



FALLS CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN

August 1, 2021
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:30 a.m.

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



I Am the Bread of Life, Joseph Matar, 2006

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Although my mind can think beyond what my tongue can utter, yet even my mind is conquered and overwhelmed by the greatness of the thing. Therefore, nothing remains but to break forth in wonder at this mystery, which plainly neither the mind is able to conceive nor the tongue to express.

– John Calvin, on the Lord's Supper

We Gather to Praise God

PRELUDE AND RINGING OF THE BELL

Through the Love of God, Our Savior

arr. Don Wyrzten (contemporary)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

* **HYMN 611** (vv. 1 and 3)

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re-flect thy rays;
 3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan.

Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, o-pening to the sun a-bove.
 stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
 Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a-way.
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
 Ev-er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic-tors in the midst of strife.

Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re-joice in thee.
 Joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

TEXT: Henry van Dyke, 1907, alt.
 MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1842, alt.

HYMN TO JOY
 8.7.8.7.D

** Please stand in body or spirit*

DRAW NEAR TO GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE

Gracious God, Creator of all things seen and unseen,
whose creative power became flesh in Jesus, we have made you a small god.
We imagine you a resource to access, a fairy godmother who helps us,
gets us out of jams, provides us with a little spiritual pick-me-up.
We imagine you in service to us, rather than us in service to you.
In your great love, forgive us. Help us to see you as you truly are
and to discover life itself through relationship with you.

Silence for personal reflection

SUNG RESPONSE

Come and Fill Our Hearts with Your Peace

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

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the be - gin-ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text; adapt. Paul M. Vasile, 2008

MUSIC: Paul M. Vasile, 2008

Text Adapt. and Music © 2008 Paul M. Vasile

GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

* **PASSING THE PEACE**

ONE: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

We Listen for God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 51:1-12

*Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.*

²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

*⁴Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.*

⁵Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

⁶You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

¹¹Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Amazing Grace

arr. Joseph Martin (b. 1959)

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 6:24-35

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. ²⁵When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” ²⁶Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” ²⁸Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” ²⁹Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” ³⁰So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” ³²Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” ³⁴They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

³⁵Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

LITTLE GODS AND TRUE LIFE

James Sledge

We Respond to God’s Word

* HYMN 509 (vv. 1 and 3)

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man-na is our bread.
2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang-ers, seek-er, be a wel - come guest.
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er; Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.

Come from wil - der - ness and wan - dering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.

You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.

Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

The United Church of Canada minister who wrote this text was introduced to shape note tunes at the 1990 Hymn Society conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Afterwards she vacationed with friends nearby and worked out this text while humming this tune as she walked up and down the beach.

* **RESPONSE OF FAITH**

adapted from The Confession of 1967

God's reconciling love breaks down every form of discrimination based on racial or ethnic difference; God's reconciliation in Jesus Christ is the ground of the peace, justice, and freedom among nations, which all powers of government are called to serve and defend; The church, in its own life, is called to practice the forgiveness of enemies and to commend to the nations as practical politics the search for cooperation and peace; and, that in a world of plenty the suffering of those enslaved by poverty is an intolerable violation of God's good creation.

