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



Christ the King of Kings, Greek painted panel, ca. 1600
from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

For such is the depth of the Christian Scriptures that, even if I were attempting to study them and nothing else, from boyhood to decrepit old age, with the utmost leisure, the most unwearied zeal, and with talents greater than I possess, I would still be making progress in discovering their treasures.

— St. Augustine

We Gather to Praise God

PRELUDE AND RINGING OF THE BELL

Blest Are They

arr. Thomas Keesecker (contemporary)

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: This is the day the LORD has made;

ALL: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24

*** HYMN 263** (vv. 1 and 4)

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

Descant

4 O that with yon - der sa - cred throng we at his feet may fall!

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!

We'll join the 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!

** Please stand in body or spirit*

We'll join the 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!

This 18th-century text celebrating the sovereignty of Christ has been through several expansions and contractions before reaching its present form. It is set here to the oldest American hymn tune in continuous use since first published in 1793, which was written for it.

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

DRAW NEAR TO GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE

Christ Jesus our Savior, today we celebrate your reign.

We proclaim you Alpha and Omega, ruler over all creation and history,
 and yet we often do not let you rule our lives.

Lord of love, forgive our tendency to be our own lords and rulers.

Fill us with your Spirit, that we may know the joy of life lived 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



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the
Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -
gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,
world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

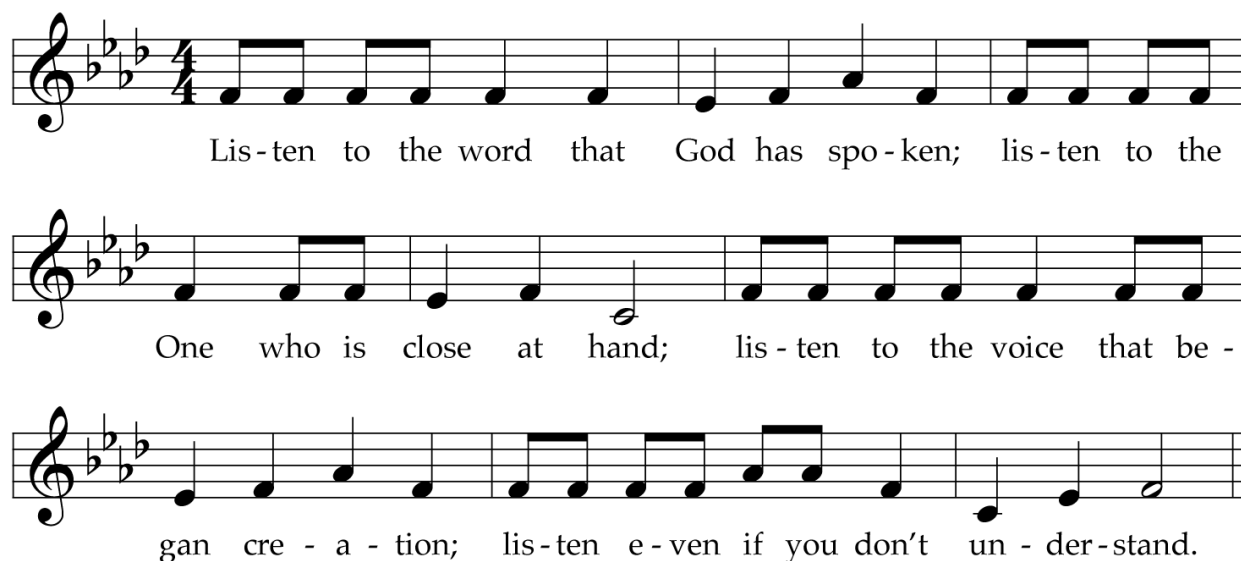
* PASSING THE PEACE

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



Lis - ten to the word that God has spo - ken; lis - ten to the
One who is close at hand; lis - ten to the voice that be -
gan cre - a - tion; lis - ten e - ven if you don't un - der - stand.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Revelation 1:4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

WORD IN MUSIC

Brother James' Air

arr. Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 18:33-38a

³³Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” ³⁴Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” ³⁵Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” ³⁶Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.”

³⁷Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” ³⁸Pilate asked him, “What is truth?”

