

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City (PCUSA)

14391 Minnieville Road Woodbridge, VA 22193

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MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS

More Light Presbyterians Pride Service

June 7, 2023

7:00 PM

The Reverend Adam C. Bowling - Pastor

Adam.Bowling@fupcdc.org

828.448.8914

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Jesus Shall Reign
Justin Streletz, Pianist

DUKE STREET, Arr. Mark Hayes

+ CALL TO WORSHIP

Creating God, blessed are you and blessed is this time and place. Thank you for your people gathered here.

We are here! Being the Church! We have not retreated! We are standing in praise!

Reconciling Redeemer, you are the mender of our souls and the healer of our broken bodies. You lift us up, strengthen and sustain, nurture and nourish, heal and help.

Holy fire, ignite a new spark in the heart of each one gathered here.

Light our way. Warm our bodies. Inspire our tongues to speak a new word, to shout another praise, and to sing an amazing song that will bring to us life and to you glory!

Let us worship the one who loves all creation!

+ OPENING SONG

Sing a New World into Being

Tune to GtG 475

Sing a new world into being. Sound a bold and hopeful theme.

**Find a tune for silent yearnings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:
dream a church where all who worship find their lives and loves belong.**

Sing a new world into being. Sing as Christ inspires your song!

**Sing a new world into being where each gender class and race
brings its rainbow gifts and colors to God's limitless embrace;
where the lines that one divided form instead the ties that bind.
Sing a new world into being: risk transforming heart and mind!**

**Sing a new world into being where the homeless find a home.
where no children ever hunger but are filled with God's shalom;
where all people work for justice, where all hate and vengeance cease.
Sing a new world into being: raise the harmonies of peace.**

**Sing a new world into being. Join the ancient prophets' cry
for a time of health and plenty when all tears have been wiped dry;
when compassion flows like waters, pouring balm for all who grieve.
Sing a new world into being: live the promise you believe!**

CALL TO CONFESSION

May our confession be not a recitation of all we have done wrong, but a public acknowledgement of what is broken in our lives. As God's beloved, let us pray together. . .

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are often oblivious to the ways in which we oppress and are complicity in the oppression of our neighbors. We have sinned through our actions and our lack of action. Our sins are unique and varied and yet we are all consumed by the same fire of sinfulness. We have not loved and welcomed the LGBTQIA+ community into the church with open arms and a mindset of re-imagining. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may live and serve you in newness of life in your holy name. Hear us now, as we continue to confess in the silence of our hearts. . .

(A Time of Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! God has not watched from far away, but has come near to be with us, to free us from our pain, and to offer us new life.

God has declared that we are not separate, but children of one family, united in Jesus our Lord.

Hearing this Good News, know that we are forgiven, and be at peace.

Thanks be to God!

+ **RESPONSE** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me (verse 1)* 582
*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

+ **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, by introducing yourself with your preferred name and pronouns.)

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Startle us, O God, with your truth and open our hearts and our minds to your wondrous love. Speak your word to us; silence in us any voice but your own and be with us now as we turn our attention, our minds and our hearts, to you, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 4:14-21 NRSV

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

To Set the Oppressed Free

Pastor Adam C. Bowling

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

+ *HYMN OF RESPONSE*

For Everyone Born

769

1 For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,

Refrain:

and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

2 For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair, (Refrain)

3 For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong, (Refrain)

4 For gay and for straight, a place at the table,
a covenant shared, a welcoming space,
a rainbow of race and gender and color,
for gay and for straight, the chalice of grace, (Refrain)

5 For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free, (Refrain)

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Instructions: *Please come by way of the center aisle when an usher indicates to receive communion. All the bread is gluten free. Please partake of the elements when you receive them, and dispose of your cups in the baskets provided. You may return to your seats by way of the outside aisles. If you cannot come forward please notify an usher, and a server will bring communion to you in your row, or you may pick up a pre-filled communion cup in the Welcome Center. Know that all are welcome to the Table of the Lord.*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our

It is right to give our thanks and praise. . .

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Sung)*

Albert Hay Malotte

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+ COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Music during Communion *The Dove Will Fly on Mended Wing*

Tune GtG 202

**Religion, culture, creed and race
Each human spirit and each face
we celebrate,
we dance and sing
the talents here
each one might bring.**

And take away a new found song,
a new found voice to act on wrongs.
To trust, to heal,
to help us cope,
to stand as one,
renewing hope.

A people stand, a people call:
come gather here and welcome all.
Diversity and celebrate
that hopelessness
is not our fate.

And chains will fall, the shackles break,
the earth will rise, and powers quake,
justice will roll,
and freedom sing,
the dove will fly
on mended wing

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

+ *SENDING SONG*

God Gave This World a Gift
God gave this world a gift
the day that you were born,
and though life can be hard
because of who you love,
no matter what you do,
no matter who you are,
God's always by your side.
You're God's beloved child.

Tune to GtG 747

When you are coming in,
when you are going out,
God walks along with you
to journey on your path.
God's presence is with us,
our family of choice
Let's all rejoice as one
united in our love!

+ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Rev. Adam C. Bowling

+ **BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *God Gave This World a Gift (Reprise)* Tune to GtG 747

God gave this world a gift
the day that you were born,
and though life can be hard
because of who you love,
no matter what you do,
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God's always by your side.
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+ **POSTLUDE**

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
Justin Stretetz, Pianist

AZMON, Arr. Lani Smith

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

Church Office Hours: 10AM -2:30PM, weekdays, 703-670-7834

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City, Woodbridge, VA

Ministers.....People of the Church
Pastor.....Rev. Adam C. Bowling
Parish Assistant..... Pastor Michael Slayter
Chancel Choir Director..... Dana Van Slyke
Contemporary Worship Leader.....Theresa Arnold
Pianist/Organist.....Justin Stretetz
Nursery Supervisor..... Joann Paige
Sexton..... Homer Detrich
Office Manager..... Kim Parker