
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

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

arr. Gilbert Martin (b. 1941)

RINGING OF THE BELL & INTROIT

The Glory of These Forty Days

6th century chant

The glory of these forty days, we celebrate with songs of praise.

For Christ, by whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed.

WELCOME

Megan Klose

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: The good news of the gospel is: manna in the desert,

ALL: water turned into wine,

ONE: love after loss,

ALL: forgiveness after pain.

** Please rise in body or spirit*

ONE: The good news of the gospel is:

ALL: release for the captive,

ONE: hope for the hopeless,

ALL: mourning turned to dancing, and strangers turned to friends.

ONE: So come on in. There's no time to waste! This surprising good news is here for you.

ALL: Let us worship this good-news God.

*** GATHERING HYMN 505**

The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jen Root

ONE: You may have heard, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." But God says, "Forgive seventy times seven." God says, "I am slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." God says, "Turn the other cheek." God's mercy catches us by surprise. So, with wonder and gratitude, let us go to God in prayer. Let us be surprised by God's grace all over again. Friends, let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Loving God, somewhere along the way we picked up the message that in order to be faithful, we have to be serious. We have to pray on our knees without ceasing. We have to be somber in worship; to check our wiggles and our questions at the door. But then you say the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed—unruly and untamed. You turn water into wine—surprising and extravagant. So we wonder: Can we be like that mustard seed? Can we be faithful and unruly? Can we be playful and curious? Can we be messy and still be yours? We know the answer already. The Spirit whispers: of course, of course, of course. Forgive our doubt. Pull us closer into your embrace. With faith like a mustard seed, we pray. Amen.

Personal Prayer in Silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Yena Hwang

ONE: God's grace is wild and unruly. God's mercy is abundant and surprising. God's love is expansive and unending. So if you ask, "Holy One, am I forgiven?" the answer is and always will be: of course, of course, of course. This is the good news of the gospel.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

*** SING GLORY TO GOD**

Lenten Gloria

Ho-ly, ho-ly Lord of__ mer - cy, Ho-ly God of power and__ might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, You a-lone are Love and__ Light.
Prai - ses now we raise be - fore_____
You, Glo - ry in the high - est____ height

*** PASSING THE PEACE**

Yena Hwang

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

ALL: And also with you.

We Listen for God's Word

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION 471

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call,
an swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer. O
Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis- ten to me.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 2:1-11

Jen Root

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SENSES OF SCRIPTURE

Cali Bronkema

Children ages 3 and up are invited to continue their worship at Godly Play in Room 204.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 13:31-32

Yena Hwang

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Good News is ...

Yena Hwang

We Respond to God's Word

*** SERMON HYMN**

In a Neat and Tidy Garden



1. In a neat and ti - dy gar - den grows a se - cret ti - ny
2. Green and ten - der leaves I harv - est from the mus - tard gro - wing
3. O - ther gar - de - ners may strug - gle and pre - tend they have con



seed There a mong the plan - ted bar - ley will e - merge a shock - ing
wild To en - rich and spice my dish - es that were un - til now too
trol O - ver land that God cre - at - ed but I'll tell you what I



weed Gro - wing quick - ly through the so - il to break forth in va - cant
mild Un - ex - pec - ted and sur - pri - sing, un - con - trolled by hu - man
know: I am not the Mas - ter Gar - dener, just a ste - ward of this



spot What a joy when I dis - co - ver God has plan - ted in my
hand See the reign of God is gro - wing, ta - king root through - out the
place God has seed - ed ev - ery a - cre with sur - pri - sing, wi - ld



plot! What a joy when I dis - co - ver God has plan - ted in my plot!
land! See the reign of God is gro - wing, ta - king root through - out the land!
grace! God has seed - ed ev - ery a - cre with sur - pri - sing, wi - ld grace!

Words: Anna Strickland (contemporary); Music: Robert Lowry (1875)

Commissioned by *A Sanctified Art*

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(based on the writings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.)* Megan Klose
I believe that we need to discover a way to live together in peace, a way which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation. The foundation of this way is love. I refuse to believe that we are so bound to racism and war, that peace, brotherhood and sisterhood are not possible.
I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. I believe that right temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant. I believe that what self-centered people have torn down, other-centered people can build up. By the goodness of God at work within people, I believe that brokenness can be healed.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jen Root

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 of Thanksgiving:

Nancy Gehron is grateful for the surgeons who were able to remove a melanoma and for all the love and support received during this time.

