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



The Apostle Paul in Prison, Rembrandt, 1627

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

Prayer is first of all listening to God. It's openness. God is always speaking; (God is) always doing something. Prayer is to enter into that activity... Convert your thoughts into prayer. As we are involved in unceasing thinking, so we are called to unceasing prayer. The difference is not that prayer is thinking about other things, but that prayer is thinking in dialogue, ... a conversation with God.

– Henri Nouwen

Prelude

Learning to Walk

Joseph Martin (b. 1959)

Welcome

* Song for All #637 (vv. 1, 4, and 5)

O Sing to the Lord



1 O sing to the Lord; O sing God a
2 For God is the Lord, and God has done
3 So dance for our God and blow all the
4 O shout to our God, who gave us the
5 For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le -



new song. O sing to the Lord; O sing God a
won - ders. For God is the Lord, and God has done
trum - pets. So dance for our God and blow all the
Spir - it. O shout to our God, who gave us the
lu - ia! For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le -



new song. O sing to the Lord; O sing God a new song.
won - ders. For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.
trum - pets. So dance for our God and blow all the trum - pets.
Spir - it. O shout to our God, who gave us the Spir - it.
lu - ia! For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia!



O sing to our God; O sing to our God.

A Lutheran missionary musician heard this song at a pastors' conference in southern Brazil in 1982, then went home to Argentina (where he was then serving) and translated it from Portuguese into Spanish. Later, when back in the U.S.A. on furlough, he translated it into English.

TEXT: Brazilian folk song; trans. Spanish, 1982, and English, 1986, Gerhard M. Cartford

MUSIC: Brazilian folk melody; arr. Gerhard M. Cartford, 1982

English and Spanish Trans. and Music Arr. © Gerhard M. Cartford (admin. Augsburg Fortress)

CANTAI AO SENHOR

5.6.5.6.5.6.5.5

Opening Prayer

** Please stand in body or spirit*

Scripture

Exodus 16:2-12

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. ⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” ⁶So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?” ⁸And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him — what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.”

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” ¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹The LORD spoke to Moses and said, ¹²“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

Philippians 1:21-26

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

ONE:

The Word of the Lord.

ALL:

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

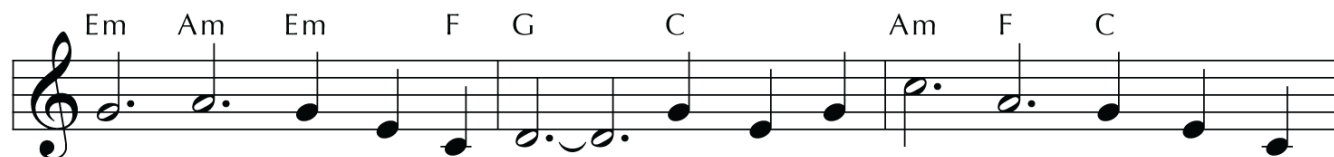
James Sledge

Receiving Gifts and Song for All #702

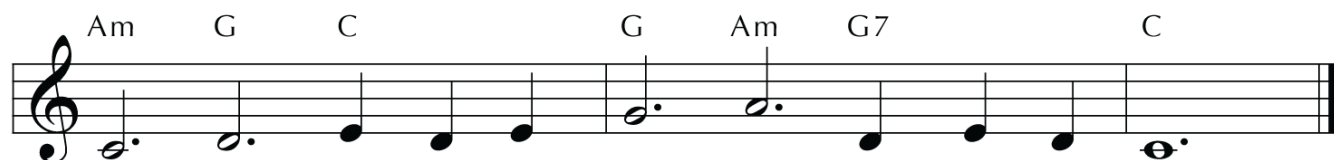
Christ Be Beside Me



1 Christ be be - side me; Christ be be - fore me; Christ be be -
2 Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a -
3 Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me; Christ be on



hind me, King of my heart. Christ be with - in me; Christ be be -
round me, shield in the strife. Christ in my sleep - ing, Christ in my
all tongues tell - ing of me. Christ be the vi - sion in eyes that



low me; Christ be a - bove me, nev - er to part.
sit - ting, Christ in my ris - ing, Light of my life.
see me; in ears that hear me Christ ev - er be.

