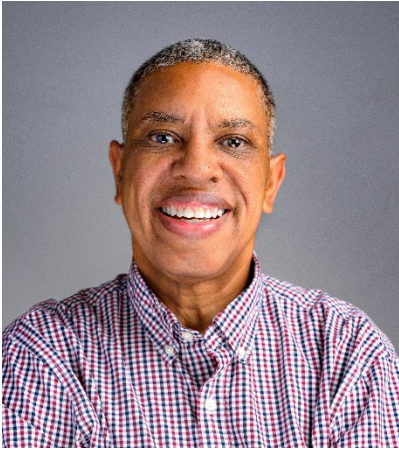
Casey Capsambelis, Polly Gordon, Nora Marsh, Reshmina William

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* Indicates "Please Rise in Body or in Spirit"

About Today's Preacher

Rev. Dr. LaTayna Purnell (she/they) is an ordained minister, educator, runner, and advocate for justice. A lifelong learner and community builder, LaTayna recently completed a Doctor of Ministry degree from Pacific School of Religion and will begin serving as Associate Minister for Care & Community at Christ Congregational Church UCC in Silver Spring, Maryland. Their ministry is rooted in Black and womanist theology, beloved community, racial justice, LGBTQ+ inclusion, and the conviction that God's love is wider than we often imagine. LaTayna lives in the Washington, DC area with their wife, Cindy, and their two sons.



Sing a New World into Being

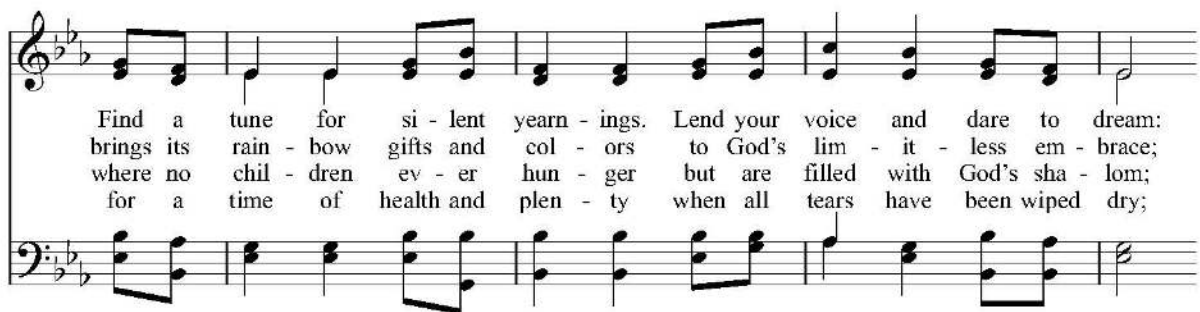
Mary Louise Bringle

NETTLETON

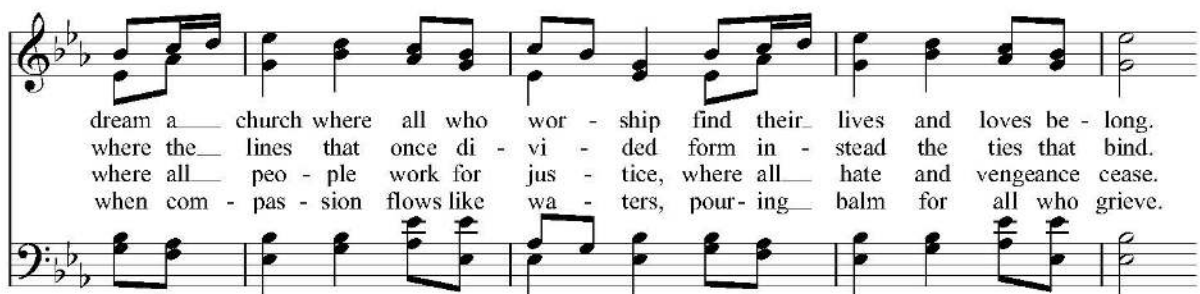
Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second 1813



1. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and hope - ful theme.
 2. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where each gen - der class and race
 3. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where the home - less find a home.
 4. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Join the an - cient proph - ets' cry



Find a tune for si - lent yearn - ings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:
 brings its rain - bow gifts and col - ors to God's lim - it - less em - brace;
 where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger but are filled with God's sha - lom;
 for a time of health and plen - ty when all tears have been wiped dry;



dream a church where all who wor - ship find their lives and loves be - long.
 where the lines that once di - vi - ded form in - stead the ties that bind.
 where all peo - ple work for jus - tice, where all hate and vengeance cease.
 when com - pas - sion flows like wa - ters, pour - ing balm for all who grieve.



Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sing as Christ in - spires your song!
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: risk trans - form - ing heart and mind!
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: raise the har - mo - nies of peace.
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: live the prom - ise you be - lieve!

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Spirit of the Living God

283

Daniel Iverson, 1926

Acts 11:15; 2 Cor. 3:1-6; Gal. 5:25

F Gm D Gm F Dm C F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me;

F Gm D Gm F Bb/C C7 F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Bb F G7 C

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

F Gm D Gm F Dm C7 F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

God of Many Faces

Amy Cerniglia

SLANE

Irish Melody, harm. Jack Schrader

God of man - y fa - ces, we of - fer our praise,
 God of man - y gen - ders, our world re - flects you,
 God of man - y names, we in - vite you to show
 God of man - y bod - ies, a - bide with - in ours,

sing - ing your glo - ry through all of our days.
 sun - rise and sun - set u - ni - ting our hues,
 us the new names that re - flect our true souls.
 shift - ing more each day through time and through scars.