Please keep in your prayers:

Shelly Skomra on the death of her aunt, Goldie Zeller, on Feb. 13

Jack Moore, father of Scott Moore, recovering from surgery on Feb. 13

Rusty Lynn, recovering from surgery on Feb. 14

Katharine Stewart on the death of her mother, Landon Fox, on Feb. 4

Safi, brother of Shima Tabibi, Gail Warner's friend, who remains hospitalized after an urgent health issue

Cam Brown, recovering from surgery on Feb. 9

Louise Phillips and family on the death of Tom Koger on Jan. 24

Ongoing prayer concerns:

FCPC members: Doug Ammons, Andrea Brown, Avery Burns, Winnie Harris-Zoellner, Ruth Mileham, Elizabeth Shipley-Moses, Ken Waugh

Relatives and friends: Carolyn Armstrong, Scott Armstrong's mother; Margaret Beatty, Sam Beatty's mother; Vincent DiPerno, Paige Whitlock's nephew; Cynthia Hintze, Carol Kercheval's sister; Ansley McCraw, Shawn Sledge's niece

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 CROOKED STEEPLE

Carlin Schwartz

OUR LIFE TOGETHER AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

Megan Klose

MINUTE FOR GENEROSITY

Carly Kelly

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

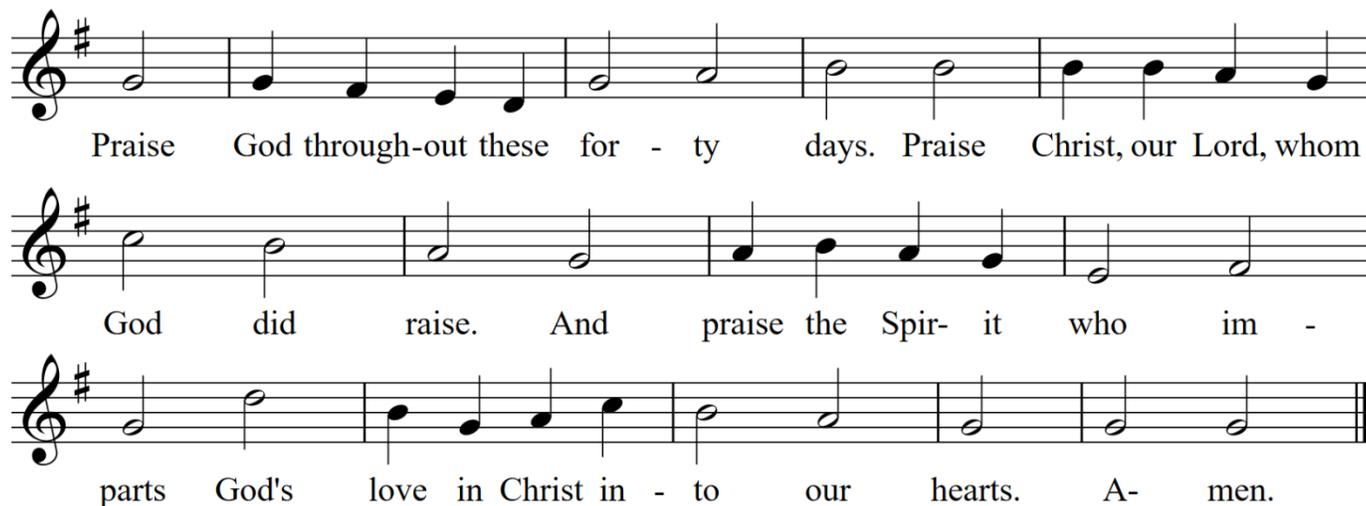
Depth of Mercy

Victor C. Johnson (b. 1978)

