

Ask an usher for large-print bulletins and/or hearing phones.

- **CD recordings of today's worship service are available following worship.**
- **Families and children are invited to sit together in the first two rows on the left hand side of the church facing the lectern.**

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

PRELUDE *The Dragon Ship* Emily Moore
Dudley Oakes

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Peter Dennebaum

CALL TO WORSHIP Bonnie Hardy

One: Praise God who lifts the dawn into place and sets boundaries for the night,

All: who stretches out the seas and spins shiny stars across the heavens,

One: who gives everything a season and breathes life into the dust of us,

All: who seeds our lives with wonderful possibilities, unutterable beauty, mysterious longings.

One: Praise God for the miracles of the daily, the mysteries of the eternal, and the presence of each other.

All: Praise b to God for what has been, what is, and what can yet be.

George Matthews

***OPENING HYMN** *God Is My Shepherd* NCH, #479

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION Bonnie Hardy

With our whole heart we praise you, Gracious God,
for the world in which we struggle, suffer, and aspire,
and for the better world in which we hope;
for the mercy that is new every morning
and as varied as our ever-changing needs;
for the gifts of faith and hope within and around us;
for the tenderness of your compassion in every time of trouble,
for the light of your knowledge, the discipline of duty,
for those who share our joys and minister to our needs.
We praise you for all that makes us human.

We praise you for all that keeps us yours.

We praise you for your Gospel of truth and the power that is born of it,
and for your Spirit's life among us now, as we gather in Jesus' name.

Amen

Ted Loder

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Bonnie Hardy

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

ANTHEM

Creating God
FCC Choir

J. Thomas Mitts

SHAW COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

PROCLAIMING

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Colossians 1: 1-14

Bonnie Hardy

Salutation

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,
To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

Paul Thanks God for the Colossians

In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow-servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

*SERMON HYMN

Be Now My Vision

NCH, #451

SERMON

Who Is My Neighbor
Luke 10: 25-37

Rev. Anne Troy

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.'

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

RESPONDING

OFFERING

Peter Dennebaum

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

WELCOME OF VISITORS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastoral Prayer, Prayers of the People, Lord's Prayer (using "debts" and "debtors")

Our God, 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.

*CLOSING HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

NCH, #76

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Anne Troy

POSTLUDE

Shetland Reel
Dudley Oakes

Emily Moore

*Those who are able are invited to stand.

NCH = New Century Hymnal

Preacher: Rev. Anne Troy, Executive Director of the Shaw Community Ministries, is a lawyer who serves as Assistant General Counsel for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Liability in the federal government. .

She was ordained in 2004 after completing a MDiv from Wesley Seminary. Rev. Troy holds standing in the Presbyterian Church (USA). The Shaw Community Ministry has been blessed with her leadership since 2008. During that time, the Ministry has grown financially and programmatically. It now has after-school programs for 40 youth. The organization has offices in the Lincoln-Westmoreland Housing Apartment complex in the Shaw neighborhood.

We welcome her to our pulpit and look forward to her message of the power of the Spirit and the wondrous grace of God.

Guest Violinist: Emily Moore is a free lance musician in the Los Angeles\ area. She studied at the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California and at Berkeley School of Music in Boston. Emily composes, teaches, and records when she is not gigging. Emily's mother, Bonnie Hardy, does not think "gigging" is a word let alone a steady job.