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

LISTENING TO HIS VOICE

James Sledge

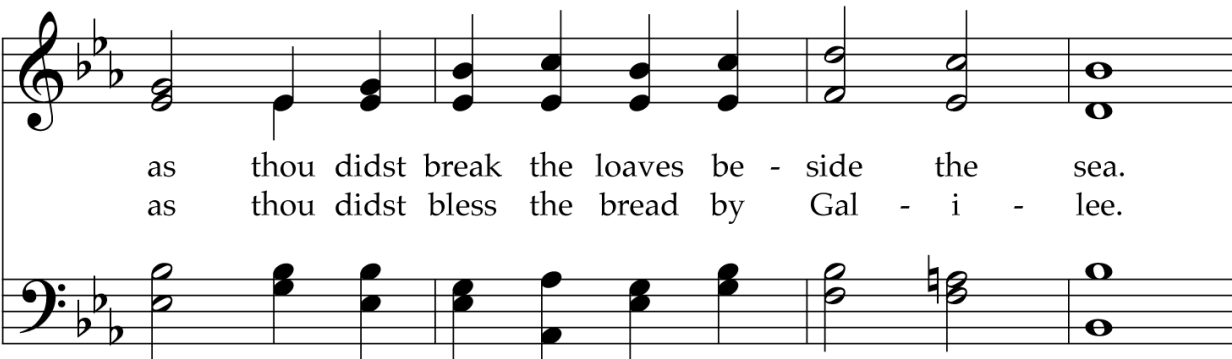
We Respond to God's Word

* HYMN 460

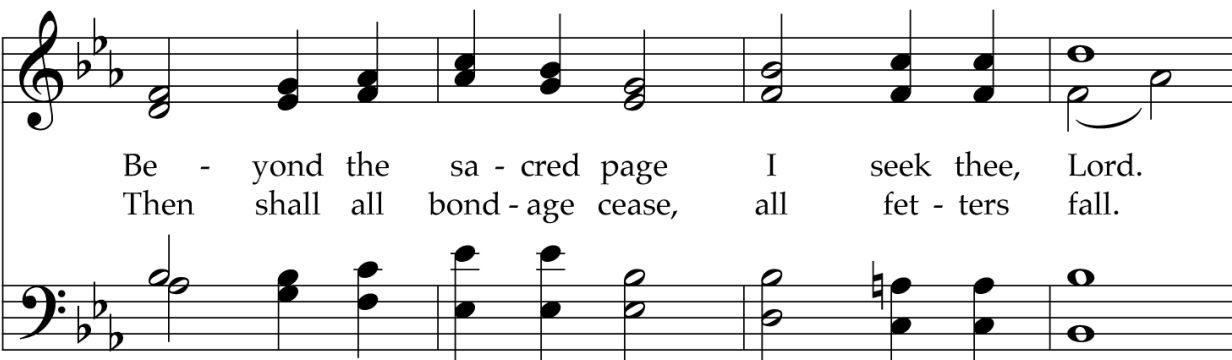
Break Thou the Bread of Life



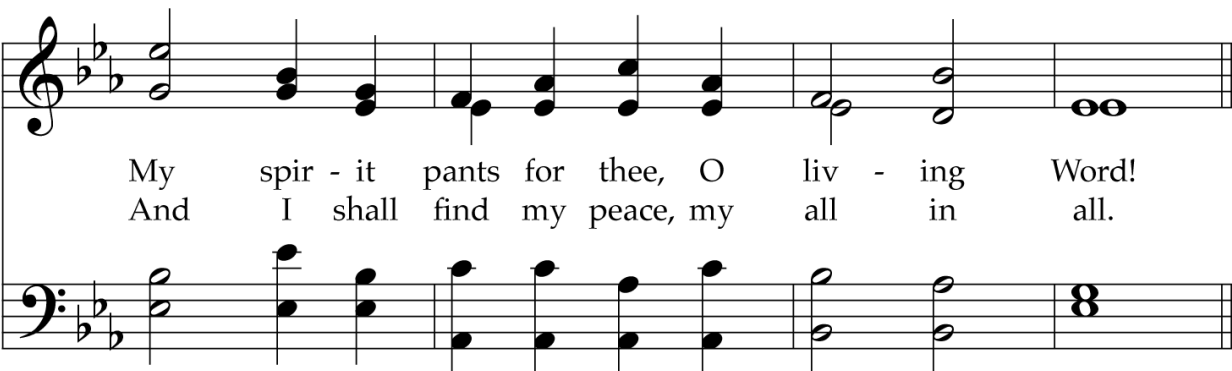
1 Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
2 Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, now un - to me,



as thou didst break the loaves be - side the sea.
as thou didst bless the bread by Gal - i - lee.



Be - yond the sa - cred page I seek thee, Lord.
Then shall all bond - age cease, all fet - ters fall.



My spir - it pants for thee, O liv - ing Word!
And I shall find my peace, my all in all.

The phrase "bread of life" as a metaphor for scripture has misled many people into thinking of this hymn as being connected with the Lord's Supper, when its true subject is Bible study. Both the author and the composer were active in the work of the Chautauqua Assembly.

RESPONSE OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

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

Tim Stufft

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.

