



Sunday, January 16, 2022

10:00 a.m.

Welcome to Rock Spring Congregational United Church of Christ

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

Rock Spring is a progressive Christian community – welcoming, compassionate, and joyful. We love and care for one another. We strive to discern God's still-speaking voice through worship, study, fellowship, and service. We work for peace and social, economic, and ecological justice. We seek a greater understanding of others, and thus ourselves, recognizing that all persons are members of our one human family. Our community prepares and sustains us as we work together to bring about the world that we believe God intends.

Join Us In Virtual Worship On:

- Our website: <https://www.rockspringucc.org/worship-livestream/>
- Streamspot: <https://bit.ly/RSlivestream>
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/rockspringucc
- YouTube: <http://bit.ly/RockSpringYT>
- Amazon Fire TV (search for "Rock Spring UCC" on the Apps menu)
- Roku (search for "Rock Spring UCC" on the Apps menu)

Our services are livestreamed and archived on our website for future viewing.

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Have a prayer request during the service?

Text Laura at 202-262-2320.

Online Giving – Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated.

- To give online, please go to <https://rockspringucc.breezechms.com/give/online>.
- To give via text, text the word "Give" and the amount you wish to donate to 1-703-783-2642. More detailed instructions can be found on our [Giving page](#).

Order of Worship

An asterisk () indicates an invitation to stand.*

“Democracy is not a state.

It is an act, and each generation must do its part to help build what we called the Beloved Community, a nation and world society at peace with itself.”

~ John Lewis

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP ----- Jennifer Jones

We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality,
tied in a single garment of destiny.

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

There are some things in our social system to which all of us ought to be
maladjusted.

Hatred and bitterness can never cure the disease of fear, only love can do that.

We must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge,
aggression, and retaliation.

The foundation of such a method is love.

Before it is too late, we must narrow the gaping chasm between our
proclamations of peace and our lowly deeds which precipitate and perpetuate war.

One day we must come to see that peace is not merely a distant goal that we
seek but a means by which we arrive at the goal.

We must pursue peaceful ends through peaceful means.

We shall hew out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope.

***HYMN #668 (NEXT PAGE)** ----- CWM RHONDDA

For the Healing of the Nations

For the Healing of the Nations

668

1. For the heal-ing of the na-tions, God, we pray with one ac-cord;
 2. Lead us for-ward in - to free-dom; from de-spair your world re-lease,
 3. All that kills a - bun-dant liv-ing, let it from the earth be banned;
 4. You, Cre-a - tor God, have writ-ten your great name on hu-man-kind;

for a just and e - qual shar-ing of the things that earth af-fords;
 that, re-deemed from war and ha-tred, all may come and go in peace.
 pride of sta - tus, race, or school-ing, dog-mas that ob - scure your plan.
 for our grow-ing in your like-ness bring the life of Christ to mind,

to a life of love in ac - tion help us rise and pledge our
 Show us how through care and good-ness fear will die and hope in -
 In our com-mon quest for jus - tice may we hal-low life's brief
 that by our re - sponse and ser - vice earth its des - ti - ny may

word, (pledge our word) help us rise and pledge our word.
 crease, (hope in - crease) fear will die and hope in - crease.
 span, (life's brief span) may we hal - low life's brief span.
 find, (may find) earth its des - ti - ny may find.

WORDS: Fred Kaan, 1965
 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
 87.87.877

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

WITNESS OF SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

SERMON -----Josh Long

The Common Good; Is Democracy Worth Saving?

MUSICAL OFFERING -----J. Rosamond Johnson

Lift Every Voice and Sing

The Rock Spring Quartet

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Have a prayer request during the service?

