

Use the following worship guide as we gather on Sunday morning via Zoom. Simply click here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2398495210>

** Announcements are at the end of this order of worship. **

The Service of Worship

First and St. Stephen's United Church of Christ

Baltimore, Maryland

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost – Year B

August 4, 2024

10:30 a.m.



Prelude

Nancy Flandermeyer Chronister, Director of Music

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Kelly M. Sisson, Pastor

Psalm Reading

Psalm 78:23-29

Martha Wharton, Liturgist

Call to Worship

~ congregation reads **bold print** ~

We come in these moments drawing near to our God,

God hears our souls and listens to the burdens of our hearts.

We come in these moments looking for the One who feeds us.

Jesus is the Bread of life, who fills the emptiness of our souls.

We come in these moments looking not for signs, but for faith.

The Spirit brings us together as one body, giving us all the grace we need.

Hymn for Gathering NCH #28 *For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

~ as you are able, please stand ~

Our Joys and Concerns

Remember these known joys and concerns:

- Peace in our world
- Tom August's family after the death of his mother
- Mike Chronister – at home
- Harry Claridge recovering after heart surgery
- Jen's friend, Andrew and his family
- The Flandermeyers, Nancy's parents
- Andrew Sisson, at home
- Laura Weaver Haas's mother
- Bryce – Jen Langdon's nephew

If you share a concern and wish for it to be printed on this list, please consult with the person/s whose names are involved, then let the pastor know in writing via email they give their consent.

Call to Reconciliation

Because we know ourselves so well, all our foolish choices and words, we think God wants nothing to do with us. But in truth, God wants us to draw near, offering our prayers to the One who hears them, and responds with words of grace and forgiveness. I invite you to join me as we pray together, saying,

Unison Prayer for Forgiveness

You call us to lives of grace, Loving God, but we choose to be mean-spirited. You remind us of all the gifts we must share, but we complain that they are not enough.

In your mercy, God of life, forgive us. While we hunger for power, for wealth, for control, continue to open the doors of your heart and shower us with love, hope, justice, and peace, so we can share these gifts with everyone we meet. In the name of our Brother, Jesus, we pray.

Kyrie Eleison ~see insert~

Hear is the good news, dear friends of God. God's grace is poured out upon us like that ancient manna from heaven, to give us hope and mercy.

Hymn for Unity NCH #399 *When Minds and Bodies Meet as One*
~ as you are able, please stand ~ TRINITY CAROL

Scripture Lessons	<i>Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 and John 6:24-35</i>	Martha Wharton, Liturgist
Communion Anthem	<i>At the Table of the Holy</i>	Amanda Udis-Kessler
Soloists: Lois Joellenbeck, Emily Perl		

The Message *Embody the Bread* Rev. Sisson

Communion Hymn NCH #340 *We Are People on a Journey* SOMOS PUEBLO

*We believe that the invitation to this table comes not from any church or individual, but from Jesus. We therefore invite in Christ's name **all** who hear that invitation and who wish to respond by sharing the bread and the cup. In the spirit of inclusion – the cup is alcohol-free; and there is a gluten-free option for bread.*

Sharing of the Cup

Making an Offering

Please consider making an offering through on-line giving, or mail your check to the church address. You can find information on our church web page: first-ststephens.org You may also place your offering in the offering plate in the sanctuary. Or, you may use the QR Code that is at the end of the announcements.

Prayer of Dedication/Offering (congregation reads **bold print**)

May our gifts serve those who feel so hopeless, so empty, so forgotten, so they would know the presences of God's love and grace in their lives. Amen.

Hymn for Sending NCH #526 *We Are Marching in the Light of God*
~ as you are able, please stand ~ SIYAHAMBAH

Postlude

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Worship Resources are adapted from:
Thom Shuman, PCUSA

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We continue to collect **school supplies** for Deep Creek Middle School. Please bring your school supplies and place them in the chancel area as we try to help this school's students have a strong start this academic year.

ACTC is asking for any non-perishable food items. For the month of August, please bring **individual servings of fruit, healthy snacks, or other school lunch foods**. Place items in the red wagon in the foyer.