This text adapts part of a traditional Irish prayer associated with St. Patrick (see also no. 6). Such a prayer for protection is known as a *lorica*, from a Latin word for "breastplate" or "armor." It is set to a Gaelic melody that gained wide popularity in the 1970s.

TEXT: James Quinn, SJ, 1969
MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985
Music Arr. © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources

BUNESSAN
5.5.5.4.D

Prayers of the People

Sue Armstrong

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:

Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, come;

Come, al - might - y Spir - it, come;

Come, come, come.

TEXT: Nigerian song; English trans. I-to Loh, 1986
MUSIC: Nigerian melody, taught by Samuel Solanke; transcr. I-to Loh, 1986
English Trans. and Music Transcr. © 1995 General Board of Global Ministries t/a GBGMusik

WA EMIMIMO
Irregular

Please keep in your prayers...

Audrey McDowell, mother of Shelly Skomra, in treatment for multiple myeloma
Educators, administrators, and students, as they face the challenges of online learning
during the pandemic

Those who have lost jobs because of the coronavirus pandemic

Staff and residents of elder care facilities everywhere

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

Continued prayers for...

Kris Barth, Brenda Buchly, Avery Burns, Chuck and Marty Campbell, Bobbie
Conlan, 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, Cort Peret, Clint Peters,
Laura Rainey, Stanley Rusher, Mark Seklecki, James Steele, Cathy Stewart, Lawson
Swift, Doris Webb, Doris Williams, Charles Wirth, Christa Young

Prayer requests can be sent to Pastor James at prayers@fallschurchpresby.org

Communion of the People

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

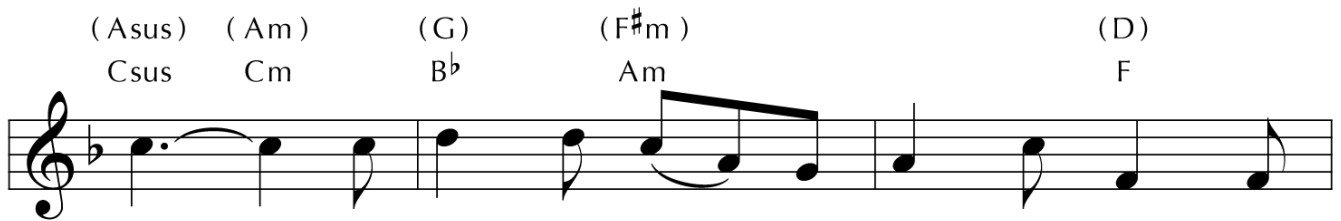
ALL: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are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

Communion Song #515 (v. 1)

I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris-tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call, in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com-mu - nion bread, in Christ's com-mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

