



February 18, 2024
First Sunday in Lent
10:45 a.m.

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



"River of Grace" by Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

We Gather to Praise God

PRELUDE

O Perfect Love

arr. Edward Beals (contemporary)

RINGING OF THE BELL

INTROIT

Forty Days and Forty Nights

(traditional)

*Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild;
Forty days and forty nights, tempted, and yet undefiled.*

WELCOME

Megan Klose

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Megan Klose

Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed/ A Sanctified Art LLC/ sanctifiedart.org

ONE: Come in. Feel your feet on the floor: Settle your worries. Take a deep breath. Dust the cobwebs from your ears. Relax the tension in your jaw,

ALL: For Christ is here. God never stops seeking us.

ONE: We have been found.

ALL: Let us find God in return.

ONE: Let us worship the God of deep waters. Amen.

* HYMN 475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Darryle Brown

Adapted from Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed/ A Sanctified Art LLC/ sanctifiedart.org

ONE: Jesus invites us to deep water and to cast the nets down into the deep. In the deep, Jesus helps us to know who we are in him. Let us confess our sins before the One who knows us deeply, yet still love us.

ALL: Loving God, you call us by name. You join us in the deep waters of life. You invite us to drop our nets and follow you, and yet, more often than we'd like to admit, we are like Peter. Over and over again, we are surprised to find you in our midst. Forgive us for drowning out your voice with our own. Forgive us for assuming that we can tackle deep waters by ourselves. Forgive us for forgetting that you will always climb into our boat to be with us. Turn our hearts, our minds, and our spirits toward you, for you are the Lord our God, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Personal prayer in silence

* *Please rise in body or spirit*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Yena Hwang

ONE: Hear and believe the good news, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. If this Christ is for us, who can be against us? In his grace, we are forgiven and freed.

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

* 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 four and up are invited to continue their worship at Godly Play in room 59.

We Listen for God's Word

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION 458

Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet

Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.
Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

TEXT: Amy Grant, 1984
MUSIC: Michael W. Smith, 1984; arr. John Sharber
Text and Music © 1984 Meadowgreen Music Company (admin. EMICMPublishing.com)/Word Music

THY WORD
Irregular

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 25:1-10

Darryle Brown

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Luke 5:1-11

Yena Hwang

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.**SERMON***Seek*

Yena Hwang

We Respond to God's Word*** HYMN 175***Seek Ye First**** RESPONSE OF FAITH**

Megan Klose

BECAUSE we have forgotten how to love, the adversary is within our gates, and holds us up to the mirror of the world shouting, “Regard the loveless.” Therefore, we pledge to bind ourselves to one another, to embrace our lowliest, to keep company with our loneliest, to educate our illiterate, to feed our starving, to clothe our ragged, to do all good things, knowing that we are more than keepers of our brothers and sisters.

We ARE our brothers and sisters. **IN HONOR** of those who toiled and implored God with golden tongues, and in gratitude to the same God who brought us out of hopeless desolation, we make this pledge. Amen.

From “The Black Family Pledge” by Dr. Maya Angelou, written for the Black Family Reunion Celebration held by the National Council of Negro Women on May 14, 1986. The entire poem can be found at the end of this service bulletin.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Darryle Brown

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 who is currently serving or has previously served on Session. Prayer requests can be sent to Pastors Yena and Megan at prayers@fallschurchpresby.org.

Prayer Concerns

Family and friends of Eric Larson, close friend of Jenny Lansbury, who passed away Feb. 11 from prostate cancer

Robbie Harris, brother of Winnie Harris-Zoellner, with pulmonary fibrosis and now in hospice care

Continued Prayers

Young Hobbie, Allan Capon, Ruth Mileham, Ken Waugh

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.

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Crooked Steeple Literary Festival

Jenny Lansbury

OUR LIFE TOGETHER AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

Megan Klose

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

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 (fpc.breezechms.com/give/online), texted to give at 7037751355, or scanned using the QR code.



OFFERTORY

A Lenten Walk

arr. Hal Hopson (b. 1933)

Jesus walked this lonesome valley; He had to walk it by himself.

Refrain: *Oh, nobody else could walk it for him; He had to walk it by himself.*

We must walk this lonesome valley... (Refrain)

Jesus bore the cross of sorrow... (Refrain)

We must take our cross and follow... (Refrain)

*** DOXOLOGY 606**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise *him, all crea-tures
here be - low; praise *him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Megan Klose

Gracious God, we dedicate to you not only these gifts but also ourselves, in deep gratitude – for your call on our lives, for seeking us out continuously, and for blessing us on our journey, so that we may be blessing to others. Accept what we bring for your own good purposes. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

*** HYMN 742** (sung twice)

We Will Walk with God

*** CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Yena Hwang

*** CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Lenten Amen

(traditional)

POSTLUDE

Solemn Processional

Robert Harris (b. 1938)

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Supporting Us in Worship

Worship Leader	Darryle Brown
Ushers	Scott Armstrong, Margo Thorning
Audio/Video	Alex Hess
Sexton	Darryle Brown
Sanctuary Flowers	The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Virginia E. Elgin, M.D., by her siblings Jack, Mary Lou, Jim, Bob, Eve, Steve, and Liz.