Text Laura at 202-262-2320.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

Holy One*, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

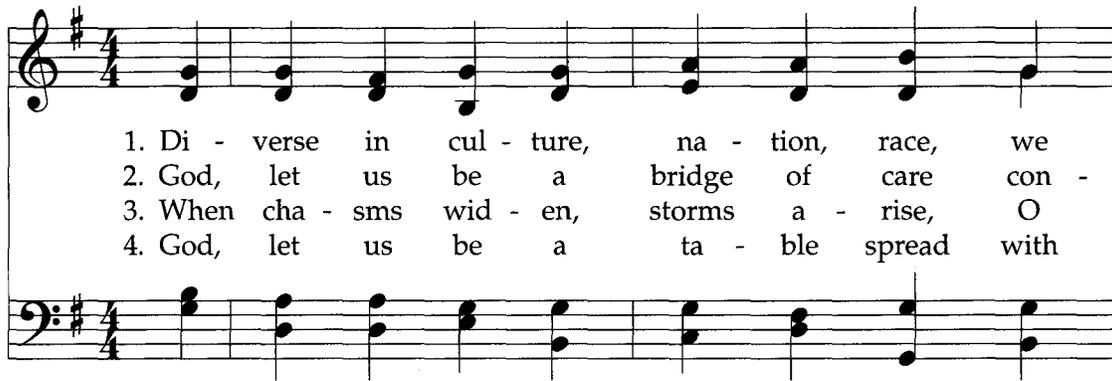
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever. Amen.

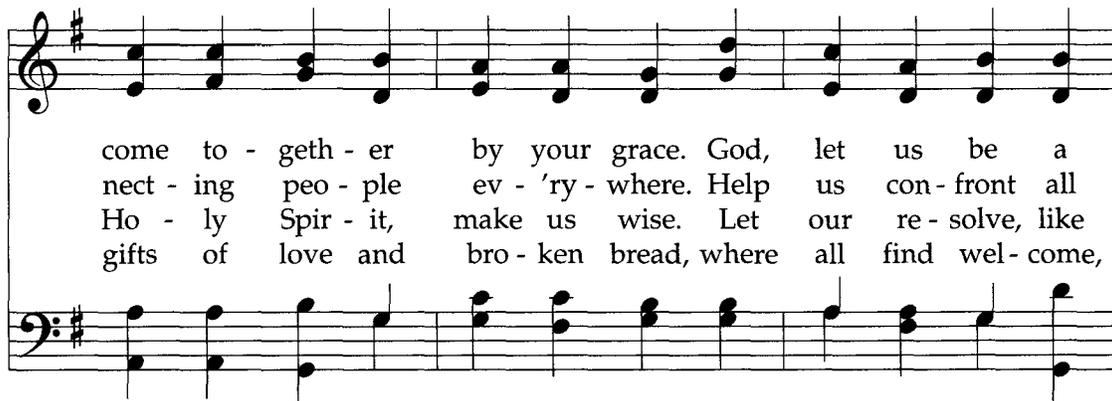
**May use Creator, Father, Parent, Abba*

***HYMN #485 (NEXT PAGE)** ----- TALLIS' CANON

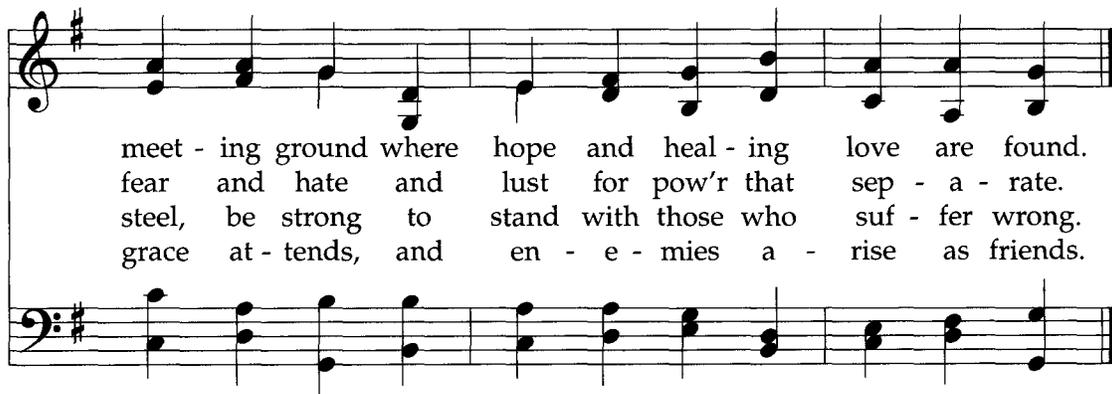
Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race



1. Di - verse in cul - ture, na - tion, race, we
 2. God, let us be a bridge of care con -
 3. When cha - sms wid - en, storms a - rise, O
 4. God, let us be a ta - ble spread with



come to - geth - er by your grace. God, let us be a
 nect - ing peo - ple ev - 'ry - where. Help us con - front all
 Ho - ly Spir - it, make us wise. Let our re - solve, like
 gifts of love and bro - ken bread, where all find wel - come,



meet - ing ground where hope and heal - ing love are found.
 fear and hate and lust for pow'r that sep - a - rate.
 steel, be strong to stand with those who suf - fer wrong.
 grace at - tends, and en - e - mies a - rise as friends.

