



Embrace Our Comfort . . . Elevate Our Spirit!

**Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ
4704 13th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011**

Sunday, September 14, 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
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 14, 2025
The Liturgical color is Green

Centering Thought

“Perhaps churches should learn to think unconventionally, to be prepared to make new friends across traditional barriers, to throw caution to the winds and discover again, in the true fellowship of the gospel, a home that will last.”

– Tom Wright

Prelude

****Opening Hymn**

No. 363 AAHH Kenneth Morris

Christ Is All

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

****Call to Worship**

Dr. Helga Baskett-Tippett

Leader: Welcome, beloved community, to this sacred space where we gather to explore the complex truths of our lives and our faith. Today, we reflect on how God can use imperfect, broken, and flawed things and people to achieve God's purposes.

People: We come with open hearts, ready to wrestle with the challenging parables of Jesus and the lessons they hold for us.

Leader: Jesus invites us into a deeper understanding, urging us to think unconventionally, to break down barriers, and to embrace the true fellowship of the gospel.

People: In this gathering, we seek wisdom in the shrewdness of our lives, understanding that even our mistakes can lead to growth and redemption.

Leader: We remember the struggles of our neighbor, the weight of financial burdens, and the hope found in shared community. In this space, we are called to lift one another up.

People: We are here to proclaim justice, embody love, and reflect God's grace in our investments and actions.

Leader: Let us worship together, knowing that in God's eyes, every life is valued, and every story has the potential for transformation.

All: Together, we celebrate our journey, trusting in the power of God's love to guide us today and always. Amen.

**** Invocation and Savior's Prayer**

Dr. Helga Baskett-Tippett

Holy and Loving God, we gather together this morning, drawn by Your grace and the promise of community. As we navigate the complexities of life, we acknowledge the power of money and the need for a good shower—not just for cleanliness, but for the renewal and refreshment of our spirits. You have called us to think unconventionally and to open our hearts to new possibilities, even when the path seems uncertain. In the stories that challenge and inspire us, may we find wisdom that transcends our understanding. Help us to see beyond worldly definitions of success, so that we may invest our resources, talents, and love in ways that uplift others and build a just community. As we embrace the call to fellowship, may we remember that our actions ripple through the lives of those around us, reflecting Your loving kindness. Ground us in Your truth as we worship together today, and may the Spirit guide our hearts as we seek to embody the transformative love of Christ. With gratitude for the gift of prayer, we join together as one voice, praying as our Savior taught us: 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 79:1-9

Deacon Warren Romine

Luke 16:1-9

Deacon Lois Sylver

****Gloria Patria**

Saint Hilary of Poitiers

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

Song of Preparation

Alma B. Androzzo

If I Can Help Somebody
Andre Kearns

Sermon

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

“Riding a Lame Horse / Carving Rotten Wood”

Invitation to Discipleship

Dr. Helga Baskett-Tippett

Prayers of the People

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

Musical Selection

James Cleveland

Lord, Do It

Offertory

Dr. Helga Baskett-Tippett

Musical Selection

Alvin Fruga

Oh Give Thanks

Offertory Prayer

Dr. Helga Baskett-Tippett

**** Doxology**

Beethoven

All Things Come of Thee, O Lord,
and of Thine own
Have we given Thee. Amen.

****Closing Hymn**

No. 633 AAHH Valeria Foster

As You Go, Tell the World

****Benediction**

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

Postlude

Tis So Sweet to Trust in 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

Minister Geneva Hudson, Minister of Congregational Care
Minister Francis Smith, Minister of Community Engagement

*AAHH - African American Heritage Hymnal

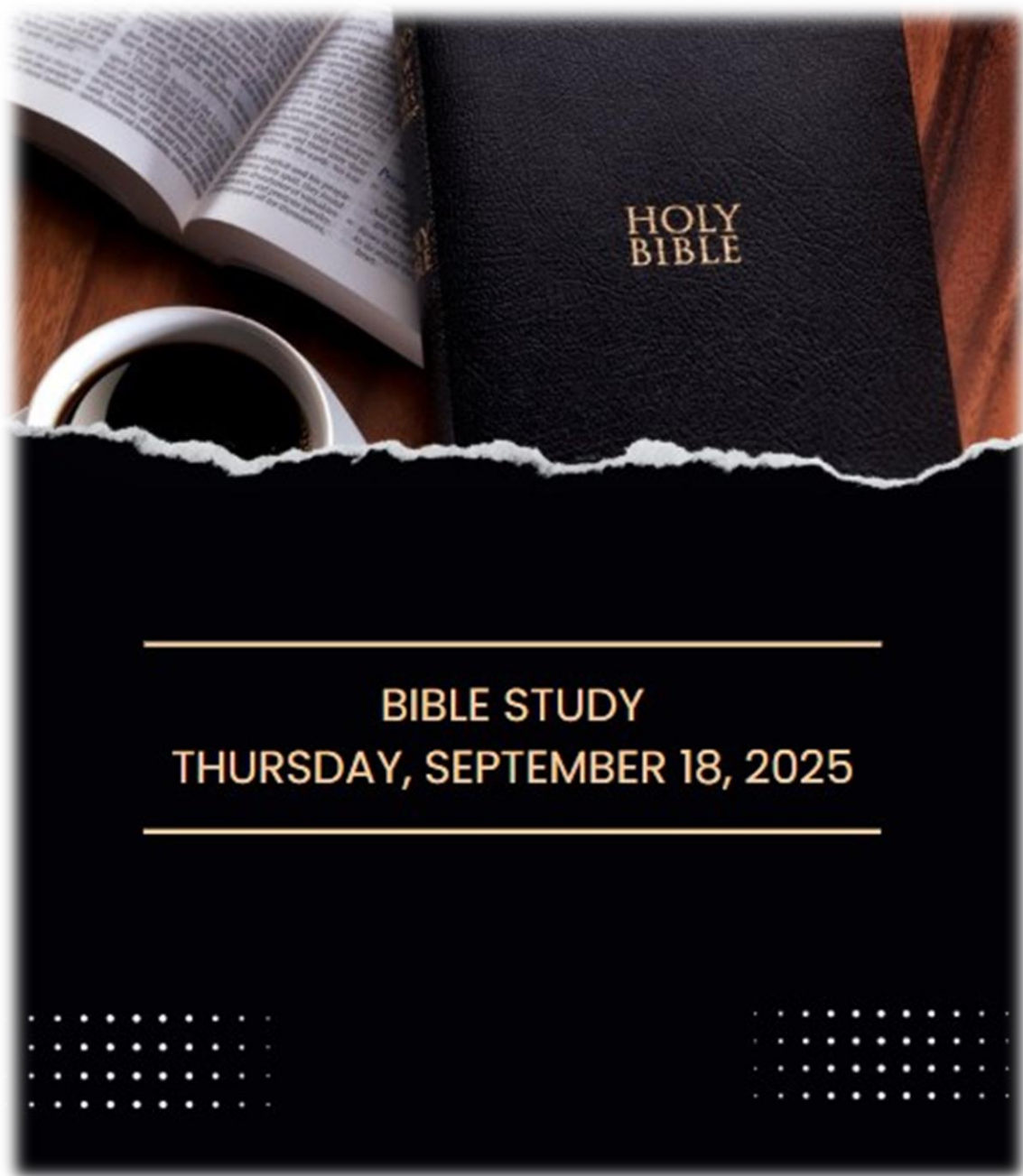
**All who are able, please stand

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BIBLE STUDY
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025



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