Hear ev - er grow - ing voi - ces, once fra - gile, now strong,
 wo - ven in - to a ci - ty with jewels of all shades,
 Breathe with your ho - ly spir - it to give us the Word
 Come sanc - ti - fy our bod - ies, all fash - ioned by you,

car - ry - ing mel - o - dies in ex - pan - sive new songs.
 hou - ses of ru - by and walls rowed with jade.
 that will in - dwell dry bones, grant - ing new life once heard.
 ho - li - er ev - ery - day, still be - com - ing more true.

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Welcome to First Congregational UCC in Washington DC!

Connect with us!

If you are worshipping 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

Children, complete with their wiggles and noises, are welcome in worship! 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!

Assisted Listening Devices

We offer assisted listening devices with either headphones or loops to connect directly to hearing aids. Please see an usher if you would like to use an assisted listening device.

Coffee Hour Following Worship

All are invited to join us for coffee, light refreshments, and fellowship in the lobby immediately following worship. Upcoming Coffee Hour Hosts:

June 21: Diane Brenneman, Robin Olsen

June 28: Anisa Heming, Meg Maguire

July 5: Moira Jones, Sophie Jones

Invitation Cards

Stop by the Usher's Table to pick up one or more of the invitation cards. We invite members to use them to invite someone in your circle to come to First Church with you.

Thank You to Today's Worship Participants & Volunteers

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

Musicians: Dennis Turner, Reshmina William, Casey Capsambelis, Polly Gordon,
Nora Marsh, First Church Choir,

Readers: David Greer, Abby Goodman-Johnson, Ellen Bushmiller, Riley Kiss

Sanctuary Setup: David Greer

Coffee Hour Hosts: Ann Bushmiller, Jamey Moore

Ushers: Mary Pence, Jaimie Orr

Zoom Moderator: Erin Williams

A/V Technician: Dwight Davis

Sunday Morning Coordinator: Kemmesha Thomas

Happening at First Church

June Second Sunday Special Offering: Juneteenth for the City

Our Second Sunday special offering in June will support Bread for the City's free community block party in Anacostia to celebrate Juneteenth. Every neighbor who attends the celebration will receive a free meal provided by local Black-owned food vendors. Last year, over 600 meals were distributed. Our sponsorship will feed families, support local businesses, and create a joyful celebration centered on Black history, culture, economic empowerment, and freedom.



Summer Theme: Unsung Heroes

This summer in worship, as our nation marks the 250th anniversary of our independence, we will uplift the legacy of ancestors who stood for justice and worked for liberation whose names and stories we may not know, both in American history and in the Bible. What does it mean to train our eyes on the margins, seeing history or the gospel from this perspective? Which unlikely figures, the poor and dispossessed, has God used to build the beloved community? How can we relearn our history and theology from their stories? How does Jesus' solidarity with the "crucified peoples of the world" transform our faith? Join us this summer for intimate worship settings as we deepen our understanding of liberation and delve into a variety of special music offerings.

March with First Church at Pride: June 20

DC PRIDE is just around the corner. Over the last couple of years we have been trying to present a more organized, cohesive contingency to march in the parade and table at the festival with other congregations from the Potomac Association, the Central Atlantic Conference, and the National Office. Because of our location, we are often looked on to call truth to power in protests and marches. What better way to speak truth to power than by celebrating our LGBTQIA+ siblings? Especially when trans rights and existences are being threatened almost daily.



The parade is slated to begin at 3pm. Where we are placed in the line up will determine roughly when we will start. We hope to have either a float or at very least a couple of support vehicles/trucks with us for those who want to participate but have physical limitations. The parade normally starts near DuPont Circle and ends at Pennsylvania Ave. The easiest way to get to the start point is by metro. If you need to drive in to DC, please park at church and metro to the start point - we will validate parking.

While you don't need to RSVP to join us at the parade, having a rough idea of how many people will be joining us is helpful. Reminders will be posted to Signal. Day of communication will be exclusively through Signal instead of email. If you have any questions please reach out to Kristen Wheeler at dessertlady@mac.com, or LaTanya Purnell at lpurnell1012@gmail.com.

For more information on the life and ministry of First Church, scan the QR code to view our most recent weekly newsletter.



Prayer List

Prayers of joy for the birth of Josephine Cheng Meekins to Alyx and Matthew. Welcome to the world, beloved child of God!

Prayers for Phil Duncan in these trying times for him. May he know and experience the Love and Peace of the Lord.

Prayers of comfort for Ann, Paul and Ellen Bushmiller, Susan Anderson, and their families following the death of their beloved father and longtime First Church member, Hugh Bushmiller, at age 98.

Prayers of healing for Dwan Reece following an appendectomy.

Prayers of comfort for the family of Rev. Laura Simmons, whose father passed away after battling cancer.

Prayers for peace in Iran and for all those impacted by the war.

Prayers of blessing and gratitude for Lindsay Swisher as she relocates to Detroit for a new job.

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 peace and rebuilding in Gaza.

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.

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
Interim Director of Music – Dennis Turner
Building Manager – Byron Adams
Sexton – Ines Marquez
Administrative Assistant – Whitney McColley
Member in Discernment – Lynaya Morris

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