



February 23, 2025
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
(Black History Month)
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

How Great Thou Art

arr. Lucy Ann Warriner (contemporary)

RINGING OF THE BELL

INTROIT

Let Us Make a Joyful Noise

Douglas E. Wagner (b. 1952)

Let us make a joyful noise unto the Lord. Let us make a joyful noise.

Praise, O praise the Lord! And make a joyful noise evermore!

WELCOME

Megan Klose

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** (based on Psalm 37)

ONE: Trust in the Lord and do good; take delight in the Lord, and the Lord will give you the desires of your heart.

ALL: We commit our way to the Lord.

ONE: Be still before the Lord and wait patiently.

ALL: The meek shall inherit the land and find peace.

ONE: The Lord is our refuge and strength, our salvation in times of trouble.

ALL: We rejoice and put our trust in God! Amen!

*** GATHERING HYMN 408**

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

CALL TO CONFESSION

Allison Hoak

ONE: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and rich in love. This God calls us to confess our shortcomings. Let us approach humbly and yet confidently, knowing that God listens to our humble prayers.

** Please rise in body or spirit*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (based on Psalm 37)

ALL: Gracious and Merciful God, You call us to trust in You, yet we are quick to worry. You ask us to delight in You, but we chase after lesser joys. You invite us to commit our ways to You, yet we rely on our own strength. We grow impatient, struggling to wait for Your justice and peace. We envy those who prosper in ways that are not of You, forgetting that You alone are our refuge and salvation. Forgive us, Lord. Turn our hearts back to You, that we may rest in Your faithfulness. Teach us to trust, to wait, and to walk in Your ways, so that we may live as Your people, secure in Your love and grace. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Personal prayer in silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Yena Hwang

ONE: The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord, who is our refuge in times of trouble. God upholds those who trust God and delivers all who seek God's grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen.

* GLORY TO GOD 582

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 four staves in G major and 12/8 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 12/8 time signature. The lyrics are: '1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,'. The second staff continues: 'and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,'. The third staff continues: 'and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.' The fourth staff concludes: 'As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.' The music ends with a double bar line.

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

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION HYMN 451 (v. 2)

*Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear.
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!*

TEXT and MUSIC: Clara H. Scott, 1895

OPEN MY EYES
8.8.9.8.8.8.8.4

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 37:1-11 (p. 510)

Allison Hoak

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Children ages 4 and up are invited to continue their worship at Godly Play in Room 59.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 7:36-50 (p. 66)

Yena Hwang

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Extravagant

Yena Hwang

We Respond to God's Word

*** SERMON HYMN 305**

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Carolyn Bruce, Yena Hwang, Megan Klose

We rejoice today as new disciples unite with this congregation. Rick Choi, Ryan Choi, and Tony Smith come by transfer of membership. Tom Ebert, Linda Lawrence, Johanna Scherrer, Diana Shmul, and Carlin Schwartz come by reaffirmation of faith.
Presentation

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.

Apostle's Creed

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, and 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.

Prayer

Welcome

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Hypothermia Shelter

Sue Armstrong

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Allison Hoak

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:

- Helijao Liantsoa and family, as Helijao departs to begin studying abroad
- Theresa Brown, Avery Burns, Allan Capon, Linda Garvelink, Winnie Harris-Zoellner, Ruth Mileham, Phillip Patten, Ken Waugh, all with continuing health concerns

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.

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



OFFERTORY

Rock of Ages

Sally DeFord (b. 1959)

*Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood, From thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, Save from wrath and make me pure.
Not the labor of my hands, Can fill all thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and thou alone.
While I draw this fleeting breath, When my eyes shall close in death,
When I rise to worlds unknown, And behold thee on thy throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee.*

* DOXOLOGY 605

Praise to God the Father

Praise to God the Fa - ther; praise to God the Son;
praise to God the Spir - it: praise to the Three - in - One.
Sing praise, sing praise to the Lord on high.
Praise to God Al - might - y; praise to the Ho - ly One.

TEXT: Anon.
MUSIC: Ghanaian melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011
Music Arr. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

DA N'ASE
Irregular

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Megan Klose

We Are Sent into the World

* SENDING HYMN 339

Lift Every Voice and Sing

* CHARGE AND BLESSING

Yena Hwang

* CHORAL BENEDICTION

As We Now This Place Depart

Stan Pethel (b. 1950)

*As we now this place depart, refreshed, revived, and renewed,
may Your Spirit fill each heart. Let us seek Your will to do.*

Songs reprinted with permission under One License #A-721003. All rights reserved.

Supporting Us in Worship

Worship Leader

Allison Hoak

Ushers

Lowell Schuyler, Marsha Schuyler

Audio/Video

Alexi Hawkins

Sexton

Allison Hoak

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers today are given by Mary Soule to the glory of God and in loving memory of John and Grace Soule, who were married in February 1957.

