

- Laura Weaver Haas's mother
- Bryce – Jen Langdon's nephew

Prayer of Intercession

Pastor

Prayer for Others (congregation reads bold print)

For your world and your children,
we bring our prayers to you, God of love.

For those creatures who are misunderstood, for those place which are abused,
may there be loving care.

For those who have not known love, for those who struggle to care,
may there always be another chance.

For those who live in fear, for those who bring fear to others,
may there be justice and peace.

For those living with wounds, for those confounded by death and loss,
may there be hope for new life.

For those who want to understand more, for those who are content,
may minds and hearts remain open.

For your world and your children, we open our hearts.

Hear our cries, and lead us, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, Amen.

Congregational Response

VU #356 *Seek Ye First*
 ~ remain seated as we sing ~

LAFFERTY

A Story for All Ages

All children are invited to come sit by the pastor for a brief time together.

Hymn for Comfort

NCH #279 *O God in Heaven*
 ~ as you are able, please stand ~

HALAD

Gospel Lesson

Luke 24:36b-48

Debbie Kavanagh, Liturgist

Anthem

Ask Of Me

Choir

Words by Mary Martin, Music by Donald Nolan

The Message

"Leave it!"

Rev. Sisson

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

What will be done with the gifts we offer has not been revealed to us, Holy God, but knowing and trusting you by the power of the Holy Spirit, we do know they will be used to bring hope, to bring healing, to bring justice to all those people and places who long for these blessings. So, we offer these gifts with gratitude to you, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn for Sending

NCH #249 *Peace I Leave with You, My Friends*
 ~ as you are able, please stand ~

PEACE, MY FRIENDS

Benediction

~please remain standing~

If the God who raised Jesus from the dead is for us, who dare be against us?

We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

Step out into the world in humble confidence: there is nothing about to happen that God has not foreseen, and no situation where Christ will not be there ahead of you, preparing a place and an opportunity for you.

Thanks be to God.

The peace of God, which goes beyond all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge of God, and of Jesus Christ, God's Son. And the blessing of God all-loving, the Creator, Redeemer and Counsellor, will be with you now and always. **Amen!**

Postlude

+ + + + +

Worship Resources are adapted from:
Peter L. Haynes, Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren.
Susan Miller, The Church of Scotland.
Jenny Adams, The Church of Scotland.
Thom Shuman, PCUSA.
Bruce Prewer, United Church of Australia.

Welcome! We are glad you are here. If you are visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's card from the back of one of the chairs and either place it in the offering plate or hand it to the pastor after the service. Please stay for coffee and conversation in the Gathering Room after the service.

Trans Family Support Group meets this Tuesday night at 7p.m. If you are a family member of someone who is trans or non-binary or know someone who is, join us every third Tuesday evening in The Gathering Room to seek ways we can support each other and our family members.

Please bring **sanitary products for "Changing the Cycles"** as we help end menstrual poverty.

ACTC is desperately asking for any non-perishable food items. The need has increased by 25% and they depend on volunteers to supply the food pantry. Items can be placed in the red wagon in the foyer, and are delivered weekly. For the month of April we will focus on bringing: **individual juice cartons, pastas and pasta meals, and canned tomato products.**

Saturday, April 20th at 1p.m. – Laura and DeAnn Weaver-Haas will be renewing their marriage vows to celebrate their tenth anniversary. First and St. Stephen's family and friends are invited to witness this event and stay for a reception in the Gathering Room immediately after the service. Please RSVP to laurahaas0720@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

The new gallery exhibit by **Baltimore Sculptors** opens today. Today is a "soft opening" and the advertising for this gallery will be out this week. There will be a **"Meet the Artist Reception" on Sunday, May 5th from noon to 2p.m.** If you can help with a Cinco de Mayo theme reception, see Carol Berman. If you can be a docent from noon to 2p.m. one Sunday between now and June 2nd, see Sharon Barr. John Henson is the docent today.

To Make an Offering Now



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

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Church Office (410) 377-5224

WiFi Password: ONAcomma

Peace I Leave with You, My Friends

John 14:18-29

Ray Repp, 1967

Refrain

D Em G D F#m

Peace I leave with you, my friends, sha-lom, my peace, in

Em Gm D Em G D F#m

all you do. Peace I leave with you, my friends. I give to

Bm Em G D 1-2 3

you so you can give to oth - ers, too.

D Em G D

1 To share God's love is why I came,
2 Take my hand and be at peace;
3 With this love now all will know

F#m Em/G Gm

to show God's kind - ness with - out end.
the spir - it of our love I send.
that lone - li - ness is at an end.

D Em G D

Go now, my friends, and do the same,
And with this love you will be free,
Re-joice, my friends, al - though I go,

F#m G A7 to Refrain

un-til I come a - gain.
un-til I come a - gain.

Seek Ye First the Kingdom

Descant

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal -

D F#m G D G

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God and God's
 2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and
 3 We do not live by bread a - lone, but by

le - lu - jah, hal - le -

D Em A7 D F#m

right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be
 you shall find; knock and the door shall be
 ev - every word that pro - ceeds from the

lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

G D G D Em A D

add - ed un - to you.
 o - pened un - to you. Hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu - jah.
 mouth of God.

Words: Karen Lafferty 1972

Music: Karen Lafferty 1972; desc. Karen Lafferty 1972

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LAFFERTY

Irregular

A toi la gloire, ô Ressuscité!

(Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One!)

