

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

Repentance means a change of mind. Formerly, I thought sin as a pleasant thing, but now I have changed my mind about it. Formerly, I thought the world an attractive place, but now I know better. Formerly, I regarded it miserable business to be a Christian, but now I think differently. Once I thought certain things delightful, now I think them vile. Once I thought other things utterly worthless, now I think them most precious. That is a change of mind, and that is repentance. — Watchman Nee

Prelude

Prelude

Alexandre Boely (1785-1858)

Welcome



This 20th-century text was created to provide words for this traditional tune named for a small village on the Isle of Mull, off the west coast of Scotland. Through repeated use of "new" and "first," each morning is treated as a re-creation of the promise of the original day.

TEXT: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931, alt. MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Beverly A. Howard, 2012 Text © David Higham Assoc., Ltd. Music Arr. © 2012 Beverly A. Howard BUNESSAN 5.5.5.4.D

Opening Prayer

Scripture

Although the book of Jonah is included among the prophets, it is quite unlike any other prophetic book. The entirety of Jonah's prophecy, a single sentence, is in these verses. In truth, Jonah is a satire about a reluctant prophet who objects to God's mercy to foreigners. The book was written in the post-exilic era when leaders such as Ezra and Nehemiah argued for absolute purity and separation from all non-Jews, even saying to "send away all these (foreign) wives and children." (Ezra 10:3) The book of Ruth also protests such policies.

Mark's Gospel is the oldest of the four and is used by both Matthew and Luke as their primary source material. Mark is a gospel in a hurry where everything happens "immediately," and an adult Jesus has already begun his ministry early in the first chapter. When Jesus calls his first disciples, the first two fishermen, Simon and Andrew, seem to have no boat and are likely considerably poorer than James and John, whose father has a boat and hired hands.

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 ¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. ¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Mark 1:14-20

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Reflection

James Sledge

Offering Gifts and Song #726 (verses 1 and 2)



Minute for MinistryDeacons Food MinistryLaura Rainey and Meg ForemanPrayers of the PeopleGary Ewart

The Prayers of the People are offered on behalf of and with the congregation, usually by an elder currently serving on Session (governing council). We will sing the following petition prior to the prayer and at its conclusion. During the prayer itself, each petition will be followed by "Lord, in your mercy," and the response "Hear our prayer."



Prayers of concern

Judith Acheson, Patsy Acheson's mother-in-law, in hospice care

Helen Waugh, recovering at home following surgery

Gordon Storr, at home after a recent hospitalization

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 pandemic

Staff and residents of elder care facilities everywhere

First responders, health care providers, caregivers, essential employees, and all who continue to put their lives at risk during the 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 **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.



The simple, formulaic nature of this song makes it especially suitable for use during the communion portion of the Lord's Supper. Because it can be learned readily and does not require reference to a printed source, it frees people to sing before and after receiving the elements.

TABLE OF GRACE 7.7.10.7

Post-Communion Prayer

TEXT and MUSIC: Barbara Hamm, 2008 Text and Music © 2008 Hope Publishing Company



*Clap hands.

This text paraphrases Isaiah 55:12, which is generally understood to describe a "second exodus," this time from Babylon rather than from Egypt. This release of God's people and their return to their own land gives rise to a joyful celebration involving all creation.

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.

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Supporting us in Worship

Audio/Video	Diane Maloney
Music	Lisa Bloy, piano; Andrew Jonas, tenor; David Schoonover, baritone
Fellowship Time Host	Theresa Brown
Fellowship Hall Flowers	The flowers this week are given to the glory of God by Laura Rainey and Meg Foreman in gratitude for the kindness of FCPC during Laura's recent illness.

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 community of faith, please <u>visit</u> 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

ONLINE WORSHIP AND MEETINGS

Story Time Online – Sunday at 8:30 a.m. Story Time with Mrs. Burns

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

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

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

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

Generosity Team update. Thank you, thank you, thank you! We received two new estimates of giving since last Sunday, making our to-date total 107 estimates totaling \$668,517. It is a blessing to be part of such a generous community. If you are planning on sending in an estimate, please do so this coming week, either online <u>here</u> or by mailing in your card. It is through all of us that God's abundance manifests itself. Thank you for making it happen!