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

VOICE

Karen Growney

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sue Armstrong

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

Sabra Staley, following pacemaker replacement surgery on July 20

The Geisinger family as they move to and settle in Jakarta, Indonesia

Christa Young, undergoing treatment for a recurrence of cancer

Continued prayers

Kris Barth, Callie Brown, Allan Capon, Chet DeLong, Steve Graff, Emma Corina

Granado, Mike Hugo, Laurel Kovach, Nora Long, Sandy Martin, Ruth Mileham,

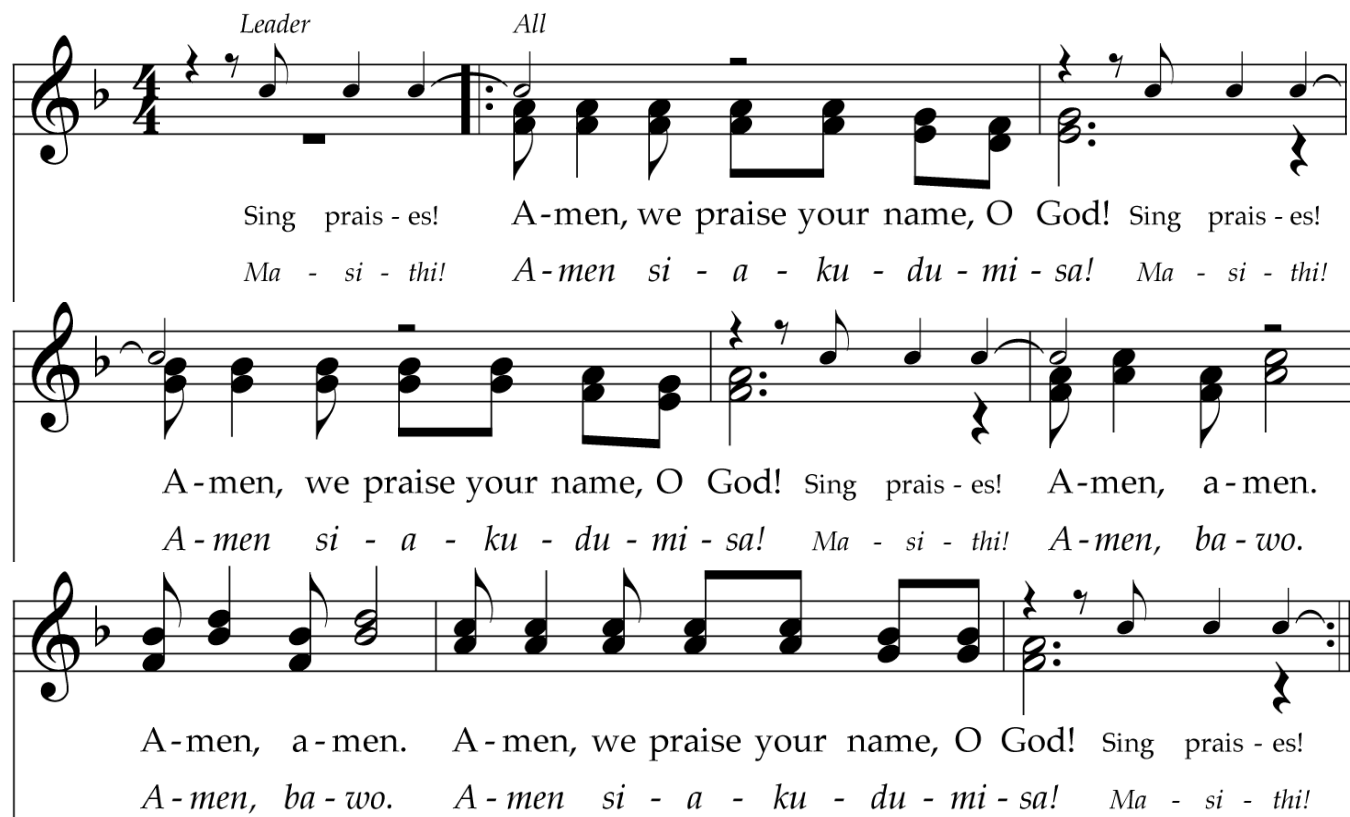
Bob Moore, Cort Peret, James Steele, Lawson Swift, Charles Wirth

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

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

* DOXOLOGY

Amen, We Praise Your Name, O God!



Leader All

Sing prais - es! A-men, we praise your name, O God! Sing prais - es!
Ma - si - thi! A-men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa! Ma - si - thi!

A-men, we praise your name, O God! Sing prais - es! A-men, a-men.
A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa! Ma - si - thi! A - men, ba - wo.

A-men, a - men. A - men, we praise your name, O God! Sing prais - es!
A - men, ba - wo. A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa! Ma - si - thi!

TEXT: South African
MUSIC: S. C. Molefe, c. 1976; transcr. David Dargie, 1983
Text and Music © Lumko Institute, South Africa
Music Transcr. © 1983 David Dargie (admin. Choristers Guild)

AMEN SIAKUDUMISA
Irregular

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Great Thanksgiving

ONE: The Lord be with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

ONE: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

ONE: It is truly right...