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 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. **The Kids' Corner** at the front right side of the Sanctuary is where children and their grownups can play, read, or color while in worship. **Children up to age 4:** Bible Fun with Mr. Tom begins at 10:00 a.m. in Room 206 on these dates: March 2, 9, & 30, April 6 & 20, and May 4 & 18. When Bible Fun is not meeting, child care is offered in Room 201. Paid nursery workers tend to our youngest disciples. **Children ages 4 and up:** Godly Play is offered in Room 59 following the first scripture reading.

Fellowship Hour

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

Announcements

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and FCPC Corporation is today, immediately following worship. Links to the Annual Report, 2024 Year-End Financial Report, and 2025 Operating Fund Budget were included in Friday's egram. A limited number of copies of each are available at the Activities Center.

Drop & Dash Sunday, Feb. 23. Drop off donations for Knox Food Pantry and full-size toiletry items for Welcome Table at the white cabinet in the main hallway.

Hypothermia Shelter, March 2-9. 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 2, through Sunday morning, March 9. This essential ministry of care requires many hands and offers a variety of ways to serve at different times of day. Even now, there are still plenty of necessary roles to be filled. Sign up through the link in the Friday egram or contact Tom Koger at tomkoger17@gmail.com.

Project 66/52. The congregation is encouraged to read the entire Bible this year. See the Friday egram or fallschurchurchpresby.org/6652 for more info. Week 8 reading plan:

Sun. 2/23	Numbers <u>7, 8</u> ; Psalm <u>39</u>	Thu. 2/27	Numbers <u>16, 17, 18</u>
Mon. 2/24	Numbers <u>9-10</u> ; Psalm <u>40</u>	Fri. 2/28	Numbers <u>19, 20</u> ; Psalms <u>43, 44</u>
Tues. 2/25	Numbers <u>11-12</u> ; Psalms <u>41, 42</u>	Sat. 3/1	Numbers <u>21</u> ; Psalms <u>45, 46</u>
Wed. 2/26	Numbers <u>13, 14, 15</u>		

Two new Project 66/52 groups open:

Morning with Elkanah and Hannah. Meets at 7:00 a.m. every other Tuesday on Zoom. Hosted by Sue Armstrong. Contact Sue to join.

Wednesday Evening: Meets at 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays on Zoom. Hosted by Pastor Megan. Begins March 19. Contact Pastor Megan to join.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on March 5. We need one more person to sign up in order to hold a Wednesday morning devotional class. If you would like to join, sign up using this link: <https://fcpc.breezechms.com/form/5b402c>.

Serendipity Class. Join us for coffee Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room to discuss the Project 66/52 Bible readings from the previous week. No matter where you are in your reading journey, we'd love to have you join us.

Matthew 25 Class, Sundays, 9:00 a.m., Room 303. We are reading and discussing the thought-provoking articles in the Sept. 2024 issue of The Presbyterian Outlook magazine, which was devoted to the subject of reparations.

Church Calendar

Sunday, February 23 – 7th Sunday after Epiphany

Drop & Dash Sunday – drop off food donations in main hallway

Matthew 25 Group, 9:00 a.m., Third Floor

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

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

Annual Meeting of the Congregation, 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Confirmation Kickoff Dinner, 6:00 p.m., Memorial Hall

Monday, February 24 – *No scheduled events*

Tuesday, February 25

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

Wednesday, February 26 – *No scheduled events*

Thursday, February 27 – Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., Choir Room

Friday, February 28 – *No scheduled events*

Saturday, March 1 – Bible Study & Fellowship Group, 8:00 a.m., Parlor

Silent Witness for Racial Justice, noon-1 p.m., Broad Street in front of FCPC

Sunday, March 2 – Transfiguration of the Lord

Hunger Offering

Matthew 25 Group, 9:00 a.m., Third Floor

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

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

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

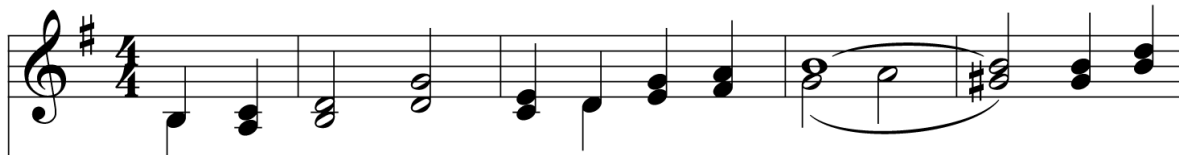
Card Ministry Sunday, 11:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Hypothermia Shelter at FCPC, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall (Day 1/7)

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
Dr. Don Armstrong, Director of Music
Dr. Lisa Bloy, Organist

408 There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit



1 There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, and I
2 There are bless - ings you can - not re - ceive till you



know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord; there are
know him in his full - ness and be - lieve; you're the



sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, and I
one to prof - it when you say, "I am



know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.
going to walk with Je - sus all the way."