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.

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. More information can be found on our website.

Children in Worship

Children are always welcome in our services. Children's bulletins and coloring sheets are available for children of all ages at each entrance.

Children up to age 4: BibleFun with Mr. Tom begins at 10:45 a.m. in Room 206. Paid nursery staff provide support to our youngest disciples.

Children 4 years old and up: Godly Play is offered in Room 59 following the Passing of the Peace.

Fellowship Hour

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

Announcements

Mid-Week Lenten Devotions, Wednesdays at noon in Lent. Join Pastor Megan to contemplate Peter's wandering heart, which made him the most relatable of the disciples. We will reflect on his experience through scripture, art, and poetry. Meets in the Conference Room and on Zoom (see link in Friday egram).

Soul Food, Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Lent, Third Floor. Soul Food features a simple supper followed by instruction and discussion. For the season of Lent, we will study *Witness at the Cross* by A.J. Levine. Sign up through the link in the Friday egram.

Falls Church Homeless Shelter. Volunteers are needed to provide dinner for shelter guests on Feb. 26 and March 4, 18, and 25. Learn more and sign up through the link in the Friday egram.

Crooked Steeple Literary Festival, Feb. 24. Join us on Feb. 24 at 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall to hear guest author Jeffrey Blount talk about his latest book, *Mr. Jimmy from Around the Way*. Sign up through the link in the Friday egram.

Drop & Dash, Feb. 25. Bring your monthly donations for the Knox Food Pantry to the cupboard in the main hallway.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation and FCPC Corporation, Feb. 25. Read the report in advance through the link in the Friday egram. Hard copies are available at the Activities Center.

Church Calendar

Sunday, Feb. 18 - 1st Sunday in Lent

Hypothermia Shelter concludes, 6:00 a.m., Memorial Hall

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

Matthew 25 Book discussion, 9:30 a.m., Room 303

Serendipity Class, 9:30 a.m., Conference Room

Waffle Church, 9:30 a.m., Third Floor

BibleFun (children up to age 4), 10:45 a.m., Room 206

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

Monday, Feb. 19 – Presidents’ Day - Church Office Closed

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

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Tuesday Morning Prayer Group, 8:45 a.m., Zoom

Sarah Circle, 7:00 p.m., Parlor

Wednesday, Feb. 21

Wandering Heart Mid-Week Devotions, noon, Conference Room and Zoom

Welcome Table Preparation, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall and Kitchen

Soul Food, 6:30 p.m., Third Floor

Welcome Table Serving and Cleanup, 4:00-7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall and Kitchen

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

Thursday, Feb. 22

Chancel Choir, 7:30 p.m., Choir Room

Friday, Feb. 23 - *No scheduled events*

Saturday, Feb. 24

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

Crooked Steeple Literary Festival, 2:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Sunday, Feb. 25 - 2nd Sunday in Lent

Drop & Dash donations drop off, main hallway pantry

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

Matthew 25 Book discussion, 9:30 a.m., Room 303

Youth Sunday School (Grades 6-12), 9:30 a.m., Third Floor

BibleFun (children up to age 4), 10:45 a.m., Room 206

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

Annual Meeting of the Congregation and FCPC Corporation, immediately following the 10:45 a.m. worship service, Sanctuary and Zoom

Youth Bowling Night, Bowl America, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

The Black Family Pledge

by Dr. Maya Angelou

*BECAUSE we have forgotten our ancestors,
our children no longer give us honor.*

*BECAUSE we have lost the path our ancestors cleared
kneeling in perilous undergrowth,
our children cannot find their way.*

*BECAUSE we have banished the God of our ancestors,
our children cannot pray.*

*BECAUSE the old wails of our ancestors have faded beyond our hearing,
our children cannot bear us crying.*

*BECAUSE we have abandoned our wisdom of mothering and fathering,
our befuddled children give birth to children
they neither want nor understand.*

*BECAUSE we have forgotten how to love, the adversary is within our
gates, and holds us up to the mirror of the world shouting,
“Regard the loveless.”*

*Therefore we pledge to bind ourselves to one another, to embrace our
lowliest, to keep company with our loneliest, to educate our illiterate,
to feed our starving, to clothe our ragged, to do all good things,
knowing that we are more than keepers of our brothers and sisters.*

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*IN HONOR of those who toiled and implored God with golden tongues,
and in gratitude to the same God who brought us out of hopeless desolation,
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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.”

Falls Church Presbyterian is also a Matthew 25 church seeking to build congregational vitality, dismantle structural racism, and eradicate systemic poverty.

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.