THIS WEEK

Today

1:00 pm Worship Service
Second Sunday Offering: Shaw Community Ministries
2:00 pm Fellowship Hour

Monday, July 12

6:30 pm Finance Commission & Green America

Tuesday, July 13

6:30 pm Council at church office
7:00 pm Social Action

Sunday, July 18

11:00 am Care of Parish @ Building Museum
12:00 pm Bible Workbench
1:00 pm Worship Service
2:00 pm Fellowship Hour: Dale Ostrander, Meg Maguire, James Estes, Maria Snyder

Birthdays:

June 13 Julia Smeltzer

Ministers:

Peter Dennebaum
Bonnie Hardy

Interim Music Director:

Dudley Oakes

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First Congregational United Church of Christ

A Just Peace, Open and Affirming,

Multiracial and Multicultural Congregation

Intentionally Inclusive...Expect the Unexpected



“Who Is My Neighbor”

July 11, 2010 – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=52587784365>

Second Sunday Offering

For more than a decade, we at First Church have supported the work of Shaw Community Ministries (SCM). Since I joined the church in 2008, we have celebrated the second Sunday in July as a time to recognize this ministry and to celebrate our connection. On this Second Sunday, we receive the offering which provides our support for the blessings that the SCM offers those in its neighborhood.

On July 11, the SCM dance group will come to share in our service of worship. The Rev. Anne Troy will be with us to tell us more about the ministry we are part of through the SCM. In addition to speaking briefly during worship; Rev. Troy will stay for the Fellowship Hour so that she can answer any other questions you may have.

Our Second Sunday Offering on July 11 will go to support the SCM. Your generous gifts provide money for scholarships to summer camp, for college scholarships and for the on-going ministry of the organization – much less glamorous, but the most important of all.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IS ON AN EXCITING JOURNEY! WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US ON THIS JOURNEY OF FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE.

Our congregation has a rich history of prayer and action, reaching back to our founding as a racially inclusive congregation following the Civil War, continuing through our provision of hospitality for civil rights activists during the 1963 March on Washington, and including major initiatives undertaken during the past quarter-century, such as the founding and continuation of the Dinner Program for Homeless Women (now known as ThriveDC), as well as congregational decisions to become an Open and Affirming, Just Peace, and Multiracial/Multicultural church.

In 2005, faced with a deteriorating building in the midst of a resurgent downtown, we decided to redevelop our site at 10th and G Sts NW into a mixed-use complex. In January 2007 we closed our building at 10th and G, and relocated to our home-away-from-home at First Trinity Lutheran Church at 4th and E St NW. Our social service ministry partner, ThriveDC (<http://thrivedc.org/>), moved with us but has now moved to a new location at St. Stephen and the Incarnation Episcopal Church in Columbia Heights, at the corner of 16th and Newton Streets NW (<http://www.saintstephensdc.org/>). Our church offices are in the “English basement” at 504 3rd St NW; and our worship service is held in the sanctuary of First Trinity on Sunday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. Financial constraints, coupled with the global economic recession, have resulted in construction delays and use and design changes for our planned mixed-use complex at 10th and G. Within the past few months we have negotiated a new agreement with Skanska USA Commercial Development to restart our site development. At the same time, on November 1 we welcomed our new called pastor, the Rev. Peter Dennebaum.

First Congregational UCC is a Christian community in covenant with God and with each other. We promise in our covenant to follow the teachings of Jesus, to worship together, to nurture one another as we grow in our faith, to be guided by the Holy Spirit, to spread the Good News of God’s love for all God’s children, and to bear witness to our faith in our lives and in our world. We are a member congregation of the Potomac Association and the Central Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ (www.potomacucc.org; www.cacucc.org; www.ucc.org).

Together we affirm that we:

- Welcome all who come, rich or poor or in between
- Are an Open and Affirming Church, welcoming people of all sexual orientations and gender identities
- Are living into our identity as a Just Peace Church
- Are living into our identity as a Multiracial and Multicultural Church
- Are a place of hospitality in the downtown, supporting programs that reach out to homeless men, women, and children and providing spiritual care for individuals and communities
- Join with other congregations and organizations in efforts that enrich the community
- Support programs that seek social justice in our city, our nation, and our world
- Are committed to our unique redevelopment project in a new space that will be accessible to all and provide a home for our congregation’s worship and witness for many years into the future.

"A progressive Christian community in the heart of the city seeking the well-being of the city"