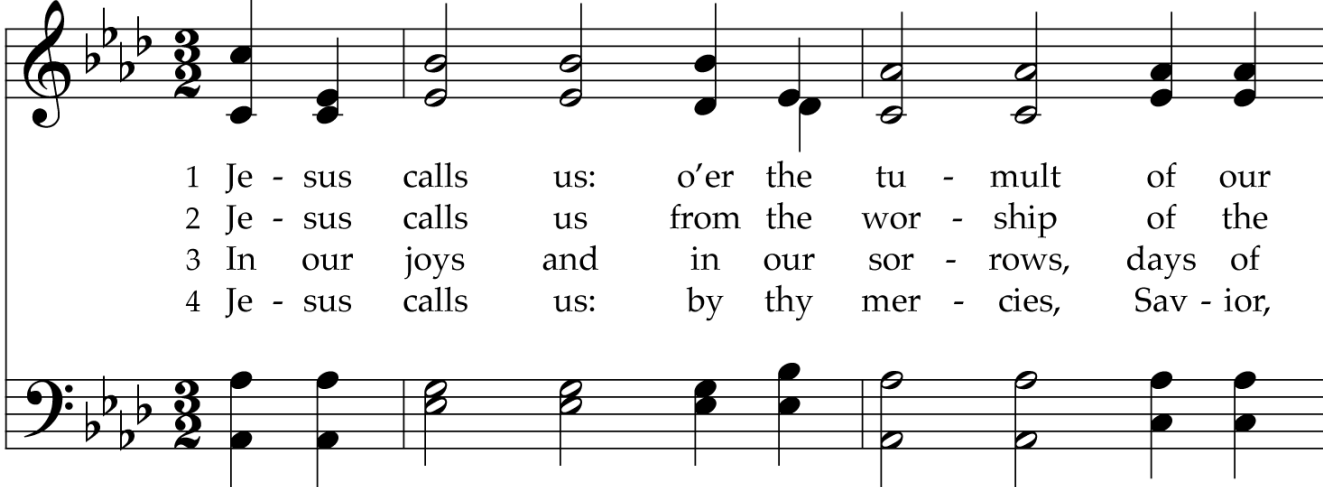
TEXT: Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1993
 MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, 1977
 Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company
 Music Arr. © 1977 Hope Publishing Company

DOVE OF PEACE
 8.6.8.6.6

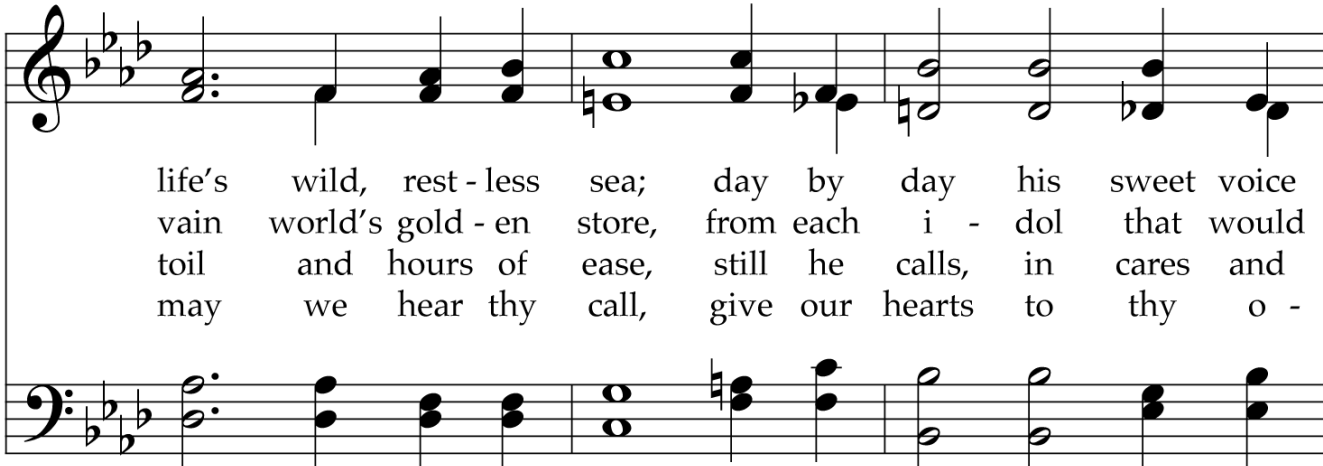
Post-Communion Prayer

* Song for All #720 (vv. 1 and 4)

Jesus Calls Us



1 Je - sus calls us: o'er the tu - mult of our
2 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
3 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
4 Je - sus calls us: by thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his sweet voice
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thy o -



sound - eth say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

Like many hymns that adults have come to cherish, this text based on Jesus' calling of the disciple Andrew was written for a 19th-century collection of hymns for children. The popular tune used here was composed for these words more than a quarter of a century later.

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.

