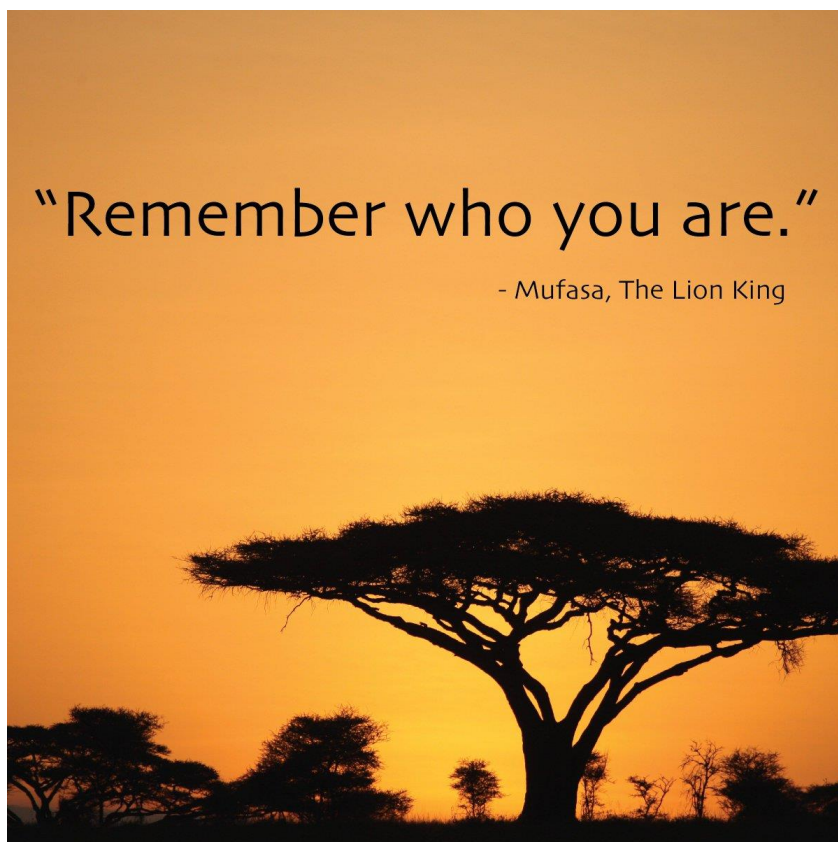

Gathering those who fear they are not enough,
so we may experience grace, wholeness, and renewal as God's beloved.



PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Nearly all the wisdom we possess, that is to say, true and sound wisdom, consists of two parts: knowledge of God and of ourselves.

— John Calvin

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

— Heidelberg Catechism

We Gather to Praise God

PRELUDE AND RINGING OF THE BELL

My Song is Love Unknown

arr. Molly Ijames (b. 1978)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

* HYMN 263 (vv. 1 and 4)

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line and a basso continuo line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 All hail the power of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
2 Ye cho - sen seed of Is - rael's race, ye ran-somed from the fall,
3 Let ev - ery kin-dred, ev - ery tribe on this ter - res-trial ball
4 O that with yon - der sa - cred throng we at his feet may fall!

bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
to him all maj - es - ty as - cribe, and crown him Lord of all!
We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown him Lord of all!

Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
To him all maj - es - ty as - cribe, and crown him Lord of all!
We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown him Lord of all!

TEXT: Stanzas 1–3, Edward Perronet, 1779, 1780; stanzas 2–3, alt. John Rippon, 1787; stanza 4, John Rippon, 1787
MUSIC: Oliver Holden, 1793; desc. Michael E. Young, 1979
Music Desc. © 1979 GIA Publications, Inc.

CORONATION
8.6.8.6.8.6

* Please stand in body or spirit

DRAW NEAR TO GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE

Loving God, we have come to know your love in the person of Christ Jesus.
We call ourselves "Christians," so named because we are his followers.
But all too often, the term has little meaning.
It does not indicate a different lifestyle, ways of living at odds with the world.
We blend in easily with the surrounding culture.
Rarely would anyone look at us and catch a clear glimpse of Jesus.
Lord, forgive us for taking the name without following the Christ.
Remind us of the new creation we have become in Christ Jesus.
Stir in us your Holy Spirit, that our lives may bear witness and proclaim
the one whose name we bear.

Silence for personal reflection

SUNG RESPONSE

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al-le-lu - ia!

