
Gathering those who fear they are not enough,
so we may experience grace, wholeness, and renewal as God's beloved.



Ascension, Father Georges Saget, 1963

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

Our task as image-bearing, God-loving, Christ-shaped, Spirit-filled Christians, following Christ and shaping our world, is to announce redemption to a world that has discovered its fallenness, to announce healing to a world that has discovered its brokenness, to proclaim love and trust to a world that knows only exploitation, fear and suspicion...

– N.T. Wright

Prelude

Welcome

* Song for All (verse 1)

Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord

1 Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart. O
2 Love, I will love you, Lord, with all my heart. O
3 Serve, I will serve you, Lord, with all my heart. O

God, I will tell the won-ders of your ways, and glo-ri - fy your name.

Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart. In
Love, I will love you, Lord, with all my heart. In
Serve, I will serve you, Lord, with all my heart. In

you I will find the source of all my joy. Al - le - lu - ia!

TEXT: Claude Frayssé, 1975; English trans. Kenneth I. Morse, 1988
MUSIC: Claude Frayssé, 1975; harm. Alain Bergèse, 1976

JE LOUERAÏ L'ÉTERNEL
Irregular

* Please stand in body or spirit

Opening Prayer

Scripture

The gospel of Luke and the book of Acts are a two volume set. Acts continues where the story left off. Luke ends with Jesus appearing to disciples on the road to Emmaus, then to the eleven in Jerusalem, followed by a brief report of his ascension to heaven. Acts expands on these events, telling of Jesus appearing to the disciples over a forty day period, continuing to teach them, and ordering them to wait in Jerusalem where they will shortly “be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” Our reading picks up just after Jesus says this.

Acts 1:6-14

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reflection

James Sledge

Receiving of Gifts and Song for All (sung twice)

Holy Spirit Come to Us

Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us; kin - dle in us the fire of your love.
Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus, tu - i a - mo - ris i - gnem ac - cen - de.

Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us. Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us.
Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.

The original text of this chant from Taizé is a shortened version of a text sung in the Latin mass after the reading of the gospel on Pentecost. The full text can be translated: "Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful; and ignite the fire of your love within them."

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1998
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1998
Text and Music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

TUI AMORIS IGNEM
Irregular

Prayers of the People

Diane Walton Hendricks

The Prayers of the People are offered on behalf of and with the congregation, usually by an elder currently serving on Session (governing council). Following each petition we will sing:



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing. Lord, send your
Spir - it in this place. Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren
pray - ing. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

TEXT and MUSIC: Ken Medema, 1970
Text and Music © 1973 Hope Publishing Company

CHILDREN PRAYING
Irregular

Please keep in your prayers...

Bob Huley and family on the death of Merry Huley on May 13

Nancy and Mike Gehron, as Nancy's father transitions to a memory care unit and

Mike's father enters hospice care

Comfort for Bob Moore, diagnosed with Covid-19, and strength for Carol Bentley

Hayden Beatty, father of Daniel Beatty, in the hospital with an infection

Janet Bickel, recovering at home following back surgery

The memory of Alfred Karam, late husband of Samira Karam

Those who have lost jobs as a result of the coronavirus pandemic

Staff and residents of elder care facilities everywhere

Brenda Buchley, recovering after a fall

First responders, health care providers, caregivers, essential employees, and all who are putting their lives at risk during the coronavirus pandemic

Continued prayers for...

Doug Ammons, Paige Bach, Kris Barth, Chuck and Marty Campbell, Judy Cornier,

Soledad Cuzzi, Sgt. John R. Goldsmith, Steve Graff, Mike Hugo, Linda Isaacson,

Doug Jonas, Nora Long, Nancy Lundien, Ruth Mileham, Bob Moore, Cheryl

Naderman, Ruth Nowjack-Raymer, Barbara Peret, Cort Peret, Stanley Rusher, James

Steele, Cathy Stewart, Lawson Swift, Doris Webb, Doris Williams, Christa Young

Prayer requests can be sent to Pastors James and Diane at prayers@fallschurchpresby.org

Communion of the People

Invitation to the Table, Prayer of Thanksgiving, and the Lord's Prayer

ALL: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Communion Song

All

Taste and see, taste and see the good - ness

of the Lord. O taste and see, taste and

see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord. *Fine*

(E) (F#m) (B7) (E) (B) (A)
F Gm C7 F C Bb

(E) (A) (E) (F#m7) (B7) (E)
F Bb F Gm7 C7 F

* Song for All

Send Me, Jesus

Leader *All*

Thu - ma mi - na. Thu - ma mi - na, thu - ma mi - na. Thu - ma
Send me, Lord. 1 Send me, Je - sus; send me, Je - sus; send me,
(2 Lead me,) Je - sus; lead me, Je - sus; lead me,
(3 Fill me,) Je - sus; fill me, Je - sus; fill me,

Repeat ad lib.

End

2 Lead me, Lord.
3 Fill me, Lord.

mi - na, So - man - dla.
Je - sus; send me, Lord. 2 Lead me,
Je - sus; lead me, Lord. 3 Fill me,
Je - sus; fill me, Lord.

Because such a sending song has a place in many Christian traditions, several versions of both this text (based on Isaiah 6:8) and tune can be found throughout South Africa. When desired, additional English stanzas can be improvised in alternation with the original Zulu text.

TEXT: South African; English trans. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
MUSIC: South African; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
Text and Music © 1984 Walton Music Corp.

