



November 19, 2023
25th Sunday after Pentecost
10:45 a.m.

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

We Gather to Praise God

PRELUDE

Nocturne in E-flat Major

Frederic Chopin (1810-1849)

RINGING OF THE BELL

INTROIT

Rejoice, Rejoice!

Stan Pethel (b. 1950)

O hear the glad sound! All people come and joyful praise prolong.

Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne, and ev'ry voice a song!

WELCOME

Megan Klose

*** CALL TO WORSHIP ****

Megan Klose

ONE: Lord, you have been our dwelling place;

ALL: We come today to rest in you.

ONE: You have been the voice that guides us;

ALL: We come today to listen.

ONE: You have been the host who feeds us;

ALL: We come today to be filled.

ONE: You have been our joy and crown;

ALL: We come today to sing your praise.

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

**** Liturgy by Carol Holbrook Prickett and the *Presbyterian Outlook*.**

* HYMN 35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise ye the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly
 3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so
 dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with

health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his
 gen - tly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

tem - ple draw near; join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION **

Sue Armstrong

ONE: We know that our sins are too heavy for us to carry, too real to hide and too deep to undo. But we also know that you can lift that weight from us and transform our lives. So we lift our prayer of confession to you:

ALL: Merciful God, we confess that once again, we have done what is evil in your sight. We've made mistakes. We've made missteps. We have hurt people – by action and inaction. We have wounded creation – by action and inaction. We have chosen our ways over yours – by action and inaction. Turn us toward compassion and relationship. Turn us toward stewardship and cooperation with the earth. Turn us toward faithful discipleship. Forgive our past, and shape our future, that we might build your kingdom here. In the strong name of Christ, we pray.

Personal Prayer in Silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: The truth of God's amazing love is this: that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

* 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.

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one flat) and 12/8 time. It consists of four lines of music with lyrics underneath. The first line starts with a treble clef and a 12/8 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence at the end of the fourth line.

*** PASSING THE PEACE**

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

ALL: And also with you.

Children ages 4 through grade 3 are invited to continue their worship at Godly Play in room 59.

We Listen for God's Word

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken



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.

TEXT: Anon. Canadian, alt.
MUSIC: Anon. Canadian; adapt. *Church Hymnary, 4th Edition, 2005*

LISTEN
10.10.11.10

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Sue Armstrong

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 25:14-30

Megan Klose

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

It's Not the Economy, Stupid

Megan Klose

We Respond to God's Word

* HYMN 351

All Who Love and Serve Your City



1 All who love and serve your cit - y, all who
2 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed
3 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the
4 Ris - en Lord, shall yet the cit - y be the



bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for
work and wast - ed play, call to mind the
Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a
cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our



peace and jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless:
word of Je - sus, "You must work while it is day."
world that spurns him, of - fering peace from Cal - vary's hill.
judge, our glo - ry. Be its name "The Lord is there!"

TEXT: Erik Routley, 1966

MUSIC: *The United States Sacred Harmony*, 1799; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1964

Text © 1969 Stainer & Bell, Ltd. (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

Music Harm. © 1965 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)

CHARLESTOWN

8.7.8.7

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Adapted from the Iona Community, Scotland* Sue Armstrong

We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life, from sun to moon, from heaven to earth, from ocean to desert, from male to female. We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree. A man of sorrows, he died forsaken. He descended into the earth to the place of death. On the third day he rose from the tomb; he ascended into heaven to be everywhere present, and his kingdom will come on earth. We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sue Armstrong

Prayer of Joy

Luke Packard Kohlmayer, son of Gabriela Kohlmayer and Adam Packard, and grandson of Nancy Butt Packard and Will Packard, born Nov. 7, 2023

Prayer Concerns

Beth Thomas and family on the death of Beth's brother, Simon N. Whitney, on Nov. 14

Katharine Stewart, recovering from surgery

Karen Rasmussen, prayers for relief from worsening headaches

Young Hobbie, in chemotherapy treatment for cancer

Carol De Long, at Vierra Falls Church Nursing and Rehabilitation

The ongoing prayer list can be found through the link in the Friday egram.

The Prayers of the People are offered on behalf of and with the congregation, usually by an elder who is currently serving or has previously served on Session.

Prayer requests can be sent to Pastors Yena and Megan at prayers@fallschurchpresby.org.

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.

SERVING, GIVING, GROWING STORY

Linda Garvelink

OUR LIFE TOGETHER AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

Megan Klose

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Megan Klose

Please support the mission and ministry of the church with your financial contributions.

Offerings can be placed in the offering plate, mailed to the church office, given online through our secure giving portal (fcpc.breezechms.com/give/online), texted to give at 7037751355, or scanned using the QR code.



OFFERTORY

For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter (b. 1945)

*For the Beauty of the Earth, For the Beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth, Over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise, This our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For the beauty of each hour, Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flower, Sun and moon and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise, This our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For the joy of human love, Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on Earth, and friends above, For all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to thee we raise, This our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For each perfect gift of thine, To our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine, Flow'rs of Earth and buds of heav'n:
Lord of all, to thee we raise, This our joyful hymn of praise.*

* DOXOLOGY

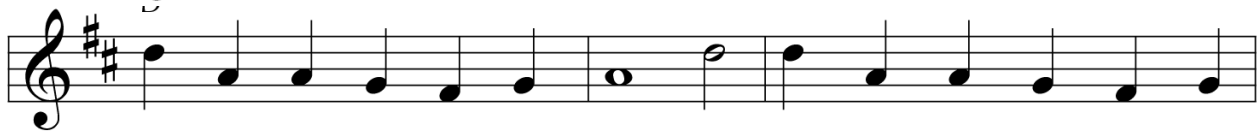
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures



high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise



God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it



one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*** PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Megan Klose

Generous God, with Thanksgiving quickly approaching, we are reminded to give you thanks for the ministries of this congregation which you have entrusted us with. We are honored by the opportunity to be your holy body here. Bless these offerings, however they are given, so that our efforts may be ever more worthy of your name. Amen.

