



Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ

4704 13th Street NW
Washington, DC 20011

Sunday, April 26, 2026 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 WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 26, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

The Liturgical Color is White

CENTERING THOUGHT

“I shall become a collector of me I shall Become A COLLECTOR of me. I SHALL BECOME A COLLECTOR OF ME. . . . AND PUT MEAT ON MY SOUL.”

– Sonia Sanchez

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN

No. 504 AAHH** James Rowe/
Howard E. Smith

Love Lifted Me

PASTORAL OBSERVATIONS

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister Geneva Hudson

Leader: Good morning, beloved community! We gather today in this spiritual gymnasium, a place where we train our hearts and minds in the ways of love.

People: We come together, embracing the call to love as we have been loved.

Leader: As we reflect on the words of the Apostle John, let us remember: Love is not just an idea; it is our action and our heartbeat. We are called to reach out, to lift each other, and to reflect the grace we've received.

People: We welcome each other with open hearts, ready to practice the art of agape love.

Leader: In a world filled with challenges and conflict, we are reminded that true strength lies not in winning arguments but in choosing kindness, understanding, and support.

People: May we be courageous in our love, embodying the spirit of Christ in our words and deeds.

Leader: As we worship together, let us shed our burdens, put aside our differences, and engage in this sacred training ground.

People: We come to grow, to learn, and to love one another deeply, as God first loved us.

Leader: Let us worship, uplifted by the spirit of love that binds us together!

People: Amen!

***INVOCATION AND SAVIOR’S PRAYER**

Minister Geneva Hudson

Gracious and loving God, as we gather in this sacred space, we thank You for the gift of community and for the boundless love You offer each of us. We come together, seeking to deepen our understanding of Your unconditional love, and we are inspired to reach out to one another with open hearts and hands. May our worship today be a transformative experience, guiding us to embody the essence of agape love in our lives. Fill this place with Your presence, and equip us to be vessels of Your grace. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Shepherd, who taught us to pray and exemplified the beauty of a life grounded in prayer by 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 deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 23
John 4:7-21

Deacon Goulda Downer
Deacon Warren Romine

GLORIA PATRI

Saint Hilary of Poitiers

*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

Dottie Rambo

We Shall Behold Him
Toni Robinson, Soloist

SERMON

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

“A SPIRITUAL GYMNASIUM”

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Minister Geneva Hudson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

OFFERTORY

Minister Geneva Hudson

OFFERTORY SELECTION

Hezekiah Walker

Every Praise

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Minister Geneva Hudson

***DOXOLOGY**

Thomas Ken

*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**

No. 148 AAHH** Stuart K. Kline

How Great Thou Art

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds

Leader: As we leave this sacred gathering, may we carry the love of God with us.

People: We go forth to share that love with everyone we meet.

Leader: May our hearts be open to create connections and build bridges of kindness.

People: We will reach out in grace and compassion.

Leader: In the face of the world's challenges, let us remember to love fiercely and without condition.

People: We are strengthened by God's love and ready to love in return.

Leader: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People: Amen!

POSTLUDE

No. 646 AAHH**

Threefold Amen

. . . 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
Dr. Helga Baskett -Tippett, Ministerial Team
Rev. George Walker, Ministerial Team

***All who are able, please stand**
****AAHH- African American Hymnal**

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PEOPLES PREACHING AND WORSHIP LEADER SCHEDULE MAY 2026

Sunday, May 3, 10:00 am (Fifth Sunday of Easter) *

"Moved and Challenged" Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; Romans 1:8-17

- **Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds**, *Preaching*
- **Rev. George Walker**, *Worship Leader*

Sunday, May 10, 10:00 am (Sixth Sunday of Easter)

Mother's Day and Women's Day – Women's Fellowship

"Her Story, Our Talk Across Generations" Psalm 139:14

- **Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds**, *Worship Leader*

Sunday, May 17, 10:00 am (Seventh Sunday of Easter) *

"You, Me, and David" Psalm 51; Romans 7

- **Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds**, *Preaching*
- **Minister Geneva Hudson**, *Worship Leader*

Sunday, May 17, 3:00 pm

Ordination Service for Dr. Helga Baskett-Tippett

Sunday, May 24, 10:00 am (Pentecost Sunday)

Confirmation Sunday

"Gift of the Spirit" Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Acts 2:1-21


- **Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds**, *Preaching*
- **[Rev.] Dr. Helga Baskett-Tippett**, *Worship Leader*

Sunday, May 31, 10:00 am (Trinity Sunday) *

"Make a Choice" Psalm 8; I Corinthians 13:11-13

- **Rev. Benjamin Ledell Bragg-Reynolds**, *Preaching*
- **Minister Francis Smith**, *Worship Leader*

* *Indicates Sermon-Talk-Back following the service in the Corbin Lounge*



**NOMINATING COMMITTEE
PEOPLES CHURCH
2026 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION TIMELINE**

Nominating Committee
Peoples Church 2026 Nominations and Election Timeline

Sunday March 1, 2026
Nomination Period Begins

Saturday March 7, 2026
Nomination Forms Available to the Congregation
(Online and hard copies at the church)

Sunday, April 12, 2026
Recruitment Sunday (Coffee Hour)

Friday, May 1, 2026
Deadline for Nomination Forms

Wednesday, May 6, 2026
Present Draft Slate for Approval at Church Council Meeting

Friday, May 8, 2026
Slate Distributed to Congregation
(Electronic Bulletin & Hard Copy)

Thursday, May 21, 2026 (Virtual) @7:30 pm
Nominations from the Floor

Monday, June 1, 2026 (Virtual) @7:30 pm
Meet and Greet the Candidates

Wednesday, June 3, 2026
Candidates Brief Bio/ Final Slate

Friday, June 19th through Sunday June 28th - Electronic Voting!

Monday July 6, 2026
Church Clerk will Notify Elected Candidates

Tuesday, July 7, 2026
Results Posted on Church Website, Emailed to Congregation, Posted on Bulletin Board



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