Art Camp will be in our building throughout the month of August. If you need to enter the building before 5p.m., please use the office entrance or foyer entrance. Thank you for avoiding the Gathering Room or basement.

Today, we open the gallery exhibit of the photography of **Tom August and Cara McAllister August**. The gallery is open on Sundays between noon and 2p.m. or by appointment by calling: 540-230-6903. Please spread the word, and let your friends know about this new exhibit. The gallery reception will be Sunday, September 8th.

August docents are:

TODAY – Lois Joellenbeck

August 11 – Amanda Ajulu

August 18 – Nancy Ciesla

If you can volunteer to be a docent, contact Sharon Barr: sharonbarr0227@gmail.com

To Make an Offering Now



Church Staff

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Church Office (410) 377-5224

WiFi Password: ONAcomma

Consistory for 2024

Amanda Ajulu – President - amandamajulu@yahoo.com

Jen Langdon – Vice President - jenjele@gmail.com

Bill Ingram – Treasurer - william.ingram@gmail.com

Richard Arrington - richard_arrington2003@yahoo.com

Emily Perl – emilyperl78@gmail.com

Laura Weaver Haas – laurahaas0720@gmail.com

Nancy Ciesla - nciesla62@gmail.com

Nancy Chronister – Member at Large - nancyfc88@comcast.net

Kelly Sisson – Ex-Officio - fssuccpastor@gmail.com

For the Beauty of the Earth

St. 1-3, Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1864; alt.
St. 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the splen-dor of the skies,
2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
4 For the good that love in-spires, for a world where none ex-clude,

For the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
Friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
For a faith that nev-er tires, and for ev-ery heart re-newed,

Refrain

God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Folliott S. Pierpoint, author of numerous hymns, penned these verses near his native city of Bath, England, on a late spring day when flowers were in full bloom and all the earth seemed to rejoice.

Tune: DIX 7.7.7.7. with refrain
Conrad Kocher, 1838
Adapt. William H. Monk, 1861

When Minds and Bodies Meet as One

Gal. 3:28; Eph. 4:1-16

Brian Wren, 1980; rev. 1993

Unison

1 When minds and bod - ies meet as one and
 2 When lead - ers meet with an - gry sound, yet
 3 When team - work serves a com - mon aim, and
 4 When peo - ple feel the lash - ing claws of
 5 In Christ we come to break and bless the

find their true af - fin - i - ty, we join the dance in
 bri - dle their hos - til - i - ty, to bar - gain for a
 play - ers move in sym - pa - thy, the flow - ing rhy - thm
 greed and in - hu - man - i - ty, yet strug - gle in a
 bread of new so - ci - e - ty, cre - a - ted for to -

God be - gun and move with - in the Trin - i - ty,
 com - mon ground, and end with u - na - nim - i - ty,
 of the game is beau - ty in sim - pli - ci - ty,
 right - ful cause with car - ing sol - i - dar - i - ty,
 geth - er - ness, from in - fi - nite va - ri - e - ty,

British poet Brian Wren and composer Peter Cutts were both encouraged in their work by the renowned hymnologist Erik Routley. They later collaborated in the 1983 collection *Faith Looking Forward*, in which this hymn was first published.

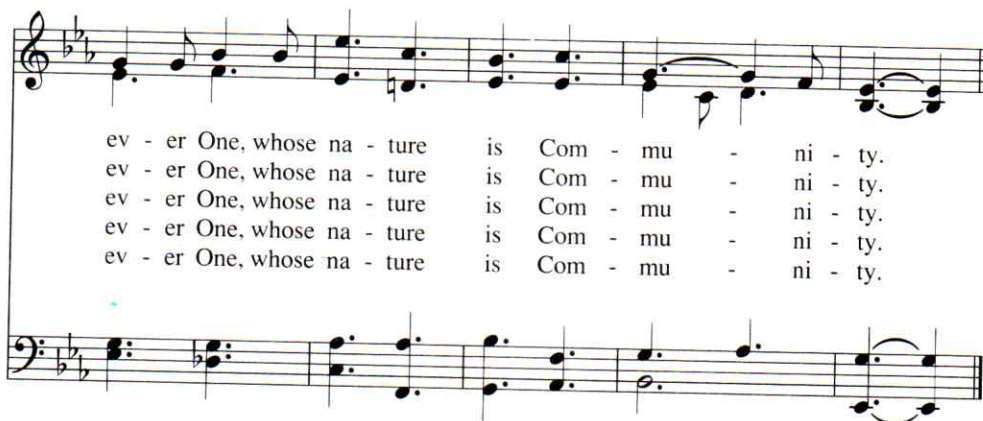
Tune: TRINITY CAROL L.M.D.
 Peter Cutts, 1980