Story Time Online, Sunday at 8:30 a.m. Librarian Mrs. Burns will be reading stories about baptism this Sunday. Story time videos are prerecorded and go live Sunday at 8:30 a.m. Tune in Sunday morning or any time after at this link: <u>Story Time with Mrs. Burns</u>

Join us for virtual Fellowship Time immediately following worship. Zoom Meeting ID: 919 9132 3252. This week's host is Theresa Brown, who will get the conversation started with this question: *What has been your go-to snack during COVID-time?* Anyone is welcome to host Fellowship Time! Learn more <u>here</u> and sign up <u>here</u>.

Virtual Youth Group, Jan. 24. Our next virtual youth group series begins this Sunday. The new series is "Amplify," where our youth will read speeches and letters to better understand how they can help to amplify the voices of our siblings of color. If you have a student in 6th through 12th grade who would like to participate and does not yet have a virtual youth group kit, email <u>Noah Clark</u>. Virtual Youth Group meets at 4:30 p.m. <u>Zoom Meeting ID: 853 6871</u> 2834

Please join the Falls Church faith community in a Silent Witness against racial injustice and adultification bias against Black girls on Jan. 30 from noon to 1:00 p.m. along Broad Street. According to the Georgetown University's Law Center on Gender and Inequality, adultification bias is a perspective where "... adults view Black girls as less innocent and more adult-like than their white peers, devoid of any individualized context ..." Their recent report, Listening to Black Women and Girls, surveyed a wide range of women and girls from ages 12 to 60 on their experiences with adultification. The respondents reported harsher treatment and higher standards in school than their white peers. They reported adults classifying them as stereotypically "angry" or "hypersexualized." Educators also treated them in developmentally inappropriate ways and with less empathy. We raise up better awareness and call for educators and other authorities to end adultification bias, so that we can increase gender and racial equity in the classroom. For more information, read their report <u>here</u>.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation and FCPC Corporation, Feb. 7. Session has called the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and 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, approve the Terms of Call for James Sledge, and elect deacons and elders for the Class of 2024. Electronic copies of the report will be sent to members in advance of the meeting.

On behalf of Mercy Ministry, thank you to the congregation for your continued generosity in our Drop & Dash project! We collected another several hundred pounds of food and personal items that will go to Knox Food Pantry to help with their most urgent needs after the holidays—a particular time of need in the year. We thank the volunteers who staffed the event: Gail Warner; Marsha Schuyler; Julie and Grace Kasten; Tom Koger; Scott and Sue Armstrong; and Allison, Mike and Ella Hoak. We also thank Jenny Growney for managing our Signup Genius, and John Loyd for setting up a staging area in room 57 that makes it easy for us to pack up and Drop & Dash to Knox! **Our next Drop & Dash is Feb. 13 and 14.** Stay tuned for details!

Lenten Devotionals. This year our Lenten Devotional will be written by our community. We invite you to sign up for one date to write a brief reflection to deepen our connection to God, self, planet, and neighbor during this season of Lent. We ask for all drafts to be submitted to Diane Maloney by Sunday, Jan. 31, at 9:00 p.m. For more information or to sign up, click <u>here</u>.

Welcome Table serves 500 guests on Jan. 20, thanks to head chef Jenny Lansbury and 32 other wonderful volunteers. Our next Welcome Table is Feb. 3. Sign up for a volunteer spot <u>here</u>. 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 <u>Online Giving</u> link.

Love to grocery shop? WELCOME TABLE has the perfect volunteer opportunity for you! We need someone to occasionally grocery shop for Welcome Table meal ingredients. A few days prior to each dinner (first and third Wednesday of each month), you will be provided a complete grocery list to purchase ingredients at Restaurant Depot, Costco, or BJ's. Food must then be delivered to FCPC for storage. Please keep in mind the quantities of food can weigh a couple hundred pounds, so a strong back and large vehicle are a must, and a team of two shoppers is helpful. Rolling carts are available at the church to transport items from your vehicle to the kitchen. In addition, the shopper usually charges the purchase on their personal credit card, then submits the receipt to the church for reimbursement. Alternative arrangements can be made if this is a problem. This job is perfect for a family or a couple! Questions can be directed to <u>Heather Anderson</u>.

Welcome Table Head Chef position made easy. Since the pandemic began, Welcome Table has reinvented itself and now distributes approximately 600 to-go meals twice a month. To streamline cooking for this large number, simple menus have been developed and put to the test. Head chefs do not have to create a meal plan or figure out quantities but can utilize an already-created menu. This means the head chef is more of a supervisor in charge of the kitchen and sous chefs. If this sounds like a role you might be interested in, we could use your help! Please contact <u>Heather Anderson</u> with questions or to volunteer.

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 <u>Diane Maloney</u>.

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.