

January 17, 2021 2nd Sunday after Epiphany 9:30 a.m.

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



The young Samuel, servant of Eli the priest, sleeping in his master's room, hears God calling him Marc Chagall, 1958

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

All around the innocence of this narrative there were undoubtedly threats, bargains, and cunning calculations. In the midst of all those seductions, however, there is a season of naivete when a young boy can receive a vision, an old man can embrace relinquishment, a surprised mother can sing a song, the ears of the conventional can tingle, and life begins anew.

- Walter Brueggemann

We Gather to Praise God

PRELUDE AND RINGING OF THE BELL

Shall We Gather at the River

arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP



*Author's original words are "works," "mighty," and "shall I bow."

TEXT: Stuart K. Hine, 1953; Spanish trans. Arturo W. Hotton Rives, alt.; Korean trans. anon. MUSIC: Swedish folk melody; adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1949

HOW GREAT THOU ART 11.10.11.10 with refrain

Text and Music © 1949 and 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust (U.S.A. print rights admin. Hope Publishing Company. All other U.S.A. rights admin. EMICMGPublishing.com)



DRAW NEAR TO GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE

God of newness and fresh starts, God who says, "Behold, I do a new thing," we do not always welcome the new.

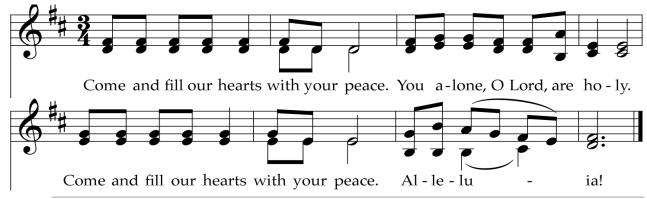
We are comfortable with how things are, caught up in old patterns, making it difficult for us to see you at work in the world.

Break into our comfort zones, O God. Give us ears to hear, eyes to see, and an awareness of your presence.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may hear you speaking, and may go where you call us.

Silence for personal reflection

SUNG RESPONSE

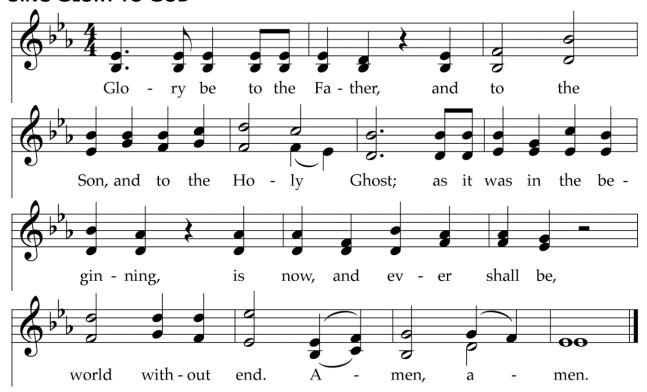


TEXT and MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1982 Text and Music © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

CONFITEMINI DOMINO Irregular

RECEIVE GOD'S LOVE, GRACE, AND PEACE

* SING GLORY TO GOD



We Listen for God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you come to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

WORD IN MUSIC

Here I Am, Lord

arr. Anna Laura Page (b. 1943)

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Samuel 3:1-10

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

We Respond to God's Word



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.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

Prayers of concern

Helen Waugh, recovering at home after surgery

Gordon Storr, at home after a recent hospitalization

Sarah Darden, daughter of Louise Phillips and Tom Koger, who tested positive for Covid-19. Prayers also for Sarah's husband, Kenneth, and their children.

Jay Campbell and family on the death of Jay's father, Chuck Campbell, on Dec. 26 Nancy Lundien, in hospice care

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 put their lives at risk during the coronavirus pandemic

Continued prayers

Kris Barth, Brenda Buchly, Avery Burns, Allan Capon, Bobbie Conlan, Judy Cornier, Soledad Cuzzi, Sgt. John R. Goldsmith, Steve Graff, Mike Hugo, Linda Issaacson, Nora Long, Rusty Lynn, Sandy Martin, Juan Mendoza, Ruth Mileham, Bob Moore, Cort Peret, Laura Rainey, Stanley Rusher, Albert Schmid, James Steele, Cathy Stewart, Lawson Swift, Doris Webb, Doris Williams, Charles Wirth, Christa Young

Prayer requests can be sent to Pastor James at <u>prayers@fallschurchpresby.org</u>.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

* Doxology



* 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.



This African American spiritual is based on the imagery of "the race that is set before us" in Hebrews 12:1–2. Its call-and-response structure allows for the improvisation and addition of stanzas related to an athletic metaphor that is as vivid today as it was centuries ago.