TEXT and MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1982

Text and Music © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

CONFITEMINI DOMINO

Irregular

RECEIVE GOD'S LOVE, GRACE, AND PEACE

* SING GLORY TO GOD

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est!
Glo-ri-a, glo-ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De-o!
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!
Glo-ri-a, glo-ri-a, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1979

Music © 1979, 1981 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

GLORIA (Taizé)

We Listen for God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 21:23-32

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

WORD IN MUSIC

And Can It Be

arr. Dan Forrest (b. 1978)

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

*⁶ who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,*

*⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.*

And being found in human form,

*⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death —
even death on a cross.*

*⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,*

*¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*

*¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.*

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

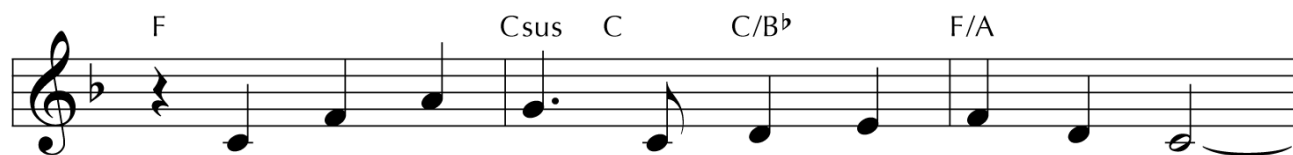
HOLY REMEMBERING

James Sledge

We Respond to God's Word

* **HYMN 485** (vv. 1, 2, 4)

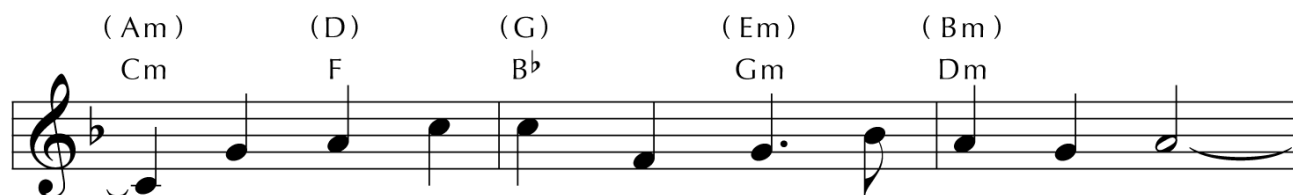
We Know That Christ is Raised



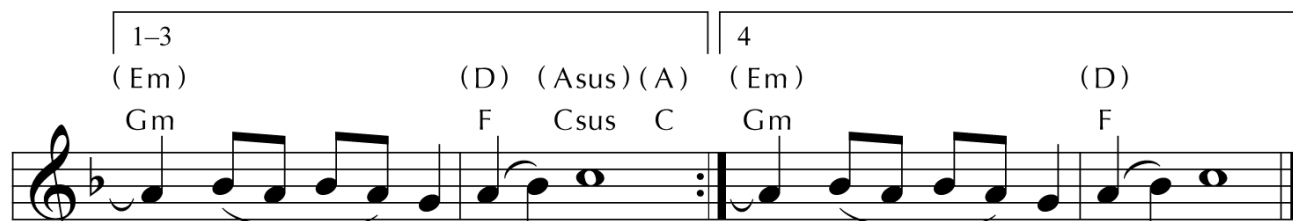
1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold,
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life
 The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the church of God.
 as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One.
 The u - ni - verse, re - stored and whole, will sing:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Beginning with an allusion to Romans 6:9, this exuberant baptismal hymn unfolds the implications of our incorporation into Christ's new life, making us "a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). The text was written to fit this expansive tune by a distinguished British composer.

* RESPONSE OF FAITH

adapted from Brian McLaren

We believe that God the Father, Good Creator and giver of life, calls us to love all creation and care for it as respectful stewards, to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God. We believe that Jesus Christ is God come to save and lead us, who teaches us to love God with heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We see Jesus in the poor, oppressed, condemned, and forgotten, and so we embrace all people with God's true compassion. We believe that by the Holy Spirit, God unites us in the eternal dance of love, empowers us diversely to serve and love, and fills us that we may overflow with grace, truth, beauty, and life as Christ's agents in this world.

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY: DROP & DASH

The Kasten Family

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Myra Bridgforth

ONE: Lord in your mercy,

ALL: Hear our prayer.

The Prayers of the People are offered on behalf of and with the congregation, usually by an elder currently serving on Session (governing council) or other members of the congregation.

Please keep in your prayers...

Doug Jonas, father of Andrew Jonas, following surgery on Sept. 24 after delay due to Covid-19

Albert Schmid, son of Beth and Tom Schmid, diagnosed with Covid-19

Chuck Anderson and family on the death of Chuck's brother, Clint Peters, on Sept. 22

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...