THUMA MINA
4.4.4.3

* Our Life Together as the Body of Christ

* The Peace

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of God surround you,
everywhere, everywhere, you may go.

Supporting us in Worship

Audio/Video

Diane Maloney

Music

Andrew Jonas, piano; David Schoonover, baritone

A Warm Welcome

Thank you for joining us in worship this morning. We welcome all to our live-stream community, and hope that you will join us in song and prayer from the safety of your own homes. If you would like to learn more about our family of faith, please [visit the church website](#).

Falls Church Presbyterian belongs to the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, “working for the unity of the church, furthering the inclusion of LGBTQ persons, seeking understanding and reconciliation, and joining with others seeking a still more just and inclusive church.”

The Rev. James Sledge, Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Diane Walton Hendricks, Pastor for Spiritual Growth

Diane Maloney, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

The Rev. Megan Klose, Parish Associate

The Rev. Rusty Lynn, Hon. Ret., Parish Associate

Dr. Lisa A. Billingham, Chancel Choir Director

Dr. Lisa Bloy, Organist

Andrew Jonas, Pianist

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This Week at FCPC

May 24-31, 2020

ONLINE WORSHIP, CLASSES, MEETINGS

Worship Services – Sundays at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m. Join us for online worship at www.fallschurchpresby.org/livestream or on our [FCPC Facebook page](#).

Good Omens Class – Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Led by Chuck Anderson. The last class will cover the sixth and final episode of the Amazon miniseries based on the book, *Good Omens*, by Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett.

[Zoom Meeting ID: 873 6571 7492](#)

Virtual Fellowship Hour – Sundays at noon. Hosted by Morgan Freeman.

[Zoom Meeting ID: 919 9132 3252](#)

Tuesday Morning Prayer – Tuesdays at 8:45 a.m. Led by Diane Walton Hendricks.

[Zoom Meeting ID: 104 294 101](#)

Family Table at Home – Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Led by Diane Maloney.

[Zoom Meeting ID: 374 023 830](#) PLEASE NOTE: No Family Table meeting May 27.

Saturday Bible Study Group – Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. Led by Tom Koger.

[Zoom Meeting ID: 972 0316 4309](#)

God sightings. You are invited to share a photo that captures a time or place where you have experienced God. It might be a photo of something in creation, or a person or relationship. Photos submitted by noon each Wednesday will be considered for use at the opening of our virtual worship services. Email images to [Diane Walton Hendricks](#).

New online Bible study. By popular demand, Pastor James will be leading a Zoom Bible study on the book of Revelation beginning June 1. *The Revelation to John: Words of Hope and Promise for the Church*, is a nine-session study that will meet Mondays and Thursdays at 3 p.m. Revelation is badly misunderstood by many Christians. It was not written to predict the end of the world, but to offer hope and guidance to Christians who were facing great difficulties. Given the uncertainties and anxieties of our present time, perhaps this is a good time to take another look, or a first look, at the final work in the Christian canon. [Download the study here.](#)

Gathering Groups have begun. Gathering Groups are a community coming together to grow in our relationships to each other and to God in these times when we must keep physically distant. We are reflecting on the theme of Gratitude. [You can access the videos and discussion guides here.](#)

Questions? Contact Diane Walton Hendricks. **Join in Gratitude:** Even if you have chosen not to participate in Gathering Groups, you are invited to watch the videos and reflect on the study guide on your own.

Flowers for Merry. Longtime FCPC member Merry Huley, who died May 13, was a leader of the Flower Committee for many years. In honor of Merry and her love of flowering things, a Google Photos album was created and shared with the Huley family. You are invited to [view the album here](#) and upload a flower to “Merry’s Bouquet.”

FCPC’s Justice Ministry Team has shared a list of books from BookRiot.com to help understand current social justice movements. From their website: *We all bring different backgrounds to our experience of social justice. Some of us have particular connections to political movements from our childhood or adulthood. Others have just uncovered the story of a single person’s experience of injustice, and we’re hungry for more context. We turn to historical books for this context.* [Click here](#) for the list.

Church giving during COVID-19. Even though there aren’t many people at the church these days, the cost of being the church remains. We are still paying bills and salaries, still helping people who need assistance. And so we hope you will continue to make your offerings [online](#) or by mailing them to the church office. But if this crisis has suddenly changed your financial situation, we understand. What most people call “pledge cards” are actually labeled “Estimate of Giving.” Such estimates are based on the income you expected, and if that has changed, please do not feel bad about adjusting your giving accordingly. And please let us know if you need some assistance.

Pastoral care during social distancing. If you or your loved one is in need of pastoral care, [James Sledge](#) and [Diane Walton Hendricks](#) are both available. And if you are at-risk from COVID-19, please let the pastors or [deacons](#) know if we can offer you support with specific tasks such as grocery shopping, picking up prescriptions, or other things that might put you at risk.

Crossing Paths is a daily email designed to be a way to stay connected to each other, our community, and God. Crossing Paths are simple, daily reflections shared by the Falls Church Presbyterian community, available by email and on our Facebook page, Instagram, and Twitter. If you would like to share a prayer, poem, or scripture passage to be included in Crossing Paths, email [Diane Walton Hendricks](#). Your submission could be written by you, or something that has inspired you or recently brought you love, joy, or hope.

Family Table at Home is a resource offering a daily scripture passage, discussion questions, suggestions on ways to get creative, and a prayer. If you would like to receive the Family Table at Home email, contact [Diane Maloney](#). NOTE: Family Table at Home will take a break May 25-29.