

---

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

---



Image from <https://thewellesleynews.com/2021/05/09/how-marvel-failed-black-widow-and-women-in-the-mcu/>

## **PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP**

*Let a widow be put on the list if she is not less than sixty years old and has been married only once; she must be well attested for her good works, as one who has brought up children, shown hospitality, washed the saints' feet, helped the afflicted, and devoted herself to doing good in every way.*

— 1 Timothy 5:9-10

# ***We Gather to Praise God***

## **PRELUDE**

*Day By Day*

Craig Courtney (b. 1948)

## **RINGING OF THE BELL AND WELCOME**

### **\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: Praise the Lord, O servants of the Lord!

**ALL: Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore.**

ONE: From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**ALL: Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore.**

### **\* HYMN 4**

*Holy God, We Praise Your Name*

## **DRAW NEAR TO GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE**

Gracious God, you know our sin: we squander the gifts you give us. We do not forgive our debtors as you forgive us. We are unfaithful and dishonest in small things and great things alike. We are shrewd in the ways of the world and foolish in following your way.

Forgive our sins, O Lord, for your name's sake. By the power of the Spirit, make us faithful stewards of the grace you so freely give. Make us generous in forgiving others as we have been generously forgiven. Help us choose the honest and faithful path, even – especially – when it is the more difficult one. Make us fools for Christ, in whose name we ask your help.

*Silence for personal reflection*

## **SUNG RESPONSE**

*Restore in Us, O God*

1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen-dor of your love;  
re - new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.

The musical notation is written on two staves in 4/4 time, with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes.

TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1987

MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1985

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

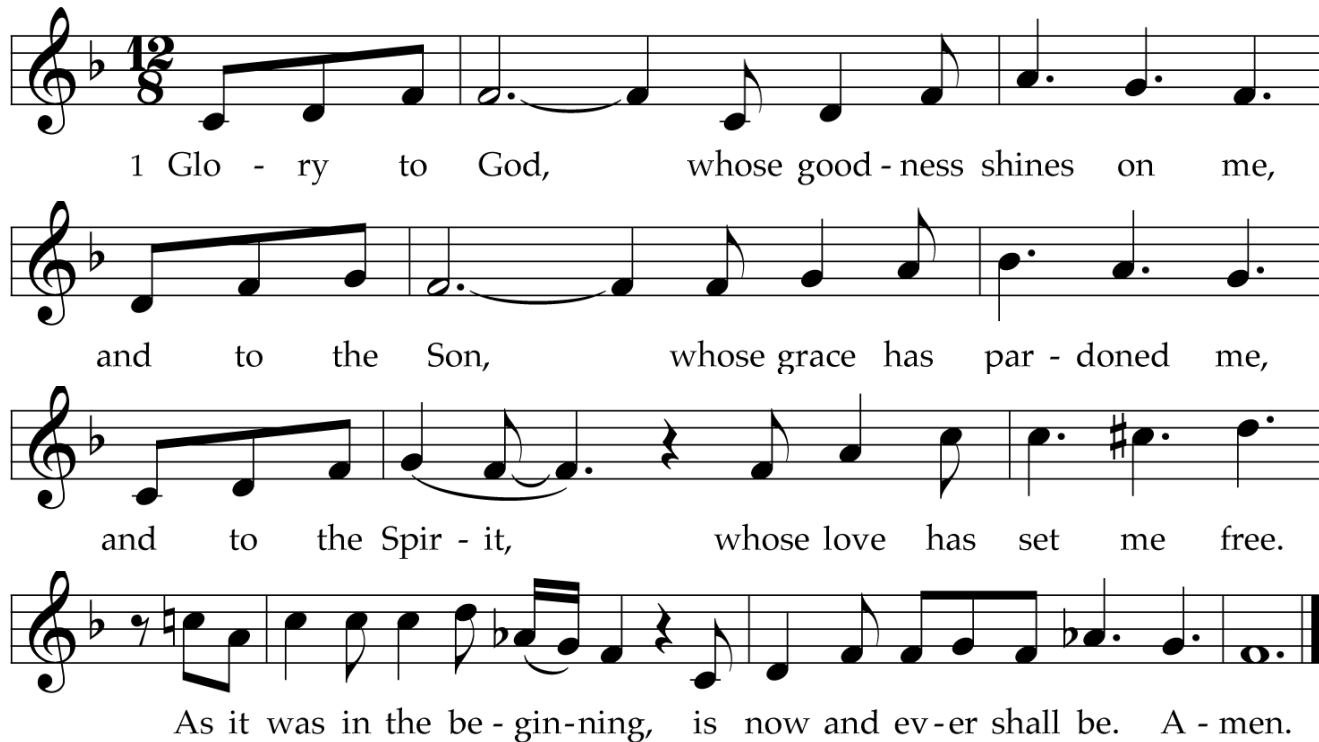
Music © 1985 Hope Publishing Company

BAYLOR  
SM

*\* Please stand in body or spirit*

## 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.

*Children ages 4 and older are invited to continue their worship at Godly Play in room 59.*