so praise the good that's seen and done in
 be glad for all the hope that's won in
 so praise the good that's seen and done in
 be glad for all the hope that's won in
 so praise the good that's seen and done in



lov - ing, giv - ing u - ni - ty, re - veal - ing God, for -
 ev - ery gleam of u - ni - ty, re - veal - ing God, for -
 swift - ly mov - ing u - ni - ty, re - veal - ing God, for -
 free - dom - lov - ing u - ni - ty, re - veal - ing God, for -
 Spir - it - giv - en u - ni - ty, re - veal - ing God, for -



ev - er One, whose na - ture is Com - mu - ni - ty.
 ev - er One, whose na - ture is Com - mu - ni - ty.
 ev - er One, whose na - ture is Com - mu - ni - ty.
 ev - er One, whose na - ture is Com - mu - ni - ty.
 ev - er One, whose na - ture is Com - mu - ni - ty.

Somos pueblo que camina

(We Are People on a Journey)

"Misa Popular Nicaragüense," 20th century; alt.
English version, Carolyn Jennings, 1993

John 6:32-35

1 So-mos pue-blo que ca - mi - na por la sen - da del do - lor.
2 Los hu - mil-des y los po - bres in - vi - ta - dos son de Dios.
1 We are peo-ple on a jour - ney; pain is with us all the way.
2 God has sent the in - vi - ta - tion to the hum-ble and the poor.

Estribillo (Refrain)

A - cu - da-mos ju - bi - lo - sos a la san - ta co - mu - ni - ón.
Joy-ful - ly we come to - geth - er at the ho - ly feast of God.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 Es-te pan que Dios nos brin-da
a-li-men-ta nues-tra u-nión. (<i>Estribillo</i>) | 3 This is bread that God pro-vides us,
nour-ish-ing our u-ni-ty. (<i>Refrain</i>) |
| 4 Cris-to a-quí se ha-ce pre-sen-te;
al reu-nir-nos es su a-mor. (<i>Estribillo</i>) | 4 Christ is ev-er pres-ent with us
to u-nite us all in love. (<i>Refrain</i>) |
| 5 Los se-dien-tos de jus-ti-cia
bus-can su li-be-ra-ción. (<i>Estribillo</i>) | 5 All who tru-ly thirst for jus-tice
seek their lib-er-a-tion here. (<i>Refrain</i>) |

The "Misa Popular Nicaragüense," in which this hymn appeared, was composed for the Eucharist liturgy by members of the "comunidades de base"—a group of laypersons who organized to deal with issues in the Latin American church and community.

Tune: SOMOS PUEBLO 8.7. with refrain (8.7.)
"Misa Popular Nicaragüense," 20th century

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'

(We Are Marching in the Light of God)

Ps. 89:15

South African freedom song; transl. Freedom Is Coming, 1984

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-khos', si - ya -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are

hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
march-ing in the light of God. We are march-ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos', kha - nyen' kwen-khos', Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya -
light of God. the light of God. We are march-ing, march-ing, we are

ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-khos'.
march-ing, march-ing, we are march-ing in the light of God.

Last time, end

This South African song and fourteen others were first recorded and published in 1980 by the Church of Sweden Mission and the singing group "Fjedur" after a visit they made to South Africa. The subsequent 1984 collection Freedom Is Coming brought the songs to a worldwide audience.

Tune: SIYAHAMBA Irr.
South African song