*Depth of mercy! Can there be mercy still reserved for me?
Can my God His wrath forbear? Me, the chief of sinners, spare?
I have long withstood his grace, long provoked him to his face;
would not hearken to His calls, grieved Him by a thousand falls.
I my Master have denied, I afresh have crucified,
oft profaned His hallowed name, put Him to an open shame.
There for me the Savior's hands, shows His wounds and spreads His hands.
God is love! I know, I feel, Jesus weeps and loves me still.
Now incline me to repent, let me now my sins lament,
now my foul revolt deplore; weep, believe, and sin no more.
I surrender all. All to thee, my blessed savior, surrender all.*

*** DOXOLOGY**

A Lenten Doxology



Praise God through-out these for - ty days. Praise Christ, our Lord, whom
God did raise. And praise the Spir- it who im -
parts God's love in Christ in - to our hearts. A- men.

WORDS: G. W. Dub Shepherd, 2006 OLD 100TH; MUSIC: attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551 LM
Published by The General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church, PO Box 340003, Nashville, TN
37203-0003. Web site <http://www.umcworship.org>. Used by permission.

*** PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Megan Klose

We Are Sent into the World

*** SENDING HYMN 750**

Goodness is Stronger than Evil

*** CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Yena Hwang

*** CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Creator of the Earth and Skies

Jeremiah Clarke (1670-1707)

*Creator of the earth and skies, to whom all truth and power belong,
Grant us your truth to make us wise; Grant us your power to make us strong.*

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Supporting Us in Worship

Worship Leader

Jen Root

Ushers

Clay Warner, Gail Warner

Audio/Video

Colin Beckner, Rick Choi

Sexton

Jen Root

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers today are given by Chuck Hobbie and family to the glory of God and in celebration of the upcoming 65th anniversary of the Peace Corps on March 1, 2026, and of its past and present volunteers.

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. There are nametag boards outside of the sanctuary side entrance. Please make a nametag and wear it as a sign of hospitality.

Large-print bulletins are available at the sanctuary entrances. Portable electronic hearing devices are available in the narthex.

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, talk to one of the pastors or email Pastor Yena (yhwang@fallschurchpresby.org) or Pastor Megan (mklose@fallschurchpresby.org). Please visit our website for more information.

Children in Worship

Children are always welcome in our services. **The Kids' Corner** at the front right side of the Sanctuary is where children and their grownups can play, read, or color quietly while in worship. **The Cozy Corner** along the right wall of the sanctuary has sensory toys and headphones. **Children up to age 4:** Child care is offered in Room 201 by paid nursery staff. **Children age 3 and up:** Godly Play is offered in Room 204 following Senses of Scripture.

Fellowship Hour + Card Ministry Sunday

Join us in Fellowship Hall following worship to greet your neighbors and enjoy some light refreshments. Hosted by the Community Building Ministry Team. Be sure to stop by the Card Ministry table to write a note to someone who's celebrating a birthday or needs a word of encouragement or prayer. Cards and stamps provided.

Announcements

Annual Meeting of the Congregation and FCPC Corporation is today, immediately following worship. A link to the Annual Report was included in Friday's egram. A limited number of hard copies are available at the Activities Center.

Nourish Our Neighbors in need. Drop off donations for Knox Food Pantry in the main hallway. Donations will be delivered to Knox this week.

Lenten Devotions begin Feb. 25. Join us for devotions on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. during Lent, February 25-April 1. (No meeting on March 4.) We will use the devotional *Tell Me Something Good: Grounding Ourselves in the Good News*, which includes scripture, reflection, and art. Copies are available at the Activities Center. We'll meet at 10:30 a.m. in the Conference Room and on Zoom (Zoom link is in the Friday egram). Led by Pastor Megan.

Crooked Steeple Literary Festival, Feb. 28. Terah Shelton Harris will discuss her book, *Where the Wildflowers Grow*, a poignant story of survival and redemption that questions what it means to stop existing and start living. Sign up through the Friday egram or church website.

New Members Class, March 1, 11:15 a.m., parlor. Pastor Yena will hold a class for those who are interested in learning more about joining our faith community. Contact Pastor Yena or the church office if you are interested in attending.

Serendipity Class, Feb. 22. This Sunday, Serendipity will discuss Chapter 1 of *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time, Taking the Bible Seriously but Not Literally*, by Marcus J. Borg.