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of
(E) (F#m)(A) (F#7) (B) (E) (A)(E7)
F Gm Bb G7 C F Bb F7
pow - er, God of might, heav-en and earth are full of your
(A) (D)(A) (E) (F#m7)(F#7) (B)(Bm)(D7)
Bb Eb Bb F Gm7 G7 C Cm Eb7
glo-ry. Ho - san-na in the high - est! Blessed is the
(G) (C) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G) (Am7)
Ab Db Ab Db Gb Db Ab Bbm7
One, blessed is the One, blessed is the One who
(C) (A7) (D) (G) (C) (G)
Db Bb7 Eb Ab Db Ab
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na! Ho -
(C) (F) (C) (G) (C) (D7) (G) (C) (G)
Db Gb Db Ab Db Eb7 Ab Db Ab
san-na! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: David E. Poole, 2007
Music © 2007 David E. Poole

SANCTUS (Poole)

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.

Distribution of the Elements

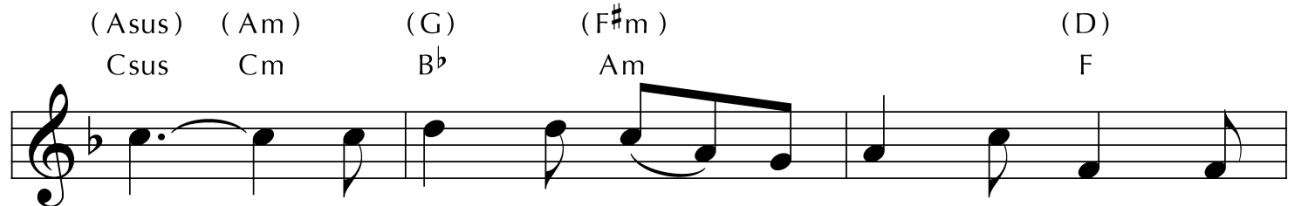
POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*** HYMN 515** (vv. 1, 3, and 5)

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.

This text affirms that Christian unity is not achievement but gift, one renewed each time we gather for the Lord's Supper. Each of us enters as an "I" and leaves as part of "we." The unadorned language of this text is well matched to the simple shape note tune that sets it here.

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

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

*** CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress

arr. Joel Raney (b. 1956)

Supporting us in Worship

Worship Leader	Sue Armstrong
Audio/Video	Diane Maloney
Music	David Schoonover, baritone
Ushers	Jay Campbell, Chuck Hobbie
Sanctuary Flowers	The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Chet and Carol DeLong in memory and honor of loved ones.

A Warm Welcome

Thank you for joining us in worship this morning, whether you are with us online or in person. If you would like to learn more about our community 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
Diane Maloney, Director of Spiritual Growth and Community Engagement
The Rev. Megan Klose, Parish Associate
The Rev. Rusty Lynn, Hon. Ret., Parish Associate
David Schoonover, Acting Director of Music
Dr. Lisa Bloy, Organist

This Week at FCPC

August 1-8, 2021

Online Worship and Meetings

Worship Service – Sunday at 9:30 a.m. www.fallschurchpresby.org/livestream, [Sermon.net Media Center](#), [Facebook Live](#), or [YouTube](#). (Subscribe to the FCPC YouTube channel to receive notification when we go live. Learn how [here](#).)

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. Contact [Tom Koger](#) for meeting information.

Register for in-person worship. Registration is required for those who would like to worship in person. [Please register here](#). Our live stream continues for those who prefer to worship from home or afar. Currently, we are limiting attendance to 50, so we ask that you sign up to reserve a spot for yourself and family members. We know that some may not be vaccinated, and younger children cannot be vaccinated. Therefore, we ask that everyone wear a mask. And because the CDC still discourages singing, we ask that you not sing along with the hymns. We will be reviewing all of this on a regular basis, so attendance limits and mask and singing requirements will no doubt change in the future. We look forward to seeing all of you soon!