Prayer concerns

Tyler Cruse and family on the death of Tyler's stepmother, Luanne Cruse

Continued prayers

Kris Barth, Callie Brown, Allan Capon, Geisinger family, Steve Graff, Emma Corina Granado, Mike Hugo, Nora Long, Ruth Mileham, Bob Moore, Sharane Patek, Cort Peret, Sabra Staley, Lawson Swift, Christa Young

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

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

What FCPC has meant through the years

Rusty Lynn

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

* 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 345

In an Age of Twisted Values



1 In an age of twist - ed val - ues we have lost the
2 We have built dis - crim - i - na - tion on our prej - u -
3 When our fam - i - lies are bro - ken, when our homes are
4 We who hear your word so of - ten choose so rare - ly

(Em) (A) (B7) (Em) (Bm) (Em) (D) (G)
Fm Bb C7 Fm Cm Fm Eb Ab



truth we need. In so - phis - ti - cat - ed lan - guage we have
dice and fear. Ha - tred swift - ly turns to cruel - ty if we
full of strife, when our chil - dren are be - wil - dered, when they
to o - bey. Turn us from our will - ful wan - dering; give us

(Am) (Em) (Bm) (Em) (C) (G)
Bbm Fm Cm Fm Db Ab



jus - ti - fied our greed. By our strug - gle for pos - ses - sions
hold re - sent - ments dear. For com - mu - ni - ties di - vid - ed
lose their way in life, when we fail to give the a - ged
truth to light our way. In the pow - er of your Spir - it

(D) (Am) (Em) (B7) (Em) (Bm)
Eb Bbm Fm C7 Fm Cm



we have robbed the poor and weak. Hear our cry and
by the walls of class and race, hear our cry and
all the care we know they need, hear our cry and
come to cleanse us, make us new; hear our cry and

(Em) (D) (G) (Am) (Em) (Bm) (Em)
Fm Eb Ab Bbm Fm Cm Fm



heal our na - tion; your for - give - ness, Lord, we seek.
heal our na - tion; show us, Lord, your love and grace.
heal our na - tion; help us show more love, we plead.
heal our na - tion till our na - tion hon - ors you.

One of the ways Christians can show firm allegiance to the country where they live and express care for its well-being is to ensure that they are mindful of the broad range of human needs within that society. This hymn is a strong reminder of the values that need such attention.

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

*** CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Happy Land

arr. Joseph Martin (b. 1959)

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Supporting us in Worship

Worship Leader	Tim Stufft
Ushers	Chuck Hobbie, Young Hobbie
Audio/Video	Andrew Jonas, Diane Maloney
Sanctuary Flowers	The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Marie-Paule and Steven Lauterbach in celebration of the birth of their granddaughter, Myriam May Shabibi, on August 18, 2021.

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

November 21-28, 2021

Online Worship and Meetings

Godly Play – Sunday at 8:45 a.m. [Zoom Meeting ID: 842 4172 2114](#)

Worship Service – Sunday at 9:30 a.m. www.fallschurchpresby.org/livestream,
[Sermon.net Media Center](#), [Facebook Live](#), or [YouTube](#).

Online Bible Study – Monday at 2 and 7:30 p.m. [Zoom Meeting ID: 81356493860](#)

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.

Godly Play, Sunday at 8:45 a.m. Based on the Montessori Method, Godly Play helps children develop a Christian language system through storytelling and wonder. Godly Play takes place every other Sunday at 8:45 a.m. on Zoom. [Zoom Meeting ID: 842 4172 2114](#)

In-person worship. We ask that all those worshipping in person who are eligible to do so be vaccinated. Masks are required for in-person worship. If you choose not to be vaccinated, please join us in worship online.

Drop & Dash, NVFS Toy Donations, Nov. 21. Drop off donations for Knox Presbyterian Food Pantry AND donations for the NVFS Holiday Toy Drive this Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Broad Street/front parking lot entrance. Most-needed items at Knox can be found [here](#). Please also consider signing up to help receive donations (two-hour shifts) [here](#).

NVFS 2021 Contactless Toy Gifting. You can now contribute to Mercy Ministry's collection of new, unwrapped toys to be provided through NVFS (Northern Virginia Family Service) to area children *from the comfort of your own computer or phone!* NVFS has established a [secure link](#) through which you can order toys from Amazon.com to be sent directly to NVFS's Oakton office for delivery to NVFS's Gifting for Families headquarters in time for holiday delivery to children who otherwise might go without. (Anyone purchasing from this wish list who would like a donation receipt can email jwarren@nvfs.org directly with their full name, email address or home address, and estimated value of the donation.) Donations can also be dropped off at in-person worship or at the church office or at the Nov. 21 Drop & Dash. All contributions must be received by Sunday, Dec. 5. For more information: [NVFS Toy Drive Wish List](#) and [NVFS Gifting for Families](#).

