

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City (PCUSA)

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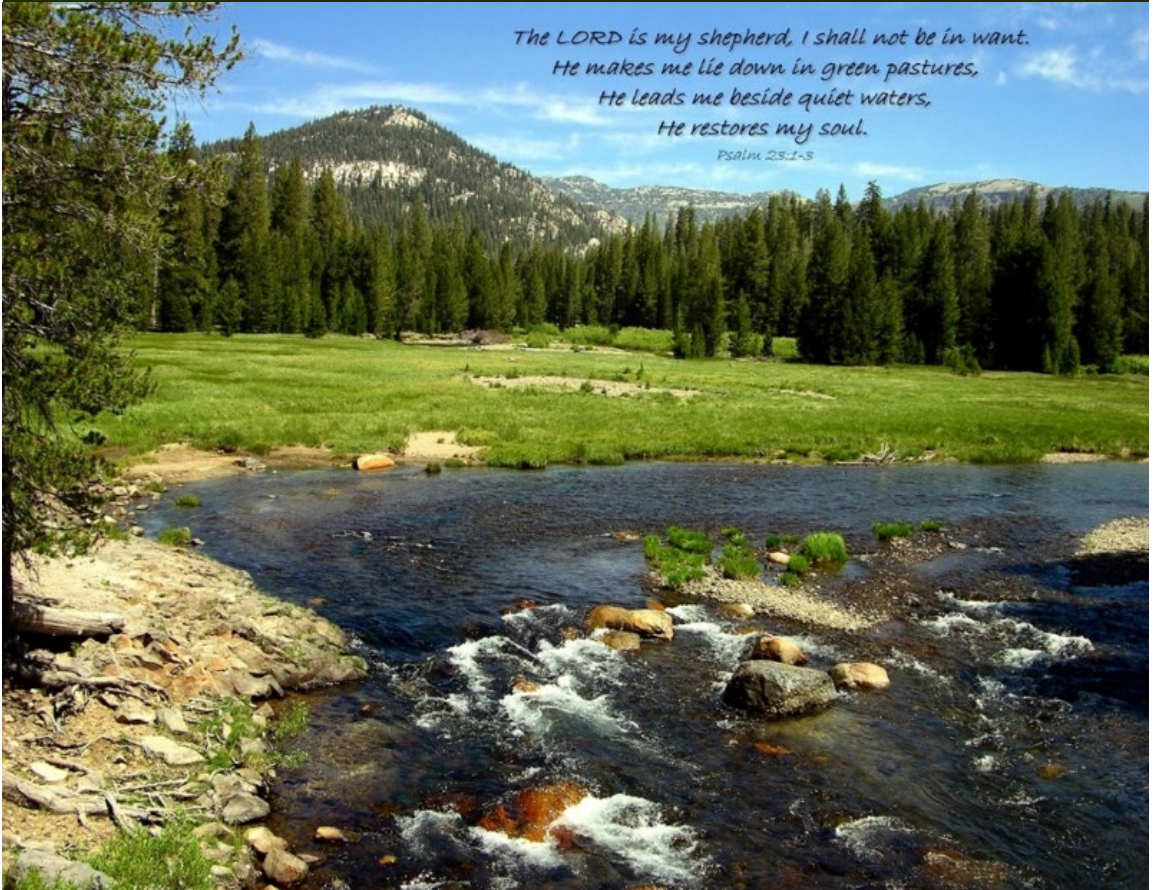
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*The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures,
He leads me beside quiet waters,
He restores my soul.*

Psalm 23:1-3

THE WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION

and

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

for the life of

Emmanuel Dankyi Ankoma

November 8, 1952 – October 4, 2021

The Rev. Adam C. Bowling - Pastor

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WELCOME AND STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

+ CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalms 121*)

I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?

My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

Let us worship God!

+ HYMN

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

834

Precious Lord, take my hand;

lead me on, help me stand;

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.