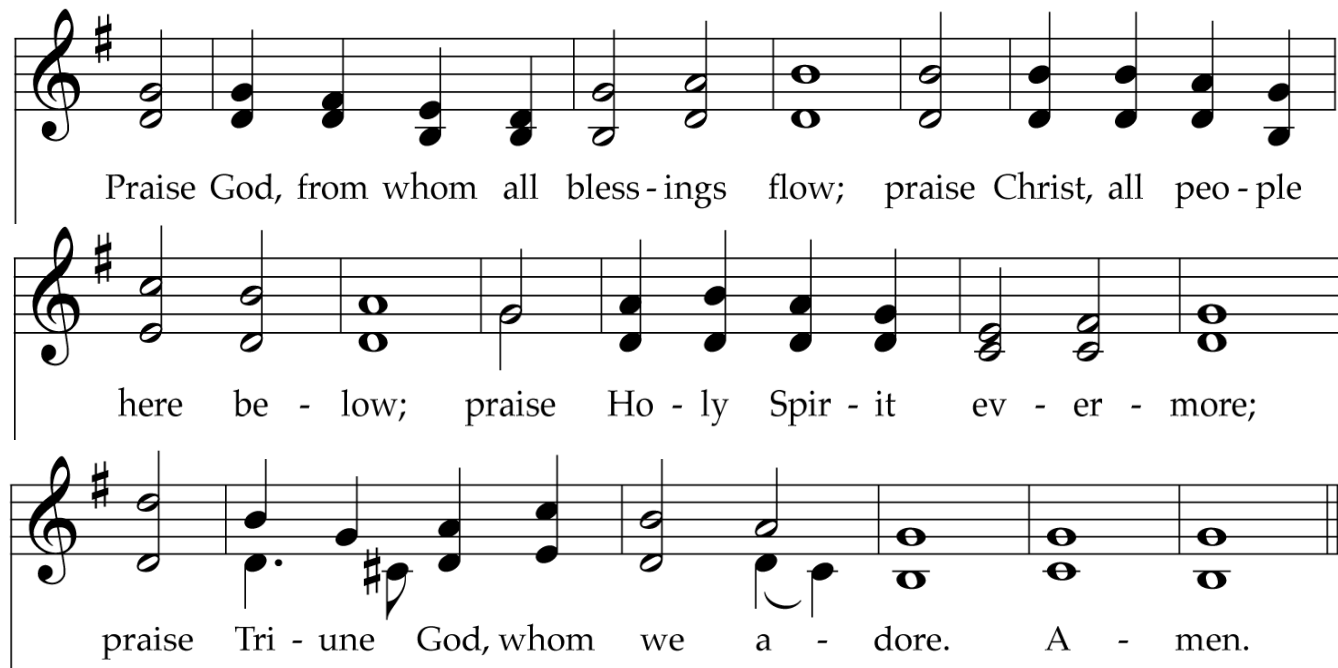
Kris Barth, Brenda Buchly, Avery Burns, Chuck and Marty Campbell, Bobbie Conlan, Judy Cornier, Soledad Cuzzi, Sgt. John R. Goldsmith, Steve Graff, Mike Hugo, Linda Issacson, Doug Jonas, Nora Long, Nancy Lundien, Ruth Mileham, Bob Moore, Cheryl Naderman, Ruth Nowjack-Raymer, Cort Peret, Laura Rainey, 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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory

* DOXOLOGY



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple
here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;
praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