## ***We Listen for God's Word***

### SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (sung twice)



1 Give us light; give us light; give us light, O Lord.  
2 Give us life; give us life; give us life, O Lord.

TEXT: Charles Vas  
MUSIC: Charles Vas, alt.  
Text and Music © 1990 Christian Conference of Asia (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

JYOTHI DHO  
Irregular

### FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 16:1-13

page 79

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

## WORD IN MUSIC

*Lead Me, Lord*

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

Chancel Choir

## SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Timothy 5:1-16

page 209

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

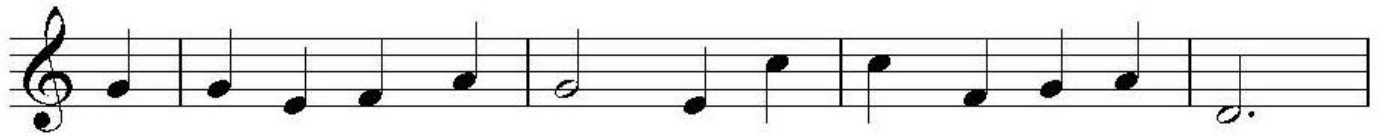
## SERMON

Megan Klose

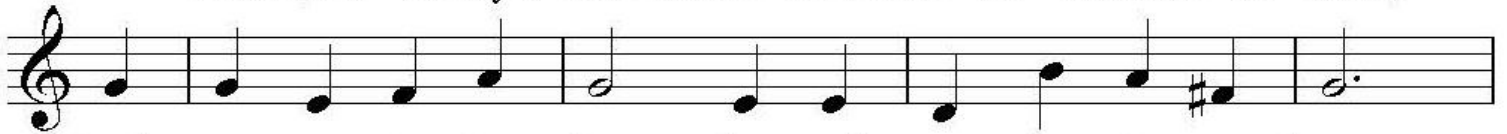
### *We Respond to God's Word*

## \* HYMN

*Help Us Accept Each Other*



- 1.Help us ac-cept each o - ther, as Christ ac-cep-ted us;
- 2.Teach us, O Lord,your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life
- 3.Let your ac-cep-tance change us, so that we may be moved
- 4.Lord,for to-day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,



teach us as sis - ter, bro - ther,each per - son to em - brace.  
we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.  
in li - ving si - tu - a - tions to do the truth in love;  
who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance,for jus - tice and for bread,



Be pre-sent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve\_\_\_\_  
Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,\_\_\_\_  
to prac-tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart\_\_\_\_  
we need new eyes for see - ing,new hands for hol-ding on:\_\_\_\_



we are our-selves ac - cep - ted, and meant to love and live.  
to love them as we find them,or as they may be - come.  
the ta - ble of for - give - ness and laugh ter's heal-ing art.  
re - new us with your Spi - rit; Lord, free us; make us one!

## \* 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.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Marnie Sarver

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*

Steve Graff, at home in hospice care

Avery Burns, recovering from Covid

Linda Garvelink on the death of her sister, Marilyn Miedema, on Sept. 1

Jenny Lansbury, recovering from arthroscopic knee surgery on Sept. 1

Bill Kercheval, in rehab at Arleigh Burke Pavilion, Vinson Hall

Nanette Rutsch on the death of her sister, Marcia Wilkinson, on Aug. 19

### *Continued Prayers*

Kris Barth, Sarah Barth, Ally Campbell, Allan Capon, John Drinkell, Neill

Ferill, Steve Graff, Mike Hugo, Nora Long, Rusty Lynn, Ruth Mileham,

Bob Moore, Sharane Patek, Cort Peret, Ken Waugh, Christa Young

*Prayer requests can be sent to Pastors James and Megan at [prayers@fallschurchpresby.org](mailto:prayers@fallschurchpresby.org).*

## 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 550

*Give Praise to the Lord*

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

### \* CHARGE AND BLESSING

### POSTLUDE

*The Heavens Declare*

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

*Songs reprinted with permission under One License #A-721003. All rights reserved.*

## ***Supporting us in Worship***

Worship Leader	Marnie Sarver
Voice	Don Armstrong
Ushers	Carol Coke, Clay Warner
Audio/Video	Alex Hess, Diane Maloney
Sanctuary Flowers	The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Tom Bruce and family, in loving memory of Russell Bruce, Tom's father, on his September 27 birthday.