Through the storm, through the night,

lead me on to the light;

take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear,

precious Lord, linger near;

when my life is almost gone,

hear my cry, hear my call,

hold my hand lest I fall;

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near;
and the day is past and gone.
At the river I stand,
guide my feet, hold my hand,
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 23 KJV

1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING Revelation 21:1-7 NRSV

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. ⁷ Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC Bika Mono Ve (Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior) / It Is Well With My Soul
Francis Crosby, Horatio Spafford, Philip Bliss, *Arr.* Todd Smith, Nicol Sponberg, Allan Hall
Morelle Fokwa and Martin Andrews, Singers

In English:

Pass me not, o gentle Savior
Hear my humble cry.
While on others thou art calling
Do not pass me by.
Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry
While on others thou art calling do not pass me by.

In Kituba (a Congolese language):

Bika mono ve, mvulusi
mono ku lomb
bu nge vuluswa ba nkaka
bika mono ve
Yesu, yesu
mono ku lomb
bu nge vuluswa ba nkaka
bika mono ve

It Is Well With My Soul:

When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul

It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul

My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought (a thought)
My sin, not in part, but the whole (every bit, every bit, all of it)
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more (yes!)
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend
Even so, it is well with my soul!

GOSPEL READING

John 14:1-6,25-27 NRSV

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

+ HOMILY

Rev. Adam C. Bowling

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Praise God, All You Nations (Da n’ase)

328

Praise God, all you nations.
People of God, sing praise!
Praise God, all you nations.
People of God, sing praise:
God’s love is great and endures forever.
Praise God, all you nations.
People of God, sing praise!

Praise God, all you nations.
People of God, sing praise!
Praise God, all you nations.
People of God, sing praise:
God’s love is great and endures forever.
Praise God, all you nations.
People of God, sing praise!

Da n'ase! Da n'ase! Da Onyame ase!
Da n'ase! Da n'ase! Da Onyame ase!
Efiase oye n'a n'adoe doe so.
Da n'ase! Da n'ase! Da Onyame ase!

Da n'ase! Da n'ase! Da Onyame ase!
Da n'ase! Da n'ase! Da Onyame ase!
Efiase oye n'a n'adoe doe so.
Da n'ase! Da n'ase! Da Onyame ase!

This paraphrase of Psalm 117 comes from Ghana and was originally created in the Twi language.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

+ CLOSING HYMN

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

649

1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

+ COMMENDATION AND BENEDICTION

+ *Please stand, in body or in spirit.*

A graveside interment service will be held at Dumfries Cemetery at 2:00 PM following this service. A visitation and reception will follow at First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City, VA at 3:00 PM.

MR. EMMANUEL DANKYI ANKOMA

Emmanuel was a man of few words and a very likeable person: A loving husband to his wife Grace, a caring father to his children, Emmanuel, Samuel, Richard and Mary, a dependable shoulder to his friends and a trusted teacher to his students.

Mr. Emmanuel Dankyi Ankoma was the first of five (5) children born to Maame Adjoa Akoma and Opanyin Kwabena Ankoma. He started elementary school in his hometown, Pepease: a quiet town tucked away on the hills of the Kwahu mountains in the Eastern Region of Ghana. He attended the Presbyterian Boys High School (PRESEC) where he obtained his secondary school leaving certificate. He later went to the Presbyterian Training College (PTC) where he trained to be a professional teacher. After teaching for many years, he enrolled at the University of Education - Winneba campus and the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) for both his First Degree and Master's Degree in Arts. His area of expertise was sculpting and among his notable works are several sculptures at the children's hospital of the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH) in Kumasi and the community library in his hometown; Kwahu Pepease. Over the years, his designs have also been extensively printed by the Ghana Textile Printing company (GTP) and have been sold worldwide. His teaching career spanned many years in Ghana and also in the Bahamas where he taught at Temple Christian High School and Queens College. While in the Bahamas his art students won a design competition organized by Pepsi and as part of their winning package, they were invited to visit the United States.

His visit to the United States awoke in him a desire to move here one day and, by the grace of God, he finally moved here in 2012 with his wife Grace whom he has been married to for forty-six (46) years.

He and his wife, Grace, joined the First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City not long after they arrived in Virginia and he has been a servant of the Lord in several roles since then.

An accomplished Bible Quiz master in his church in Ghana, he is fondly remembered by those he coached to study the word of God; not just to win competitions but also to win souls for Christ.

Beloved, even as we gather here as family and friends, may we be consoled in the sure belief in our Lord Jesus Christ that Emmanuel has finally gone home to be with his Maker in Heaven and we will meet him one day. He will forever be in our hearts.



“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?” - John 11:25,26