Matthew 25 Group is studying *Creating a Culture of Repair*, by Robert Turner. We meet every other Monday from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the library, with optional discussion meetings on alternate Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.

The FCPC Capital Campaign Feasibility Study will help FCPC leadership finalize a plan to invest in the church's future (capital and ministry needs as well as capital reserves). Now is the time to provide your feedback. We are asking each household to complete a survey no later than Feb. 28. Surveys were mailed to member households; extra copies are available at the Activities Center. Please sign up for a personal interview with our capital campaign consultant Richie Musser to provide additional feedback. Contact Richie at rmusser@kirbysmith.com or 484-364-0601 to schedule a time.

Hypothermia Shelter, March 8-15. As this brutal winter drags on, FCPC is opening our doors to neighbors in need of overnight shelter and a hot, home-cooked meal on Sunday evening, March 8, through Sunday morning, March 15. This ministry of care requires many hands and offers a variety of ways to serve at different times of day. There are still plenty of necessary roles to be filled. Sign up through the link in the Friday egram or church website or email Gail Robarge (grobarge@fallschurchpresby.org).

Hypothermia Shelter Breakfast Bag Assembly, March 8, in Fellowship Hall following worship. All are welcome to participate!

CAT Survey Results Presentation, March 22, immediately following worship. Tara Spuhler McCabe, our Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT) interpreter, will be presenting the results from our November survey. Many thanks to everyone who participated in the survey.

Calendar

Sunday, February 22 – 1st Sunday in Lent

Nourish Our Neighbors – Drop off Knox Pantry donations in main hallway
Serendipity Class, 9:00 a.m., Conference Room
Worship Service, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary and online
Annual Meeting of the Congregation and FCPC Corporation, 11:00 a.m.
Card Ministry Sunday, 11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall
Youth Group, 6:00 p.m., Third Floor

Monday, February 23

Prayer & Pose Yoga, 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall Loft
Matthew 25 Group, 7:00 p.m., Library

Tuesday, February 24

Tuesday Morning Prayer Group, 8:30 a.m., Zoom

Wednesday, February 25

Lenten Devotions: *Tell Me Something Good*, 10:30 a.m., Conference Room & Zoom
Wednesday Evening Project 66/52 Group, 7:00 p.m., Zoom
66/52 Bible Book Club, 8:00 p.m., Zoom

Thursday, February 26

Godly Play Training, 9:30 a.m., Room 204
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., Choir Room
Queerly Gathered Bible Study, 7:30 p.m., Third Floor

Friday, February 27 – *No Scheduled Events*

Saturday, February 28

Bible Study & Fellowship Group, 8:00 a.m., Parlor
Crooked Steeple Literary Festival: Terah Shelton Harris, 2:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 1 – 2nd Sunday in Lent

Hunger Offering Received
Matthew 25 Group, 9:00 a.m., Third Floor
Serendipity Class, 9:00 a.m., Conference Room
Worship Service, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary and online
New Members Class, 11:15 a.m., Parlor
Youth Group, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

The Season of Lent

The season of Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord at Easter. It is a period of 40 days—like the flood of Genesis, Moses’ sojourn at Mount Sinai, Elijah’s journey to Mount Horeb, Jonah’s call to Ninevah to repent, and Jesus’ time of testing in the wilderness. (The Sundays in Lent are not counted in this reckoning of the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter, as every Lord’s Day is a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.)

In the early church, Lent was a time of preparation for the celebration of baptism at the Easter Vigil. In many communities of faith it remains a time to equip and nurture candidates for baptism and confirmation and to reflect deeply on the theme of baptismal discipleship.

During this season of Lent, we will be using A Sanctified Art’s Lenten resource series titled *Tell Me Something Good* for our liturgy and our Lenten devotional study. This series will remind us what makes the good news truly good news and provide “fertile ground for conversation and worship, rooting our hearts and lives in the expansive goodness of God.”

Journey with us throughout this rich season of Lent.

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, Pastor
The Rev. Megan Klose, Associate Pastor
Cali Bronkema, Director of Children & Youth Ministry
Dr. Don Armstrong, Director of Music
Dr. Lisa Bloy, Organist

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