* OUR LIFE TOGETHER AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

* CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Holy Manna

arr. Joseph Martin (b. 1959)

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Guest Preacher

We are delighted to have The Rev. John Molina-Moore as our guest preacher today. John is the General Presbyter of National Capital Presbytery.

Supporting us in Worship

Worship Leaders Sue Armstrong, Myra Bridgforth

Audio/Video Diane Maloney

Music Andrew Jonas, tenor; David Schoonover, baritone

Fellowship Time Host Molly Good

Sanctuary Flowers The flowers this week are given to the glory of God by the

Martin family, in memory of Suzanne's mother, Phyllis DeMass, who would have been 90 years old on January 20.

A Warm Welcome

Thank you for joining us in worship this morning. We welcome all to our livestream 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 <u>visit our church website</u>.

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 January 17-24, 2021

Online Worship and Meetings

Godly Play – Sunday at 8:45 a.m. Zoom Meeting ID: 854 3597 5676

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

Fellowship Time – Immediately following worship. Zoom Meeting ID: 919 9132 3252

In the Pulpit, On the Stump – Sunday at 11 a.m. Zoom Meeting ID: 816 9564 5911

Tuesday Morning Prayer – Tuesday at 8:45 a.m. Zoom Meeting ID: 104 294 101

Saturday Morning Bible Study & Fellowship Group – Saturday at 8:00 a.m. Zoom Meeting ID: 972 0316 4309 Passcode: morning

Generosity Team update. Last week during worship we were told that \$106,000 was donated in 2020 to our Hunger Ministry fund. WOW! This fund enables us to give \$10 gift cards to our Welcome Table guests twice a month. The money that pays for groceries for the Welcome Table meals and our other ministries, including new ones started during the pandemic, comes from our annual budget, funded by your ongoing contributions throughout the year. **To date we have received 105 estimates of giving totaling \$666,167 for 2021.** What a generous and caring community! For those of you still planning on sending in your estimate, please take a moment to do that now, either online here or by mailing in your card, before we get too much further into the new year. It is through all of us that God's abundance manifests itself. Thank you for making it happen!

Drop & Dash, Jan. 16 and 17. Mercy Ministry is hosting a two-day Drop & Dash event to benefit Knox Food pantry. <u>Click here</u> to see the current needs at Knox. Wear a mask and drop off items **this Saturday and Sunday** from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at FCPC's Fairfax Street doors. Sign up to help <u>here</u>.

Join us for virtual Fellowship Time immediately following worship. Zoom Meeting ID: 919 9132 3252. This week's host is Molly Good, who will pose these questions: 1) If you could take three things (not people or pets) to a deserted island, what would they be? 2) What is another job you wish you had the opportunity to pursue? Fellowship Time hosts are always needed, and anyone is welcome to host! Learn more here and sign up here.

In the Pulpit, On the Stump, Jan. 17. Chuck Anderson returns to lead a discussion about "Events since the Election, Healing, and the Way Forward" this Sunday, Jan. 17 at 11 a.m. Zoom Meeting ID: 816 9564 5911

Welcome Table, Jan. 20. Sign up here to volunteer at our next Welcome Table. If you would like to support Welcome Table with a financial contribution, you can mail a check (made out to FCPC and marked "Welcome Table") to the church office or give through FCPC's secure Online Giving link.

Annual Congregational Meeting and FCPC Corporation Meeting, Feb. 7. Session has called the Annual Congregational Meeting and Meeting of the FCPC Corporation for Feb. 7, immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. The meeting will be held via Zoom. The purpose of the meeting is to report on the life and ministry of our congregation and approve the Terms of Call for our pastor. Electronic copies of the report will be sent to members in advance of the meeting.

2021 offering envelopes. If you would like to pick up your 2021 offering envelopes from the church, please contact <u>Mary Salpini</u>. Members can continue to use <u>online giving</u> or simply mail a check to the church without an offering envelope.

Minute for Ministry. In case you missed it, the January 10th Minute for Ministry was brought to you by the Gail Robarge on behalf of the Welcome Table Planning Team. Gail shared a few heartfelt stories about some of our longtime guests. <u>Click here</u> to watch the video. You can view more Minute for Ministry videos on the <u>FCPC YouTube channel</u>.

Crossing Paths submissions needed. Many of you have told us how much you enjoy receiving Crossing Paths in your inbox each morning, but we are running low on material for future emails. Please consider sharing a prayer, poem, scripture passage, song, or artwork that has inspired you or brought you joy in these difficult days. Submissions should be sent to Diane Maloney.

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 <u>Diane Maloney</u>.

Pastoral care during social distancing. If you or your loved one is in need of pastoral care, please do not hesitate to contact <u>James Sledge</u>. And if you are at-risk from COVID-19, please let James or the <u>deacons</u> 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.