## ***A Warm Welcome***

Thank you for joining us in worship this morning. Please sign the red welcome pad which can be found at the end of the pew, then pass the pad along to your neighbor. If you would like to learn more about our family of faith, please visit [www.fallschurchpresby.org](http://www.fallschurchpresby.org).

## ***Masks in Worship***

Masks are strongly recommended but no longer required in worship. Please consider those who are immune compromised or unable to be vaccinated and continue to mask up.

## ***Children in Worship***

Children are always welcome in our services. Child care is available for **children up to age 4 in** Room 201. Parents may drop off and pick up children throughout this time. For children **4 years of age and older**, Godly Play is offered in Room 59 following the Passing of the Peace.

*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

The Rev. Megan Klose, Associate Pastor

Diane Maloney, Director of Spiritual Growth and Community Engagement

Dr. Don Armstrong, Director of Music

Dr. Lisa Bloy, Organist

Falls Church Presbyterian Church

225 East Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046

703-532-6518 | [www.fallschurchpresby.org](http://www.fallschurchpresby.org)

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





<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup>So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ <sup>3</sup>Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup>I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ <sup>5</sup>So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ <sup>6</sup>He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ <sup>7</sup>Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ <sup>8</sup>And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup> “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup>If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup>And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup>No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

<sup>5</sup> Do not speak harshly to an older man, but speak to him as to a father, to younger men as brothers, <sup>2</sup> to older women as mothers, to younger women as sisters—with absolute purity.

<sup>3</sup> Honor widows who are really widows. <sup>4</sup> If a widow has children or grandchildren, they should first learn their religious duty to their own family and make some repayment to their parents, for this is pleasing in God's sight. <sup>5</sup> The real widow, left alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day, <sup>6</sup> but the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. <sup>7</sup> Give these commands as well, so that they may be above reproach. <sup>8</sup> And whoever does not provide for relatives, and especially for family members, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

<sup>9</sup> Let a widow be put on the list if she is not less than sixty years old and has been married only once; <sup>10</sup> she must be well attested for her good works, as one who has brought up children, shown hospitality, washed the saints' feet, helped the afflicted, and devoted herself to doing good in every way. <sup>11</sup> But refuse to put younger widows on the list, for when their sensual desires alienate them from Christ, they want to marry, <sup>12</sup> and so they incur condemnation for having violated their first pledge. <sup>13</sup> Besides that, they learn to be idle, gadding about from house to house, and they are not merely idle but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not say. <sup>14</sup> So I would have younger widows marry, bear children, and manage their households, so as to give the adversary no occasion to revile us. <sup>15</sup> For some have already turned away to follow Satan. <sup>16</sup> If any believing woman has relatives who are widows, let her assist them; let the church not be burdened, so that it can assist those who are real widows.

# 4 Holy God, We Praise Your Name

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we  
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -  
 3 All a - pos - tles join the strain as your sa - cred  
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it:

bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim;  
 bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,  
 name they hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,  
 three we name you, while in es - sence on - ly one;

all in heaven a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your  
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heavens with  
 and the bless - ed mar - tyrs fol - low, and from morn to  
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you, and a - dor - ing,

vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.  
 sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"  
 set of sun, through the church the song goes on.  
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

## Give Praise to the Lord

(Psalm 149)

1 Give praise to the Lord, and sing a new song;  
 2 With tim - brel and harp and joy - ful ac - claim,  
 3 In glo - ry ex - ult, all saints of the Lord;  
 4 For this is God's word: the saints shall not fail,

a - mid all the saints God's prais - es pro - long;  
 with glad - ness, O God, we praise your great name;  
 with song in the night high prais - es ac - cord;  
 but o - ver the earth their power shall pre - vail;

a song to your Mak - er and Rul - er now raise,  
 for now in your peo - ple good plea - sure you seek;  
 go forth in God's ser - vice and strong in God's might  
 all king - doms and na - tions shall yield to their sway.

all chil - dren of Zi - on: re - joice and give praise.  
 with robes of sal - va - tion you cov - er the meek.  
 to con - quer all e - vil and stand for the right.  
 To God give the glo - ry; sing prais - es for aye.