The Bridge, Nov. 21, 3-4:30 p.m. The Bridge is open to all 4th and 5th grade students. This Sunday, we will gather on the front lawn for games and a time of story sharing. Email [Diane Maloney](#) for more info.

Youthsgiving, Nov. 21, 5:30-7 pm. Join us this Sunday in the backyard of the Porter residence (213 W. Cameron Rd., Falls Church) for a special Youthsgiving. We'll have fire pits, s'mores, and hot drinks for our youth and their families to enjoy. **This event is designed for youth and families, so come one, come all!** Everything will be provided; though we recommend you bring a chair. **Please bring a canned good or a few items for the Free Little Pantry!**

Scout Troop 895 Holiday Fundraiser. FCPC members can purchase wreaths, sprays, maple syrup, and White House Christmas Ornaments while supporting Scout Troop 895. View your options [here](#) and download the order form [here](#). Send completed form to Pamela Holran, 203 W. Greenway Blvd., Falls Church, VA 22046. Checks should be made out to BSA Troop 895. You can also [email Pamela](#) with your order or contact her if you have any questions. Orders for FCPC members will be accepted through Wednesday, Nov. 30.

Reserve your copy of the FCPC Cookbook. Many thanks to all who submitted recipes! Our cookbook is full of over 200 great recipes. Cookbooks have been delayed slightly due to pandemic-related issues, and they should arrive by early to mid-January. You can reserve your copies [here](#). There is a \$10 minimum donation per cookbook with all proceeds supporting FCPC's hunger ministry fund.

Welcome Table serves 552 guests, thanks to head chef Jeff Jordan and all who helped with the Nov. 17 Welcome Table meal. Our next Welcome Table is Dec. 1. Click [here](#) to volunteer. Financial gifts to support Welcome Table can be mailed to the church or sent using the QR code below.

Falls Church Homeless Shelter. FCPC members will once again support the Falls Church Homeless Shelter by providing dinner for the staff and guests each Monday the shelter is open, December through March. Dinner for 14 in disposable pans should be dropped off at the entrance to the Shelter at 5:30 p.m. Click on this [SignUpGenius link](#) to sign up to provide a meal. Questions? Contact Mercy Ministry chair [Sue Armstrong](#).

Sponsor the Little Pantry. A few months ago, Nora Stuftt and a friend completed their Girl Scout Silver Award by creating a little free pantry. These pantries operate very similarly to free little libraries. We are looking for people to help stock the pantry. Our pantry has received heavy use since its installation. You can sign up for a week at a time or drop off donations any time. This is an easy way to make some impact against hunger and food insecurity in our area. [Sign up here.](#)

Youth Winter Retreat 2022. Sign up today for our Winter Retreat (our first retreat as a group since our Winter Retreat in early 2020!). This trip open to all current 6-12 graders; friends are welcome, too! We'll be traveling to Massanetta Springs Camp & Conference Center and Massanutten Resort. This trip is a "choose your own adventure" experience, as we are offering a water park or skiing/snowboarding option. We'll also go snow tubing. Read more [here](#). Sign up for the trip [here](#).

Stewardship update. Following last week's Commitment Sunday, we have received \$529,060 in estimates of giving. This is the best start to a Stewardship campaign in the last five years. Thank you for your generosity. And if you've not yet turned in your estimate of giving, please mail in your card as soon as possible, or take a moment and complete the [online form](#).

Congregational Nominating Nuggets. Over the next few weeks, we will be sharing thoughts from our elders and deacons on what it means to serve in these roles. This week's reflection is from Elder Sue Armstrong.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 tells us "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

As an Elder for a couple of times at FCPC, I find with joy that the collective of Elders and Deacons represents exactly this—people with the gifts of Administration, Discernment, Wisdom, Compassion, Teaching, and others, drawing on their personal and professional skills, and doing so together in the service of God. I do note that the first Spiritual Gifts inventory I ever did (a long time ago) resulted in a high score on "Administration," and my first response was "What?!? Super boring!" Since then, I have realized that everyone has a place in doing the work of a church, and when we do that, we grow personally and spiritually. For me, serving as an Elder has been a blessing and a way to grow in my own faith, make lifelong friends, and a reminder that every single person has God-given gifts that get magnified by Grace when shared. I do hope that if you are approached by the Committee, you will think about serving!

Online Bible Study: The Letter of Paul to the Romans. Join Pastor Sledge on Zoom Mondays at 2 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. for this 10-week study. Bring your Bible and your curiosity as we explore God's grace and the shape of Christian living. Download the lessons [here](#). [Zoom Meeting ID: 81356493860](#)

Scan the QR code at right to connect to the mobile version of FCPC's Online Giving web page.