The deadline to register for Escape Weekend is this Sunday, August 1. Full payment, including any T-shirts you ordered, is also due this Sunday. If you are not sure what you owe, please contact [Carolyn Bruce](#) to confirm your outstanding balance. Look [here](#) for complete details on Escape Weekend 2021, the registration form, and a list of who is escaping November 5-7. Your planning team cannot wait to welcome you to a weekend of relaxation and the Escape we all need so very much.

VOICE. Our church has joined [VOICE](#) (Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement), a local organization which supports community initiatives that have been identified by marginalized communities. Read about these two initiatives now on the table in the Virginia General Assembly: [Crisis Receiving Center FAQs](#) and [Affordable Housing FAQs](#). The FCPC VOICE team will share a video during the Aug. 1 worship service outlining our involvement with this organization. Please contact [Karen Growney](#) or [Julie Kasten](#) with questions or if you know of an issue that you would like to see changed in our area.

Welcome Table, August 4. Volunteers are always needed, especially for cleanup. Sign up to help [here](#). Can't volunteer but would still like to support Welcome Table? You can send a check (made out to FCPC with "Welcome Table" in memo line) to the church office or [give online](#).

Lemonade on the Lawn, August 9. Join us next Sunday, August 9, following worship, for Lemonade on the Lawn. This will be a very simple time of reconnection and fellowship. You do not have to attend worship to join us for Lemonade on the Lawn.

Flowers are the music of the earth. The Flower Committee invites you to check the [flower sign-up calendar](#) for an open date when you can bring the music of the earth to our Sunday worship service, while honoring, remembering, or celebrating an event or a loved one. Remaining open dates are: August 29, September 5, October 3 and 10, November 21 and 28, and December 5.

Drop & Dash July Generosity. Thanks to all who graciously gave much-needed food and personal care items on July 17 and 18 for our Ives House neighbors and those served by Falls Church Community Service Council (FCS) through the Knox Presbyterian Food Pantry. Through your generosity, we were able to deliver 75 containers of items to Knox. And thanks to Jenny Growney, Elaine Porter, Bob Purks, Tom Koger, Shelly Skomra, Linda Garvelink, and Marsha Schuyler for staffing this effort. Our next Drop & Dash will be August 21 and 22.

Welcome Table to restart toiletry distribution. Beginning Sept. 1, and on subsequent First Wednesday dinners, we will offer each of our guests one toiletry item in addition to a to-go meal. Your donations of full-size toiletry items to support this effort would be much appreciated. Much-needed items include toilet paper, shampoo, toothbrushes, and toothpaste. A collection bin is at the Activities Center; items can also be dropped off at the [church office](#) during the week.

Volunteer opportunities. Are you interested in helping older adults, adults with disabilities, or family caregivers? You can offer one-on-one support (e.g., lunch buddy, social visitor, grocery shopper) or serve in a group setting at a Fairfax County senior center. The James Lee Senior Center is looking for volunteers who can share their love of pottery, sewing, painting, dance, yoga, and chair exercise with others. To explore the possibilities, visit [Volunteer Solutions](#), email VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov, or call 703-324-5406. Also, if you or someone you know would like information regarding county resources for older adults, adults with disabilities, or family caregivers, please contact [Ranna Armstrong](#).

The FCPC Cookbook. The Community Building Team is creating a custom cookbook featuring favorite recipes from our members. These cookbooks will be professionally published and are sure to be a treasured keepsake for all. Proceeds will be donated to the Hunger Ministry fund. Please submit 1-2 of your favorite recipes online using Morris Press Cookbook's website. [Click here](#) for instructions. If you do not have Internet access, our committee can submit your recipes for you. Send hardcopies to Allison Hoak at 5701 27th Road, Arlington, VA 22207. Questions? Contact [Allison Hoak](#). We anticipate a great demand for this cookbook, and we want to be certain to order enough. To reserve your copies, please fill out the [FCPC Cookbook Order Form](#). Cookbooks will be sold at a minimum donation of \$10.00 and will be available for pickup at church in early December 2021.