WORDS: Ruth Duck, 1991
 MUSIC: Thomas Tallis, 1561

TALLIS' CANON
 LM

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***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

SERVICE CREDITS: The Call to Worship is from *Network of Mutuality*, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King. Jr.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's flowers are given by the entire Rock Spring UCC community in gratitude and memory of the life of John Nicholson, co-owner of Company Flowers and longtime friend of the church. John passed away last week, and we surround his wife, Marnie, with comfort and prayers.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 26-27

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff News

For 2022, Kathy and Laura will be off on Fridays (except for pastoral emergencies) and Ashley will be off on Thursdays.

Call to the Annual Meeting

All members of Rock Spring Congregational United Church of Christ are hereby called to the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Congregation, Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 11:15 a.m. via Zoom.

Agenda:

1. Receive and act upon the minutes of the 2021 annual meeting and other congregational meetings held in 2021.
2. Receive and act upon the recommendation of Church Council for the 2022 budget.
3. Receive and act upon the Annual Report of the congregation's ministries and programs for the 2021 calendar year.
4. Receive and act upon nominations proposed by the Nominating Committee.
5. Receive and act upon a motion from Council approved by the SAM Board, Finance Board, and Endowment Trustees to establish a new Justice and Peace Mission Fund in the Endowment.
7. Receive and act upon any other business appropriate to come before the meeting.

- Carolyn Hart, Clerk

From the Reopening Task Force Regarding the Return to Phase 1

Dear Members and Friends of Rock Spring,

The Reopening Task Force recommended this week that Council move the campus to Phase 1 of Rock Spring's reopening plan through the end of January, given the eightfold increase in virus cases in Arlington and surrounding neighborhoods over the past few weeks and the strain that dramatic spike in infections is likely to pose for healthcare workers in our community.

Under Phase 1:

- worship services will continue online but will be discontinued in person,
- the office will remain open for visitors,
- small groups of not more than 10 may meet indoors when prearranged with the staff,
- groups of 50 or fewer may meet outdoors.

The Task Force will continue its careful monitoring of the latest public health guidance. We anticipate making an additional reopening recommendation to Council in February. A distinguishing characteristic of the omicron variant is the great speed with which it is spreading. While it is concerning to see the rate of infection in our area spike so dramatically, we hope it will retreat just as quickly over a period of weeks, rather than months.

When circumstances allow, we anticipate recommending that Council reopen the campus swiftly, balancing our desire to quickly return to in-person uses of the campus with our commitment to maintain the safety of our Staff, the Congregation, and our neighbors.

On this Epiphany Sunday, we are mindful of God's invitation to follow stars, to be where the light is, and to anticipate His revelation at the margins.

Faithfully yours,

The Reopening Task Force

Vince Meehan, Chair
Rob Rainhart, Vice Chair
Frank Kovzelove
Susan Limberg

Ashley Martinage
Kathy Morland
Megan Tetrick

Schedule Changes Due to Return to Phase 1

Please note the following temporary changes to Rock Spring's regular programs:

- Worship – online-only through January 30
- Sanctuary & Handbell Choirs – on hiatus through January
- YoRS – online-only in January
- Confirmation – will meet via Zoom on January 16
- Annual Meeting (January 30) – held via Zoom (registration link will be provided later this month)

If your board, committee, or small group needs a Zoom link so that you can meet virtually, please contact Stephen Williams (admin@rockspringucc.org) and he will be glad to set one up for you.

Sign up to donate Altar Flowers for 2022

The flowers are displayed in the Sanctuary during the Sunday service. Donating sanctuary flowers is a great way to honor a loved one, mark a special occasion or simply add to the beauty of our sanctuary. After the service, flowers are donated and delivered to a local household by Rock Spring staff or deacons. Please sign up directly [here](#). Email Jen Keefer (jkeefer27@icloud.com) or Angela Manning (angelamanning9@gmail.com) for assistance or questions.

Check Out These New Books at the Library

Your library committee ordered and shelved ten new books for adults and five children's books during December. Now that you have more time on your hands, come in and check out one of these, or an older book on our shelves.

