



FALLS CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN

November 17, 2024
26th Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 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

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

arr. Joe Utterback (b. 1944)

RINGING OF THE BELL

INTROIT

God of Every New Beginning

(traditional)

*Triune God, entwined and vibrant, never-ending, un-begun,
manifest in threefold splendor that remains diversely One:
teach us how our life together forms a witness to your care;
through this holy mystery may we firmly trust and greatly dare.*

WELCOME

Megan Klose

*** CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalm 16**

ONE: Bless the Lord who counsels and guides us.

ALL: Because we keep the Lord ever before us, we shall not be moved.

ONE: Rejoice! Let your hearts be glad! Let your spirit rejoice and your bodies rest secure.

**ALL: For God does not give us up to death, but shows us the path of life.
Praise the Lord!**

*** GATHERING HYMN 393**

O Day of Rest and Gladness

CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Katharine Stewart

ONE: Since we have a great high priest, Jesus Christ, let us approach the throne of grace in full assurance of faith, for God has promised to be merciful.

ALL: God of grace, all around us are wars, and rumors of wars, and we are afraid for ourselves and our world. We follow after false leaders and grasp for whatever security we can find. Forgive us, Lord, for we are quick to forget that all of life is in your hands. Renew our hope, increase our courage, and keep us watchful for the signs of your just and peaceful reign that is to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. Personal prayer in silence

** Please rise in body or spirit*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *from Psalm 34:22*

Yena Hwang

ONE: Hear the good news! Our guilty hearts have been sprinkled clean, our bodies washed with pure water. Live in peace, forgiven and freed in Christ's love.

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

* SING GLORY TO GOD 581

Glo- ry be to the Fa- ther, and to the Son and to the
Ho- ly Ghost; as it was in the be- gin- ning, is now, and ev- er
shall be, world with- out end. A- men, a- men.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)

* PASSING THE PEACE

Yena Hwang

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

ALL: And also with you.

Children four years and older are invited to continue their worship at Godly Play in Room 59.

We Listen for God's Word

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Today a New Beginning

Asa Hull (1828-1917)

Once a- gain a new be - gin - ing, Yes - ter- day I've put be- hind,
To You, Lord, I come in seek - ing, For Your Words: bring them to mind.
Oh Lord, grant me Your rich speak- ing, Cause my spir- it filled to be,
Lord, my heart and thoughts trans- form - ing, That my life I live by Thee.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Hebrews 10:11-25

Katharine Stewart

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 13:1-8

Yena Hwang

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Love Gives and Forgives

Yena Hwang

We Respond to God's Word

*** SERMON HYMN 783**

When We Are Tested



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *from The Confession of Belhar*

Megan Klose

GROUP ONE: The communion of saints, called from the entire human family, is united by God.

GROUP TWO: As the people of God, we love one another.

GROUP ONE: We experience, practice, and pursue community with one another.

GROUP TWO: We give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another.

GROUP ONE: We are a benefit and blessing to one another.

GROUP TWO: We share one faith and have one calling.

GROUP ONE: We are one body, and are of one soul and mind.

GROUP TWO: We have one God and Father.

GROUP ONE: We are filled with one Spirit.

GROUP TWO: We are baptized with one baptism.

GROUP ONE: We eat of one bread and drink of one cup.

GROUP TWO: We confess one name and are obedient to one Lord.

GROUP ONE: We work for one cause and share one hope.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Welcome Table

Katharine Stewart

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Katharine Stewart

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 ...

Theresa Brown, following surgery on Nov. 14

Linda Garvelink, after a recent hospitalization

Avery Burns, recovering from hip replacement surgery on Nov. 7

Carol Ann Siciliano, recovering from knee replacement surgery on Oct. 29

Kathy Nelson, recovering from a broken toe

Marc Robarge, recovering from hip surgery on Oct. 26

Allan Capon, Ruth Mileham, Ken Waugh, with continuing health concerns

The Lord's Prayer

Katharine Stewart

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.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

Megan Klose

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Will Packard

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

At the River

arr. Aaron Copeland (1900-1990)

*Shall we gather by the river
Where bright angel's feet have trod
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God?*

*Yes, we'll gather by the river
The beautiful, the beautiful river
Gather with the saints by the river
That flows by the throne of God*

*Ere we reach the shining river
Lay we every burden down
Praise our spirits will deliver
And provide our robe and crown*

*Yes, we'll gather at the river
The beautiful, the beautiful, river
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God*

*Soon we'll reach the shining river
Soon our pilgrimage will cease
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace*

*Yes, we'll gather by the river
The beautiful, the beautiful river
Gather with the saints by the river
That flows by the throne of God*

* DOXOLOGY 607

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

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 HUNDRETH
LM

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Megan Klose

We Are Sent into the World

* **SENDING HYMN 846**

Fight the Good Fight

* **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Yena Hwang

* **CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Amen in G

Timothy Shaw (b. 1976)

POSTLUDE

Glory to God, We Give You Thanks

arr. J. Wayne Kerr (b. 1958)

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Supporting Us in Worship

Worship Leader Katharine Stewart

Ushers John Moses, Elizabeth Shipley-Moses

Audio/Video Alexi Hawkins

Closing Sexton Katharine Stewart

Sanctuary Flowers The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Sue and Scott Armstrong in thanksgiving for the FCPC family and that we are all members of one body, each with many gifts to share through Christ.