Mat. 28:1-10; John 20:19-29; 1 Cor. 15:54-55

Edmond L. Budry, 1904
Transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1993

1 A toi la gloi - re, ô Res - sus - ci - té! A toi la vic - toi - re,
1 Yours is the glo - ry, Res - ur - rect - ed One! End - less is the vic - tory
2 See, it is Je - sus, Je - sus has ap - peared; do not doubt at all for
3 Am I still fright - ened? One whom I a - dore, Je - sus, lives a - gain, gives

pour l'é - ter - ni - té! Bril - lant de lu - miè - re, l'ange est de - scen -
you o'er death have won. An - gels clothed in ra - dian - ce rolled the stone a -
noth - ing you will fear. Let the church with glad - ness hymns of tri - umph
peace for - ev - er - more. Je - sus is my vic - tory, life and strength and

du, il rou - le la pier - re du tom - beau vain - cu.
way; con - quered is the grave in which your bod - y lay.
sing; tell it with - out ceas - ing: Death has lost its sting.
Head; Je - sus is my glo - ry, noth - ing shall I dread.

Refrain

A toi la gloi - re, ô Res - sus - ci - té!
Yours is the glo - ry, Res - ur - rect - ed One!

A toi la vic - toi - re, pour l'é - ter - ni - té!
End - less is the vic - tory you o'er death have won.



ECUMENICAL ADVOCACY DAYS
2024 SPRING SUMMIT

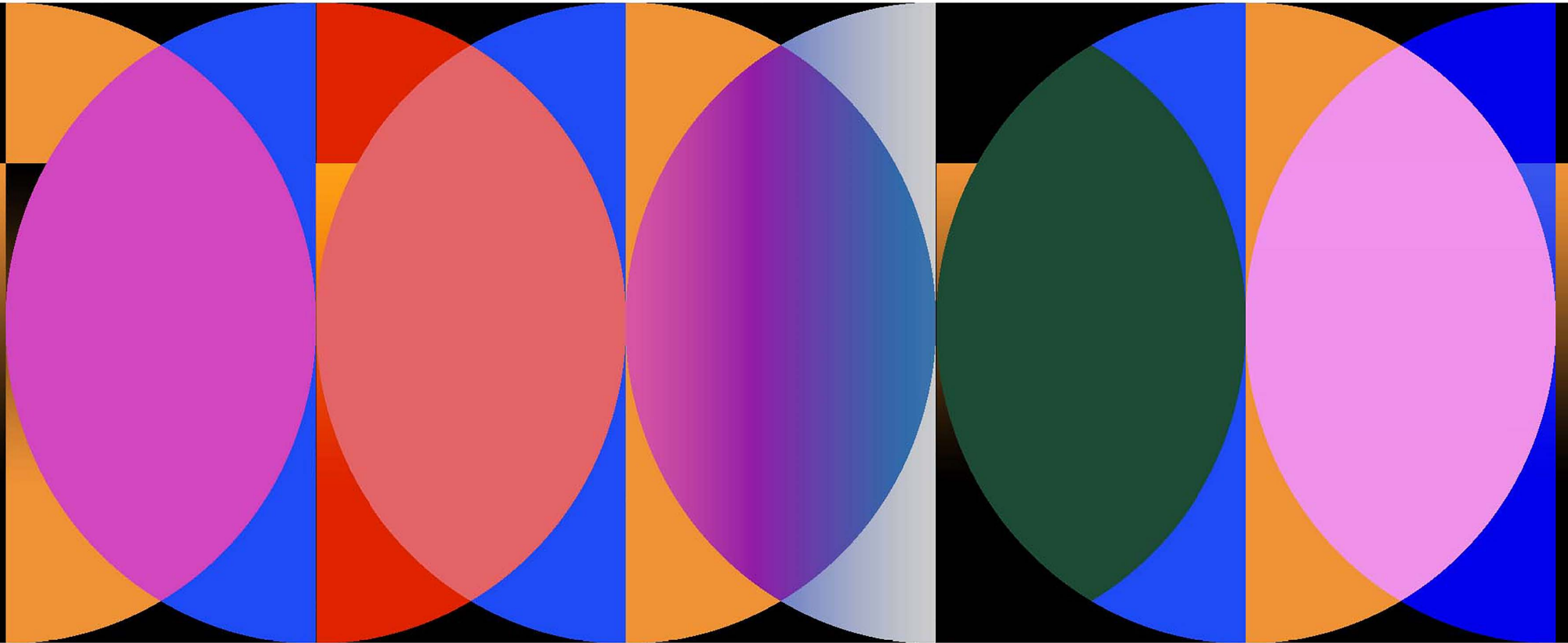
May 17-19 | Washington, D.C.

*Faith in Action: Advancing Human
Rights and Peace for All*



Register and learn more: advocacydays.org

Trans Family Support Group



Please join us!

What? **A safe space for family of trans/non-binary people** to help us support each other and our family members.

When? **We meet at 7pm** on the **Third Tuesday** of each month

Where? In the **Gathering Room of First and St Stephens** (United Church of Christ)

6915 York Rd Baltimore 21212

Do you have any questions? email Ljoellen@verizon.net

WELL SAID

speaker series

Sacred Stories, Modern Myth: Connecting Your Spirituality within Pop Culture

An Evening with Eric Clayton

author • speaker • storyteller • spirituality + star wars aficionado



Thursday, April 18, 2024 • 6–9 pm

Grace United Methodist Church • 5407 N Charles St. • Baltimore, MD

Info, Tickets & Sponsorships: wellforthejourney.org

The Well Said Speaker Series is a fundraiser benefitting the mission-based work of 501(c)(3) nonprofit spiritual wellness organization, Well for the Journey.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
CELEBRATION

HONORING:
De Ann & Laura 10th Anniversary
Wedding Vow Renewal

DATE & TIME:

April 20, 2024 1:00 pm

PLACE
First & St Stephen's
United Church of Christ
6915 York Rd

Baltimore/Towson, MD 21212