All songs used by permission under OneLicense.net #A-721003

Supporting us in Worship

Worship Leader

Sue Armstrong

Audio/Video

Diane Maloney

Music

Lisa Bloy, piano; Andrew Jonas, tenor;
David Schoonover, baritone

Virtual Fellowship Hour Host

The Ayers family

Fellowship Hall Flowers

The flowers today are given to the glory of God by the Munson family in thanksgiving for the surgeons and staff of the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center Organ Transplantation Service, and for organ donors everywhere.

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 our 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

Diane Maloney, Director of Spiritual Growth and Community Engagement

Noah Clark, Assistant Director of Youth Ministry

The Rev. Megan Klose, Parish Associate

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

David Schoonover, Music Coordinator

Dr. Lisa Bloy, Organist

This Week at FCPC

September 20-27, 2020

ONLINE WORSHIP AND MEETINGS

Worship Service – Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Join us for online worship at www.fallschurchpresby.org/livestream or on our [FCPC Facebook page](#).

Congregational Meeting following worship today. [Zoom Meeting ID: 919 9132 3252](#)

Virtual Fellowship Hour – Sundays at 10:45 a.m. [Zoom Meeting ID: 919 9132 3252](#)

Tuesday Morning Prayer – Tuesdays at 8:45 a.m. Led by Becca Leland.

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

Called Congregational Meeting immediately following worship this morning. The Session has called a congregational meeting following worship to elect a Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC) and to vote on the sale of an easement to the City of Falls Church. The CNC nominees are Jay Campbell (Chair) and Sue Armstrong representing Session; Kathy Chavez representing Deacons; and Eric Munson, Bonnie Seklecki, Alan Shankle, and Anne Mugler from the congregation at large. Congregational representatives may be nominated from the floor at the meeting, but please secure the permission of anyone you might intend to nominate. **Please note: For your vote to be counted, each person will need to log on to Zoom on his/her own device.** If two people attend the meeting on the same device, the voting poll only allows for one vote to be counted. [Click here for some helpful tips](#) on how to effectively participate and vote in a Zoom meeting of the congregation. [Zoom Meeting ID: 919 9132 3252](#).

Additional information on the easement sale. The city sent some new information on the easement after the communication on this went out to the congregation. The first is the addition of language in the easement deed that prohibits its use for a shelter. The second is these renderings of what the crosswalk and signal will look like.



View looking east



View looking west

Virtual Fellowship Hour. Join us for online worship, then join the congregational meeting at this [Zoom Meeting ID: 919 9132 3252](#). Stay on after the meeting for virtual fellowship hour! Bring your favorite mug for a group “mug shot.” This week’s host: The Ayers family. We are always interested in having different people host our virtual fellowship time. Sign up to host [here](#). Interested in what hosting entails? Here are some [helpful tips](#).

In-person gathering for youth, today, Sept. 20. Gather in the church parking lot to kick off our new program year and our “Make It Count” series. This gathering will be one hour in length, 100% outside, and 100% masked up! We will also meet in two different groups at different times: Middle school (grades 6-8) at 4 p.m. and high school (grades 9-12) at 5 p.m. Registration is expected for this event. Please contact [Diane Maloney](#) if you have not registered and plan to attend.

Silent Witness Against Racial Injustice, Sept. 25. Please join the Falls Church faith community on Sept. 25 from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. along Broad Street, in Silent Witness Against Racial Injustice in the housing market.

While the Fair Housing Act of 1968, 1988, and the Obama Administration’s “Implementation of the Fair Housing Act’s Discriminatory Effects Standard” (2013) made significant inroads toward reducing discriminatory practices in home sales and mortgage lending, racial injustice persists. Racial steering—the practice of showing homes in areas of high racial concentration or limiting options to potential homeowners of color—and racial-based filters on social media sites are two recent trends that persist. According to the Brookings Institute, houses located in predominantly Black neighborhoods are valued at half the amount of equivalent houses in predominantly white neighborhoods. Also, houses in Black neighborhoods were more likely to have negative equity after the financial crisis of 2008 than white neighborhoods, according to a recent academic study.