The self-service library is available Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. It is also available when the church is open for Sunday services. Directions for checking out books and returning them are on the library table. Enjoy!

Click on the titles below for summaries or reviews of each book.

[*Band of Sisters: A Novel*](#) by Lauren Willig

[*The Book of Hope*](#) by Jane Goodall

[*The Chancellor: The Remarkable Odyssey of Angela Merkel*](#) by Kati Marton

[*The Dark Hours*](#) (A Renée Ballard and Harry Bosch Novel, 4) by Michael Connelly

[*The Judge's List: A Novel*](#) (The Whistler) by John Grisham

[*The Plot: A Novel*](#) by Jean Hanff Korelitz

[*The Promise: A Novel*](#) (Booker Prize Winner) by Damon Galgut

[*The Sentence*](#) by Louise Erdrich

[*These Precious Days: Essays*](#) by Ann Patchett

[*Wish You Were Here: A Novel*](#) by Jodi Picoult

Children's Books

[*Navajo: Visions and Voices Across the Mesa*](#) by Shonto Begay

[*Luna, the Mare with the Sky Blue Eyes, A True Story*](#) by Dora Dillistone

[*The Flute Player: An Apache Folk Tale*](#) by Michael Lacapa

[*The Magic of Spider Woman*](#) by Lois Duncan

[*Sunpainters: Eclipse of the Navajo Sun*](#) by Baje Whitethorne

Join Us Throughout the Week:

Great Courses: Fall of the Pagans and the Origins of Medieval Christianity

Sundays @ 11:15 a.m. via Zoom

Join via Zoom: <http://bit.ly/RSVideoClass>

Meeting ID: 846 1030 7017; Passcode: 666321

Middler YoRS: *2nd and 4th Sundays @ 11:30 a.m.*

We will meet online in January.

Choristers Choir: *Sundays @ 12:15 p.m. [via Zoom](#)*

Rehearsals will be online.

High School YoRS: *2nd and 4th Sundays @ 4:30 p.m.*

We will meet online in January.

Adult Bible Study (Lectionary): *Tuesdays @ 10:00 a.m. [via Zoom](#)*

Explore the focus text for the coming Sunday's worship service.

Facilitated by the preaching pastor and/or participants.

Handbell Choir: *Tuesdays @ 7:00 p.m.***

**We will not meet for the month of January.

Reading the Bible in Pandemic: *Thursdays @ 1:30 p.m. [via Zoom](#)*

Sanctuary Choir: *Thursdays @ 7:30 p.m.***

**We will not meet for the month of January.

View Our Full Calendar of Events and Activities Online [Here](#).

The Congregation, The Ministers

Kathryn N. Dwyer, *Senior Pastor*
kathy@rockspringucc.org

Laura Martin, *Associate Pastor*
laura@rockspringucc.org

Ashley Martinage, *Director of Faith Formation*
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Elizabeth Kluegel Niblock, *Director of Music*
elizabeth@rockspringucc.org

Edward Roberts, *Assistant Director of Music; Organist*
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Josh Long, *Seminary Intern*
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Kathryn Grams, *Communications Manager
& Bookkeeper*
communications@rockspringucc.org
bookkeeper@rockspringucc.org

Stephen Williams, *Office Manager*
admin@rockspringucc.org

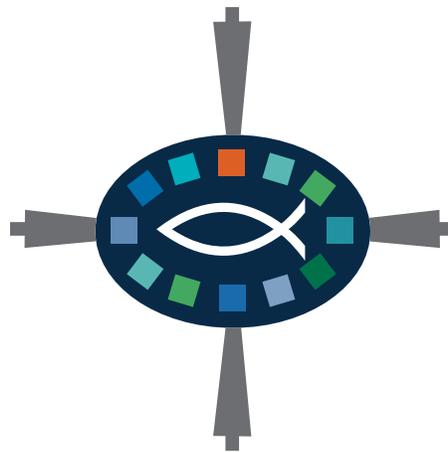
Sarah Steel, *Facility Manager*
office@rockspringucc.org

Brian Davis, *Custodian*

Fern Lawrence, *Childcare*

Blanca Cespedes, *Childcare*

Learning
Justice-Seeking Caring
Faith-Filled
Joyful Generous
Inclusive



Rock Spring

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