TEXT: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988

MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

Text © 1990 Neil Weatherhogg

OLD HUNDREDTH

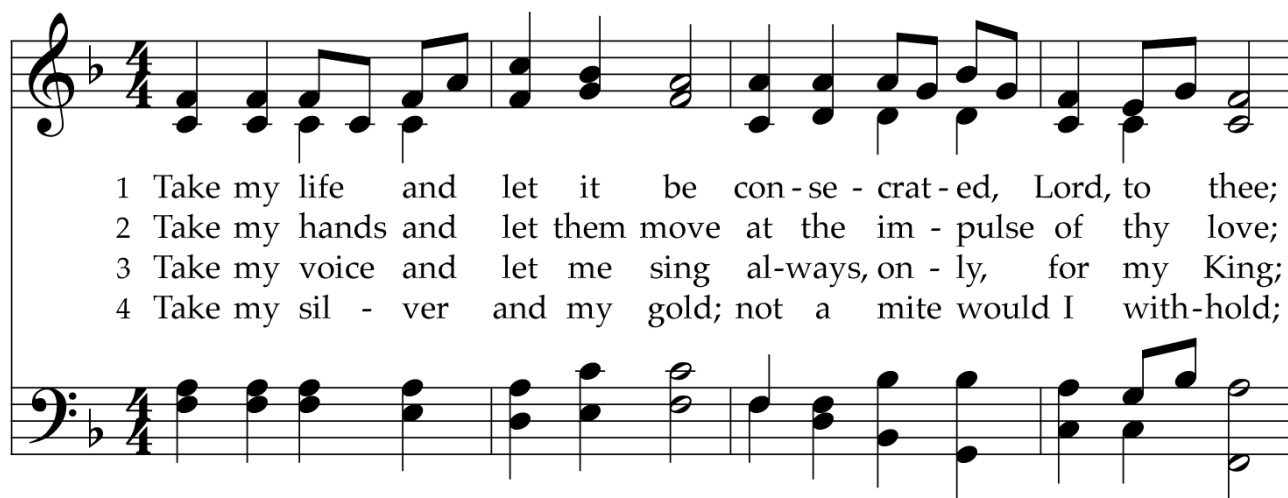
LM

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father 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.

* **HYMN 697** (vv. 1, 2, and 6)

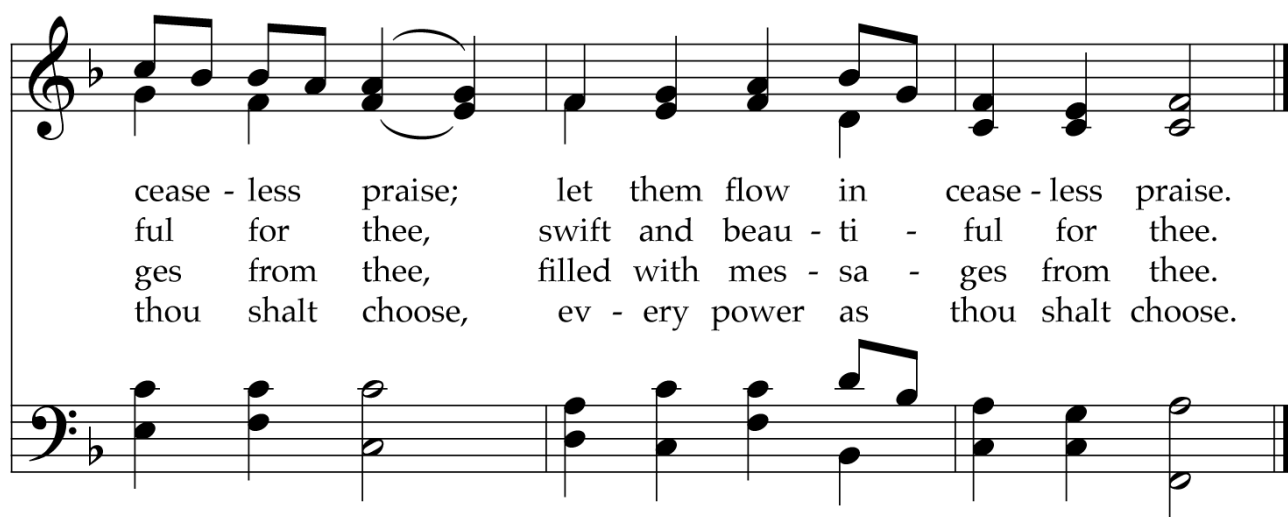
Take My Life



1 Take my life and let it be con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al-ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; not a mite would I with-hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti -
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa -
 take my in - tel - lect and use ev - ery power as



cease - less praise; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 ful for thee, swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 ges from thee, filled with mes - sa - ges from thee.
 thou shalt choose, ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
 it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own;
 it shall be thy royal throne,
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 at thy feet its treasure store;
 take myself and I will be
 ever, only, all for thee,
 ever, only, all for thee.

*** OUR LIFE TOGETHER AS THE BODY OF CHRIST**

*** CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Solemn Processional

Robert Harris (b. 1938)

Songs reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-721003

Supporting us in Worship

Worship Leader	Myra Bridgforth
Audio/Video	Diane Maloney
Music	Andrew Jonas, tenor and saxophone; David Schoonover, baritone
Virtual Fellowship Hour Host	Marnie Sarver
Sanctuary Flowers	The flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Lynn Wagner in celebration of the baptismal anniversaries of Lydia and Siri Grund.

