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



The Parable of the Fig Tree

We Gather to Praise God

PRELUDE

Meditation from "Thais"

Jules Massenet (1842-1912)

RINGING OF THE BELL

Noah Clymer

INTROIT

The Lord is Alive!

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

*The Lord is alive! Sing together with praise! The Lord is alive, Join in song all our days!
He rose from the dead as our glorious King! He rose from the dead, Let all people now sing!*

WELCOME

Yena Hwang

* CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 100)

Rebecca Degnan

ONE: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth!

ALL: We come to worship the Lord with gladness; and come before God with joyful songs.

ONE: Know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us and we are God's children.

ALL: We are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.

ONE: Let us worship our compassionate God.

* GATHERING HYMN 1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

CALL TO CONFESSION

Chase Moore

ONE: In this world it is not hard to find faults, things that people have done wrong. We are all tired and worn down. We often lose our way. We become distracted. Confident that God loves us anyways, let us join together in the Prayer of Confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and follow the example of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Personal Prayer in Silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Yena Hwang

ONE: Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and free to love and serve others.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

** Please rise in body or spirit*

*** SING GLORY TO GOD 582**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

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**

Yena Hwang

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

Nathan Karst

ONE: Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. Make us hungry for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven.

ALL: Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 26:26-30

Nathan Karst

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SENSES OF SCRIPTURE

Rex Campbell

Children and youth are invited to stay for worship today. The service is being livestreamed in the parlor for those who need to step outside the sanctuary.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 13:6-9

James Owen

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON*Who We Are*

Confirmands

We Respond to God's Word*** SERMON HYMN 649***Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound***CONFIRMATION**

Carolyn Bruce, Yena Hwang

We rejoice as Oliver Bowen, Rex Campbell, Noah Clymer, Rebecca Degnan, Nathan Karst, Chase Moore, and James Owen make their public professions of faith. Today they reaffirm the promises made at their baptisms, promise to participate in the life of the church, profess the faith of the church, and so move from baptized members to active members in the Church of Jesus and Falls Church Presbyterian Church.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

ONE: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the way of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

ALL: **I do.**

ONE: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

ALL: **I do.**

ONE: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

ALL: **I will, with God's help.***** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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

Oliver Bowen

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.

Please keep in your prayers:

Gordon Storr, on the death of his cousin, Shirley Reid-Storr, on March 17 in Ottawa, Canada

Lisa Bales, Pete Kelly's sister, with dementia

Bill Bickel, undergoing treatment for cancer

Ongoing prayer concerns:

FCPC members: Avery Burns, Winnie Harris-Zoellner, Ruth Mileham, Ken Waugh

Relatives and friends: Carolyn Armstrong, Scott Armstrong's mother; 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 MINISTRY

Share the Feast & Civil Rights Walk

Mary Soule

OUR LIFE TOGETHER AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

Megan Klose

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

David Murray

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

Psalm of Hope (Portions of Psalms 27, 71, and 31) Andrea Ramsey (b. 1977)

The Lord is my light and my salvation. Whom shall I fear? The lord is the strength of my life.

Of whom shall I be afraid? You are my hope, O God, my rock, my refuge.

In You, I put my trust. Let me never be ashamed.

*** DOXOLOGY 609**

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!

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1989
MUSIC: Geistliche Kirchengesang, 1623; harm. Hal H. Hopson, 1998
Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company
Music Harm. © 1998 Hope Publishing Company

LASSI UNS ERREUEN
LM with alleluia
(alternate harmonization, 10)

*** PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Noah Clymer

Loving Creator, we celebrate today the spirit of generosity that flows through our community, particularly for those who have offered their financial support to the ACLU. We see this as a profound act of hope and a commitment to a more just and equitable society. May these contributions amplify the voices of those who are marginalized, strengthen the legal protections for all citizens, and foster a nation where freedom and fairness prevail. We are thankful for the collective power of compassion and action that these gifts represent. Amen.

We Are Sent into the World

*** SENDING HYMN 80**

You Shall Go Out with Joy

*** CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Confirmands

*** CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Risen

G.F. Handel

Risen! Risen! Christ is risen! Amen!

POSTLUDE

Here I Am, Lord

arr. Janet Linker (b. 1938)

Supporting Us in Worship

Worship Leaders	Oliver Bowen, Rex Campbell, Noah Clymer, Rebecca Degnan, Nathan Karst, Chase Moore, David Murray, James Owen
Ushers	Clay Warner, Gail Warner
Audio/Video	Mark Armstrong
Sexton	Marnie Sarver
Sanctuary Flowers	The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Alyssa Cance in celebration of her husband, Seamus, on his 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. 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.

Fellowship Hour

Join us in Fellowship Hall following worship to greet your neighbors and enjoy some light refreshments and cake to honor our wonderful confirmands. Hosted by the Community Building Ministry Team.

Announcements

Crooked Steeple Literary Festival, April 25, 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. CSLF is proud to bring Jeffrey Dale Lofton to our stage. *Red Clay Suzie* is Loft's debut novel and was long-listed for the First Novel Prize at the Center for Fiction.

Queerly Gathered workshop, April 26. Join us in Fellowship Hall following worship for a workshop led by Queerly Gathered, "Moving from Welcoming to Affirming: An LGBTQ+ Allyship Training." This two-hour training session will focus on how to be better neighbors and allies to our LGBTQ+ siblings. Please register here: <https://fcpc.breezechms.com/form/4a89ee>

Share the Feast Potluck + Tinner Hill/Civil Rights History Walk, May 3.

Community Building and the Justice Ministry Team will host a Share the Feast potluck following worship on May 3. During the potluck we'll hear from local leaders of the Tinner Hill Foundation about the Tinner Hill Historic Site and local civil rights history. After lunch, everyone is invited to experience a guided walk to the local Tinner Hill Historic and Cultural District to learn more about our local civil rights history.

Antiracism as a Way of Being, Part 2. The Justice Ministry is sponsoring another round of Next Church Antiracism as a Way of Being classes, **May 4-June 22.** Class meets for 90 minutes, with viewing of some videos on your own. Learn more and sign up during fellowship hour this Sunday or next. Participants from the fall classes will be available to answer your questions. Questions? Email Jenny Lansbury.

Calendar

Sunday, April 19 – 3rd Sunday of Easter – Confirmation Sunday

Serendipity Class, 9:00 a.m., Conference Room

Worship Service, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary and online

Worship Ministry Team, 11:30 a.m., Conference Room

Monday, April 20 – Prayer & Pose Yoga, 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall Loft

Tuesday, April 21 – Tuesday Morning Prayer Group, 8:30 a.m., Zoom

Sarah Circle, 6:00 p.m., Parlor

Wednesday, April 22 – Earth Day Grounds Cleanup, 9:00 a.m.-noon

Thursday, April 23 – Spiritual Growth Ministry Team, 7:00 p.m., Third Floor

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

Friday, April 24 – *No Scheduled Events*

Saturday, April 25 – Bible Study & Fellowship Group, 8:00 a.m., Parlor

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

Sunday, April 26 – 4th Sunday of Easter

Nourish Our Neighbors – Drop off donations for Knox Food Pantry

Serendipity Class, 9:00 a.m., Conference Room

Worship Service, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary and online

Card Ministry Sunday, 11:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Queerly Gathered Workshop, 11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Youth Group, 6:00 p.m., Mini Golf (meet at FCPC)

Saturday, May 2 – Doug Ammons memorial service, 1:00 p.m., Sanctuary

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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