Refrain



Sweet Ho - ly Spir - it, sweet heav - en - ly Dove, stay right here



with us, fill - ing us with your love; and for these bless - ings we



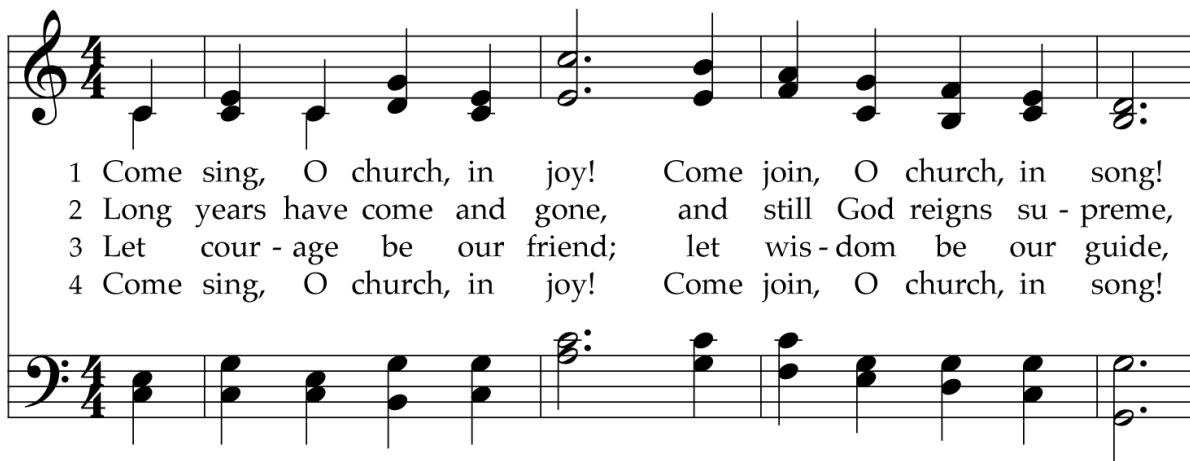
lift our hearts in praise; with - out a doubt we'll know that we have



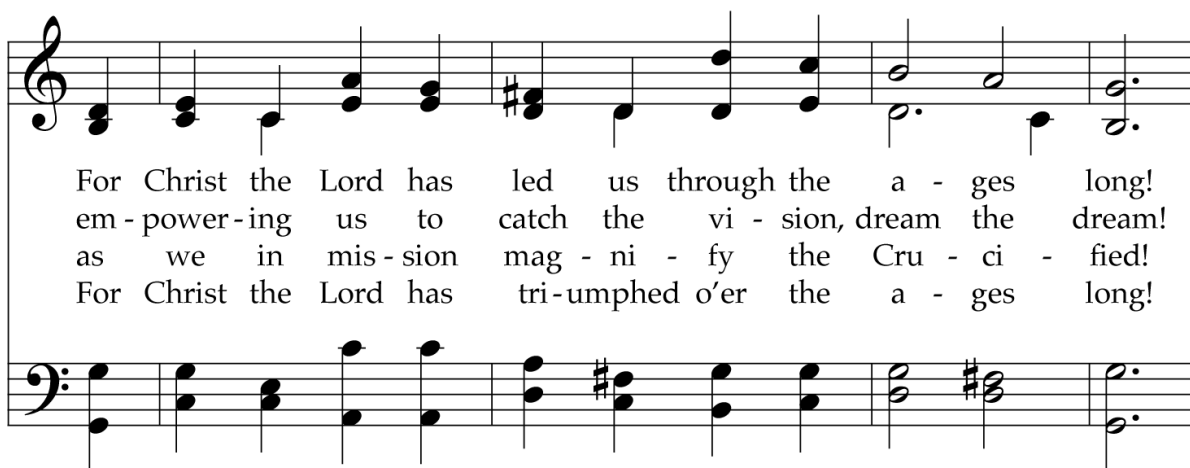
been re - vived when we shall leave this place.

This gospel hymn grew out of this African American author and composer's intense experience of prayer with her interracial choir in Los Angeles one Sunday morning before worship. She recalled that sense of "a sweet, sweet Spirit" when she sat down at her piano the next day.

305 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!



1 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
2 Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns su - preme,
3 Let cour - age be our friend; let wis - dom be our guide,
4 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!



For Christ the Lord has led us through the a - ges long!
em - power - ing us to catch the vi - sion, dream the dream!
as we in mis - sion mag - ni - fy the Cru - ci - fied!
For Christ the Lord has tri - umphed o'er the a - ges long!



In bold ac - cord, come cel - e - brate the jour - ney now and praise the Lord!

This text was the winner in a hymn competition sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Bicentennial Committee for the 1988–1989 observance, which had the theme “Celebrate the Journey.” The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) is appropriately celebratory.

339 Lift Every Voice and Sing

1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

ring, ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -
 rod, felt in the days when hope un - born had
 tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the

ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening
 died. Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry
 way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the

skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 feet come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
 light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh -
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get

us. Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -
 tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at
 thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand may we for - ev - er

gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
 last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.