*** HYMN 546**

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us, from our strug - gling



joy and peace; let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound; may the fruits of your sal - va - tion
pil - grim way, let no fear of death ap - pall us,



tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,
in our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
glad your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,



O re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

TEXT: Attr. John Fawcett, 1773, alt.; stanza 3, alt. Geoffrey Thring, 1880, alt.
MUSIC: Sicilian melody, 18th cent.

SICILIAN MARINERS
8.7.8.7.8.7

*** CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Megan Klose

* CHORAL BENEDICTION

We Have Heard Your Word

Ruth Elaine Schram (b. 1956)

*We have heard Your Word, O Lord, and together sung Your praise.
Help us now, O Lord, to take what we've learned into the coming days.*

POSTLUDE

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

arr. Craig Courtney (b. 1948)

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Supporting us in Worship

Worship Leader

Sue Armstrong

Ushers

John Moses, Elizabeth Shipley-Moses

Audio/Video

Alex Hess

Sexton

Anne Kusterbeck

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Gail and Clay Warner in thanks for FCPC's dedicated staff, volunteers, and choir.

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 need to step out of worship, the service is being broadcast into the parlor, just across the hall from the narthex at the back of the sanctuary.

Please turn off all cell phones during the service.

Large-print bulletins are available at the sanctuary entrances.

Portable electronic assistive listening devices are available in the narthex; ushers can provide them upon request.

A recording of today's service can be found at www.fallschurchpresby.org/sermon.

If you would like to learn more about our family of faith, please talk to one of the pastors as you exit the sanctuary.

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 old through grade 3**, Godly Play is offered in Room 59 following the Passing of the Peace.

Fellowship Hour

Please join us in Fellowship Hall following worship to greet your neighbors and enjoy some light refreshments. Hosted by the Community Building Ministry Team.

Church Calendar

Sunday, Nov. 19

High School Youth Keep Awake Retreat returns
Informal Worship Service, 8:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall
Matthew 25 Group, 9:30 a.m., Library
Serendipity Class, 9:30 a.m., Conference Room
Waffle Church, 9:30 a.m., Third Floor
Traditional Worship Service, 10:45 a.m., Sanctuary
Worship Ministry Team, Noon, Conference Room

Monday, Nov. 20

Finance Team, 7:00 p.m., Zoom

Tuesday, Nov. 21

Tuesday Morning Prayer Group, 8:45 a.m., Zoom
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m., Choir Room
Sarah Circle, 7:00 p.m., Parlor

Wednesday, Nov. 22

Pastor Nominating Committee, 7:30 p.m., Conference Room and Zoom

Thursday, Nov. 23 - Thanksgiving Day - Church office closed

Friday, Nov. 24 - Church office closed

Saturday, Nov. 25

Bible Study & Fellowship Group, 8:00 a.m., Library

Sunday, Nov. 26 - Christ the King/Reign of Christ

Informal Worship Service, 8:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

No Youth Sunday School today

Traditional Worship Service, 10:45 a.m., Sanctuary

Announcements

Generosity Update

We had a glorious Commitment Sunday! Many, many thanks to all who have already submitted their Estimates of Giving for next year. To date, we have received 71 estimates totaling \$496,254.00, and 45 of those were able to answer the call to increase their giving for next year. Now, we need to hear from the rest of you! Won't you consider a 10% increase over this year's giving, if possible? Session has proposed a budget of \$946,017.00, and they need to know what they can count on in support of that budget as we look to the year ahead. So, take a minute, complete your card, and drop it in the mail today. Or, even better, complete the online form. It's quick and easy, and financial administrator Mary Salpini will receive your pledge instantly!

Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS) Toy Drive

FCPC is collecting new, unwrapped toys and books to be provided through NVFS to area children who might otherwise go without this holiday season. **You can order gifts from Amazon <https://a.co/iIIRm2J> Nov. 13-28**, or donations can be left in the large, gift-wrapped box at the entrance to Fellowship Hall **through Dec. 3**. Copies of the NVFS wish list are available near the donations box. The emotional distance between no gifts at Christmas and even a single, tangible expression of love can't be measured. Please play Santa. Thank you!

Scouts BSA Troop 895 Holiday Drive

Troop 895 is taking orders for its annual holiday wreath, ornament, and syrup sale. Orders should be submitted by Nov. 22 and will be delivered by Dec. 2. Proceeds support the Troop's activities, including campouts, summer camps, and equipment purchases. Order forms are available at the Activities Center.

Falls Church Homeless Shelter dinners

FCPC members provide dinner for shelter guests each Monday through March 2024. To fill an open slot in February or March sign up through the link in the egram.

Drop & Dash, Nov. 26

While you're shopping for Thanksgiving, pick up some extra items for Drop & Dash. Check the link in the Friday egram for most-needed items.

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. Yena Hwang, Transitional 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

225 East Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046

703-532-6518 | www.fallschurchpresby.org

Scan the QR code to connect to FCPC’s online giving page or text to give at 7037751355.