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 27-October 4, 2020

Online Worship and Meetings

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

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

“In the Pulpit/On the Stump” Class – Sunday at 11:00 a.m. [Zoom Meeting ID: 842 0840 1218](#)

Virtual Youth Group – Sunday at 4:30 p.m. [Zoom Meeting ID: 853 6871 2834](#)

Tuesday Morning Prayer – Tuesday at 8:45 a.m. [Zoom Meeting ID: 104 294 101](#)

Virtual Fellowship Hour. Join us for online worship, then zoom in to virtual Fellowship Hour! [Zoom Meeting ID: 919 9132 3252](#). This week’s host: Marnie Sarver. Interested in hosting? Here are some [helpful tips](#). Ready to sign up to host? Sign up [here](#).

“In the Pulpit/On the Stump,” an intergenerational class on religion and politics, begins this Sunday, September 27, from 11 a.m. to noon. This Sunday, we look at origins—the relationship of Church and State in the Old Testament. Do we, as a Church, have theocracy in our DNA? Zoom in and find out! (Have your Bibles ready, BTW.) [Zoom Meeting ID: 842 0840 1218](#)

Outdoor evening worship, tonight, Sept. 27, at 6:30 p.m. This is the first of our twice-monthly prayer services with communion in the church parking lot. Worshipers should wear masks, bring their own lawn chairs, and bring their own elements for communion. Please [let the church office know if you plan to attend](#) so we have some idea of numbers.

Peace & Global Witness Offering, through Oct. 4. A gift to this Special Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ’s peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. [Learn more and give here](#), or mail your donation to the church office.

Welcome Table, Oct. 7. We anticipate another turnout of approximately 500 guests at our next Welcome Table. [Please sign up here to volunteer.](#) If you would like to support Welcome Table with a financial contribution, you can mail a check (made out to FCPC with “Welcome Table” in memo line) to the church office or give through FCPC’s secure [Online Giving](#) link.

Nominations for Elders and Deacons. The Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC) is seeking member nominations for elders and deacons for 2021. CNC members are [Jay Campbell](#), chair; [Sue Armstrong](#); [Kathy Chavez](#); [Anne Mugler](#); [Eric Munson](#); [Bonnie Seklecki](#); and [Alan Shankle](#). You may submit nominations to CNC@fallschurchpresby.org or send directly to any CNC member. Deadline for submission is October 31. Many thanks for your prayerful consideration.

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](#).

Generosity Team Minute for Ministry. In case you missed it, last Sunday’s Minute for Ministry was by Gail Ammons, reflecting on her experience with The Family Table. [Click here](#) to see the video. This Sunday’s Minute for Ministry will be from the Kasten family, reflecting on their experience with the Drop & Dash food drive. All Minute for Ministry videos will soon be available to watch on our website.

College Age Ministry is collecting contact information for our young adults away from home. This year has been unique in many ways, including the experiences of our members who are away from home, especially for the first time. We hope to keep in touch a couple of times over the semester. If you are a college student or a young adult away from home, or a parent of one, please [click here](#) to share your/your child’s contact information.

Send a note to our college-age students. FCPC sends care packages to our college-age members close to exam time. Last year, we asked the congregation to write notes to the students away from home, and recipients said they were very much appreciated! You are invited to write a note to one or more students. There is a marked box outside the rear parking lot double doors with envelopes for each of the students. Just slip your note inside the envelope. (You have to provide your own paper this year.) Packages will be mailed out mid-October. **Students:** Izzy Armstrong, Tam Ayers, Olivia Beeman, Xander Burdette, Morgan Freeman, Lydia Grund, Elly Loyd, Brian Riggione, Rachel Skomra, and Kaylee Stillwagoner. If anyone away at college was missed, please let [Abbie Freeman](#) or [Diane Maloney](#) know.

Little Pantry Hunger Ministry. The ongoing coronavirus epidemic and economic downturn are causing food insecurity across the region. Low-wage earners have been hit hard by layoffs and many working families are struggling to put food on the table. FCPC has responded with an outpouring of donations for Ives House, Welcome Table, and the Drop & Dash food drives. Now a new hunger ministry is opening up. FCPC librarian Avery Burns has suggested that the outdoor Little Library be converted to a mini food pantry during the economic downturn. The idea is to stock it with non-perishable food items so that our neighbors in need may pick up a few cans or boxes of food in a time of hardship. If you are interested in serving in this ministry, please contact [Will Packard](#) or [Diane Maloney](#).

Gathering Groups have begun. Our third series of Gathering Groups is reading Henri Nouwen's book, *Life of the Beloved*. If you did not sign up for a group but would like to follow along with the discussion, click [here](#).

Chancel Choir rehearsals, Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. The Chancel Choir is back to meeting and rehearsing via Zoom. All seventh graders and older are welcome to join. Contact [David Schoonover](#) for the Zoom link.

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