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.

Large-print bulletins are available at the sanctuary entrances. Portable electronic assistive listening 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, 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. **The Kids' Corner** in the front right of the Sanctuary is a space where children and their grownups can play, read, color, and participate in worship. **Children up to age 4:** BibleFun with Mr. Tom begins at 10:00 a.m. in Room 206. Paid nursery staff provide support to our youngest disciples. **Children aged 4 and up:** Godly Play is offered in Room 59 following the Passing of the Peace.

Fellowship Hour + Scout Holiday Fundraiser

Join us in Fellowship Hall following worship to greet your neighbors and enjoy some light refreshments. Scout Troop 895 will be taking orders for their annual holiday fundraiser. Order deadline is Monday, Nov. 18.

Announcements

Youthsgiving, Nov. 17. Students in grades 3-12 and their families are invited to join us from today from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on the third floor for a fun and festive evening together. We'll supply the chicken tenders, you bring the sides and desserts!

Third Wednesday Welcome Table, Nov. 20. We have a few more volunteer spots to fill for our big Welcome Table on Nov. 20. Sign up through the link in the Friday egram or website, or contact the church office. OR, fill out today's bulletin insert and drop it in the offering plate!

Fall Cleanup Day, Nov. 23. The Buildings and Grounds Team invites you to participate in the church's annual fall cleanup day, Saturday, Nov. 23, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Extra hands (and rakes) are needed to help with clearing leaves before the season of Advent begins. Questions? Contact Kirk Salpini at salpinik92@gmail.com.

NVFS Annual Toy Drive. The Mercy Ministry Team is collecting new, unwrapped toys to be provided through Northern Virginia Family Service to area children who may otherwise go without during this holiday season. Donations can be dropped off in the big, gift-wrapped donations box outside the entrance to Fellowship Hall. A list of requested gifts is in the Friday egram. Contributions are needed by Sunday, Dec. 8.

Holiday Hangout & Christmas Market, Dec. 8, 5-7 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Join us for a potluck dinner (bring a dish to share), crafts, carol singing, and the Christmas Market where all ages can shop for previously loved treasures at excellent prices!

Falls Church Homeless Shelter. FCPC members provide dinner for 14 people each Monday night from Nov. 18 through March 31. Sign up through the link in the Friday egram or contact the church office.

The Generosity Team extends another heartfelt thank you to all who have already submitted their Estimate of Giving for 2025. Unfortunately, we have not received any new pledges since last week's update, so we stand at 92 pledges totaling \$675,368.50, which is 82% of our goal. We urge those who have not yet submitted their pledge to do so this week. We live into the certainty that we serve a God of abundance, and that that abundance is made manifest through *all* of us working together. Our hope is to wrap up the pledge season before Advent so we can enter this season of anticipation and joy with a sense of peace and readiness. Thank you for journeying with us faithfully and supporting the life of our church.

Church Calendar

Sunday, November 17

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

Bible Fun, 10:00 a.m., Room 206

Worship Service, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary, in person or online

Personnel Team, 11:00 a.m., Library

Worship Ministry Team, 11:00 a.m., Conference Room

Youthsgiving (grades 3-12 and their families), 6:00 p.m., Third Floor

Monday, November 18 – Chancel Choir, 7:30 p.m., Choir Room

Tuesday, November 19 – Tuesday Morning Prayer Group, 9:00 a.m., Zoom

Community Building Ministry Team, 7:00 p.m., Library

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

Wednesday, November 20 – Third Wednesday Welcome Table, Fellowship Hall

11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Setup & Food Prep; 4:00-7:15, Meal Distribution & Cleanup

Thursday, November 21 – *No scheduled events*

Friday, November 22 – Youth Keep Awake Retreat, Massanetta Springs (Day 1/3)

Saturday, November 23 – Youth Keep Awake Retreat (Day 2/3)

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

Fall Cleanup Day, 9:00 a.m.-noon

Sunday, November 24 – Youth Keep Awake Retreat (Day 3/3)

Drop & Dash Sunday

Matthew 25 Group, 9:00 a.m., Room 303

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

Bible Fun, 10:00 a.m., Room 206

Worship Service, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary, in person or online

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

Diane Maloney, Director of Spiritual Growth and Community Engagement

Dr. Don Armstrong, Director of Music

Dr. Lisa Bloy, Organist