What can we do? It is important to remain aware of housing discrimination’s persistence in the face of strengthened laws and protections. The best thing you can do is report any housing discrimination that you witness to the Fair Housing Board in the State of Virginia’s Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation and hold our local county and city leaders to account for the enforcement of fair housing laws.

Welcoming Falls Church is a local organization whose goals are hospitality toward immigrants and refugees and opportunity for us all. By engaging locally, they work to overcome divisions related to ethnicity and race and reinforce some of society’s greatest strengths. Click [here](#) to learn more about Welcoming Falls Church. Welcoming Falls Church is in the middle of a food drive to benefit the Columbia Baptist Spend Yourself Food Pantry. **The collection will end Oct. 3.** Click [here](#) for a list of food pantry needs along with drop-off points around the Little City and Falls Church/Fairfax County. Welcoming Falls Church promoted FCPC’s Welcome Table program in their recent [Welcoming Week 2020 flyer](#).

Gathering Groups begin this week. Our third series of Gathering Groups will focus on Henri Nouwen's book, *Life of the Beloved*. Groups will meet weekly for 45 minutes to discuss the book and share conversation. Groups will meet through the week of Oct. 25. You can follow along with our groups [here](#).

"In the Pulpit/On the Stump" begins Sept. 27. Chuck Anderson is offering an intergenerational Zoom class on religion and politics called "In the Pulpit/On the Stump." People of all ages, religions, and political persuasions are invited. Topics that will be covered include: civil disobedience, ethics and politics, church and state, and how God and government intersect. Classes will be on Sunday mornings at 11 a.m., Sept. 27 through Nov. 1. Guest panelists will include government officials, politicians, and activists. If you are interested and would like to be a panelist, feel free to [contact Chuck](#). Watch the announcements for Zoom ID.

Outdoor evening worship, Sept. 27. Yes, this will be in person worship. We are planning a short, twice-monthly prayer service with communion in the church parking lot at 6:30 p.m. Worshipers will need to bring lawn chairs from home, wear masks, and also bring their own elements for communion. We also ask that you [let the office know if you plan to attend](#) so we have some idea of numbers.

Welcome Table serves 550—another record breaker! A huge thanks to head chef Jenny Lansbury and all the wonderful volunteers who helped prepare, package up, and hand out the food, and all who helped set up and clean up. Our next Welcome Table is Oct. 7. [Sign up here to volunteer](#). If you would like to support Welcome Table with a financial contribution, you can mail a check to the church office or give through FCPC's secure [Online Giving](#) link.

Chancel Choir resumes virtual practice. The Chancel Choir is back to meeting via Zoom every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. We will continue to spread God's message of love, peace, and justice through the music we provide for Falls Church Presbyterian. Join us if you are a seventh grader or older as we work together during this time of uncertainty and help us create new ways to praise and glorify God's name. Contact [David Schoonover](#) for the Zoom link.

Drop & Dash a big success! FCPC collected hundreds of pounds of food, personal toiletries, baby items, \$435 in gift cards and cash to go toward our hunger ministries, and a mountain of pop tabs! Thanks to everyone who Dropped & Dashed! And thank you to the volunteers who staffed all four days—Sue Armstrong, Abbie Freeman, the Growney family, the Kasten family, Tom Koger, Marsha Schuyler, Shelly Skomra, and Gail Warner. Food and toiletries were delivered to Knox Food Pantry to help replenish their inventory. [Falls Church Community Service Council, Inc.](#) maintains the food pantry at [Knox Presbyterian Church](#). The Pop Tabs will help support operating costs at the [Ronald McDonald House of Northern Virginia](#).

God sightings? You are invited to share a photo that captures a time or place where you have experienced God. Photos submitted by noon each Wednesday will be considered for use at the opening of our virtual worship service. Email images to office@fallschurchpresby.org.