

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City (PCUSA)

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National Capital

P R E S B Y T E R Y

MISSIONAL · PASTORAL · PROPHEMIC

Order of Worship
National Capital Presbytery Worship

March 22, 2022

5:00 PM

The Reverend Adam C. Bowling - Pastor

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WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

CHURCH INTRODUCTION VIDEO

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City, VA (FUPCDC)

WELCOME

BELLS

The three tolls call us to worship and symbolize our belief in the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In quiet reverence, we prepare for worship.

OPENING MUSIC

This Is My Song

340

FUPCDC Virtual Choir

Video Editing by Tori Guest

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1 This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

2 My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

3 This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:
thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations:
myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

+ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

As Abraham welcomed the strangers

So God welcomes us.

Christ is in our midst! How will we bid him welcome?

We will throw open the doors to our hearts. We will delight in Christ's presence.

When God shows up, surprising things can happen.

We will make ourselves ready. We will lay down our burdens and set aside our distractions.

So let us receive the gracious hospitality of our God.

Let us rest in this holy place where there is shade and water, food, and laughter.

OPENING PRAYER

Regina G., Grade 8

Hospitable God, you invite us to a banquet where the last may be first, and the humble and the mighty trade places. Let us share your abundance with no fear of scarcity; let us greet strangers as angels you have sent! Send your Spirit now so that we may find a place at your table and welcome others with radical hospitality. In the name of Jesus, a guest at all our tables, we pray.

Amen.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rebecca Anderson

Mother of all wisdom, and Father of surprise, your thoughts are not our thoughts, nor are your ways our ways. Where we are closed, open us with your Word, that we might recognize the Christ and follow. In your Son's strong name, we pray.

Amen.

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” ⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” ⁷ Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹ They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” ¹⁰ Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.”

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

SPECIAL MUSIC*Musango Ma Longe*

Abel Nen

Chris and Becca Anderson, Martin Andrews, and Morelle Fokwa

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Hebrews 13:1-3,15-16 NRSV

Let mutual love continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured.

¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

SERMON

Radical Welcome

Rev. Adam C. Bowling

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Beth Bennett

Jesus taught us to speak of hope as the coming of God's kingdom.

**We believe that God is at work in our world
turning hopeless and evil situations into good.**

**We believe that goodness and justice will triumph in the end
and that tyranny and oppression cannot last forever.**

**One day all tears will be wiped away;
the lamb will lie down with the lion,
and justice will roll down like a mighty stream.**

True peace and true reconciliation are not only desired,
they are assured and guaranteed in Christ.

This is our faith.

This is our hope.

~ 20th Century South African Creed

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 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.**

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

+ CLOSING MUSIC

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

328

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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!

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!

Notes: This paraphrase of Psalm 117 comes from Ghana and was originally created in the Twi language. Paradoxically, this shortest of all psalms is universal in scope, which makes it especially appropriate to sing in the words and music of people from another part of the world.

+ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Rev. Adam C. Bowling

I charge you to go into the world and welcome the stranger!

For by doing so, some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Also remember, that you are not a stranger to God.

God loves us, God knows us, God forgives us!

For you were made in God's image.

We are God's beloved children.

You always have a place here, in the community of faith.

Everyone has a place here!

+ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of Christ's peace with those around you.

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