



## **Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ**

4704 13th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20011

**Sunday, July 13, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.**

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds  
Interim Minister

"This is the day that the Lord has made.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Love God and Love Neighbor

ENTER TO WORSHIP...

**The Order of the Word**  
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
Sunday, July 13, 2025  
The Liturgical Color is Green

Centering Thought

“When I am fully alert to whatever or whoever is right in front of me; when I am electrically aware of the tremendous gift of being alive; when I am able to give myself wholly to the moment I am in, then I am in prayer.”

– Barbara Brown Taylor, *An Altar in the World*

**Prelude**

**Opening Hymn**

AAHH No. 377 Ville Du Havre

*It Is Well With My Soul*

Verse 1-All; Verse 2-Men; Verse 3-Women; Verse 4-All

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

**\*\*Call to Worship**

Minister Francis Smith

Leader: Today, we gather in the spirit of resilience and unity, recognizing the calling of our faith to uplift one another and stand against the divisive forces in our world.

**People: We come together, yearning for understanding, justice, and compassion.**

Leader: Like Martha, we often find ourselves caught in an uproar, pulled in many directions by the demands of life and the injustices that loom around us. Yet today, we are reminded that amid our tasks, our service can be both a blessing and a burden.

**People: We acknowledge our struggles, the distractions that threaten to discombobulate us, and the weight of responsibility we carry.**

Leader: In a world that seeks to divide, we embrace our shared mission: to be vessels of God's love, advocate for those marginalized, and proclaim truth in the face of oppression.

**People: We are here to lift our voices for the voiceless, to work for justice, and to foster reconciliation within our communities.**

Leader: Today as we reflect on the story of Mary and Martha, let us remember that our service is not solely about tasks but about the heart of ministry—about striving for compassion in action and love made visible.

**People: May we find the balance between contemplation and action, being both in ministry and in prayer.**

Leader: Come, let us worship with hearts open to God's calling, seeking wisdom and strength, ready to tear down the false binaries that seek to separate us.

**People: We are one body in Christ, united in purpose and spirit, ready to stand firm in faith against all that seeks to divide us.**

Leader: Let us worship the God who calls us, the God who empowers us, and the God who walks with us in this journey of ministry.

**People: Amen!**

**Invocation and Savior's Prayer**

Minister Francis Smith

Gracious and loving Creator, we gather in this sacred space, united by our faith and commitment to justice. As we come together, we ask for Your presence to surround us. Open our hearts and minds to Your wisdom so that we may be inspired to embody Your love in all our actions. Help us navigate the challenges before us with courage and compassion, and guide us in our worship so that it may reflect Your grace and truth. May our time together strengthen our resolve to serve and uplift each other and our community. We end this time of prayer by praying the words Your Son taught us, saying: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Scripture Readings**

Psalm 52  
Luke 10:38-42

Deacon Natasha DeBose  
Deacon Priscilla Wallace

**Gloria Patria**

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost as it was at the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be,  
World without end.  
Amen*

**Song of Preparation**

Jonathan Butler

*Falling In Love With Jesus*

Robert L. Jefferson, Esther Williams Yarborough, Davey Yarborough, Soloists

**Sermon**

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

**"Choose One, Really?"**

**Invitation to Discipleship**

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

**Prayers of the People**

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

**Offertory**

Minister Francis Smith

**Musical Selection**

Edwin Hawkins

*O, Happy Day!*

**Offertory Prayer**

Minister Francis Smith

**Doxology\*\***

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, Ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Closing Hymn\*\*

AAHH No. 378 Cleavant Derricks

*Just a Little Talk with Jesus*

Benediction

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

Postlude

*As You Go, Tell the World About Jesus*

...DEPART TO SERVE

Dr. Robert L. Jefferson, Director of Worship and Peoples Congregational Choir

Minister Diedre D. Gray, Assistant Director of Worship and Peoples Praise

\*AAHH-African American Heritage Hymnal

\*\*All who are able, please stand

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