



The First  
Congregational  
Church of Ann Arbor

[fccannarbor.org](http://fccannarbor.org)

January 28, 2024



Rebuilding a Life

January 7th - January 28th

*Whatever Your Story, You're Welcome Here*

Change of Pace Service: 9:00 a.m.

Chapel Communion: 9:30 a.m.

Traditional Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

## We Gather to Worship God

~ Hearing assistance devices are located in the back entrance area of the church ~

### Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Darcy Crain  
Rev. Lily Tinker Fortel

#### Prelude

Herzlich tut mich erfreuen

Johannes Brahms

(The summertime thrills my heart, when God all things reviving shall bring eternity.) Timothy Huth, organ

#### \* Gathering Hymn

"We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding"

NCH #182

#### \* Call to Worship

Sheryl Kurze

One:

Gathered together in the square, young and old, certain and seeking, slave and free.

Many:

**Gathered together in the square, they opened the book, read and listened, talked and prayed.**

One:

For some, it had been 50 years, and now, shoulder to shoulder with their siblings of faith, they heard the Word of God.

Many:

**We gather together in this square we call home to open our scriptures and experience the living God.**

One:

Let us pray:

#### \* Prayer of Invocation

**Still speaking God, open our ears this day to hear your word of wisdom as we continue the journey of rebuilding our lives and communities. Open our spirits to receive your guidance. Open our hearts to hear the needs of others and our hands to respond to them. We pray together the prayer Jesus taught us:**

#### \* Lord's Prayer

**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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

#### \* Gloria Patri

*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. Amen.*

**Children's Circle**

Rev. Lily Tinker Fortel

*(Kids 0-8<sup>th</sup> grade are invited downstairs.)***Passing of the Peace***Please turn and greet your neighbor.*

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**Give, Share, Rejoice**

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**Offertory Sentences**

Rev. Darcy Crain

**Offertory Music**

Hear Ye, Israel from 'Elijah'

Felix Mendelssohn  
Maitri White, soprano  
Joshua Marzan, piano**\* 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.***Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. Darcy Crain

**\* Hymn of Preparation**

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet The Sound"

NCH #547

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**We Grow in Our Faith**

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**Scripture Reading**

Nehemiah 5:1-13

**Sermon**

"Nehemiah: Rebuilding a Life Part Four"

Rev. Darcy Crain

**Anthem**

Lift Thine Eyes from 'Elijah'

Felix Mendelssohn  
Soprano and Alto Section Leaders**Pastoral Prayer**

Rev. Lily Tinker Fortel

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**We Go Forth to Live and Serve**

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**\* Parting Hymn**

"When Peace, Like a River"

NCH #438

**Charge and Benediction**

Rev. Darcy Crain

**Postlude**

The Emperor's Fanfare

Padre Antonio Soler  
Timothy Huth, organ

\* Congregation standing. Please feel free to remain seated if standing is difficult for you.

## We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

Matt. 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1988

1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and  
 2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the  
 3 Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our

ho - ly place, Where we wait with hope and long - ing for some  
 flesh-joined Word, Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the  
 faith de - cline, We, like Pe - ter, find it tempt-ing to re -

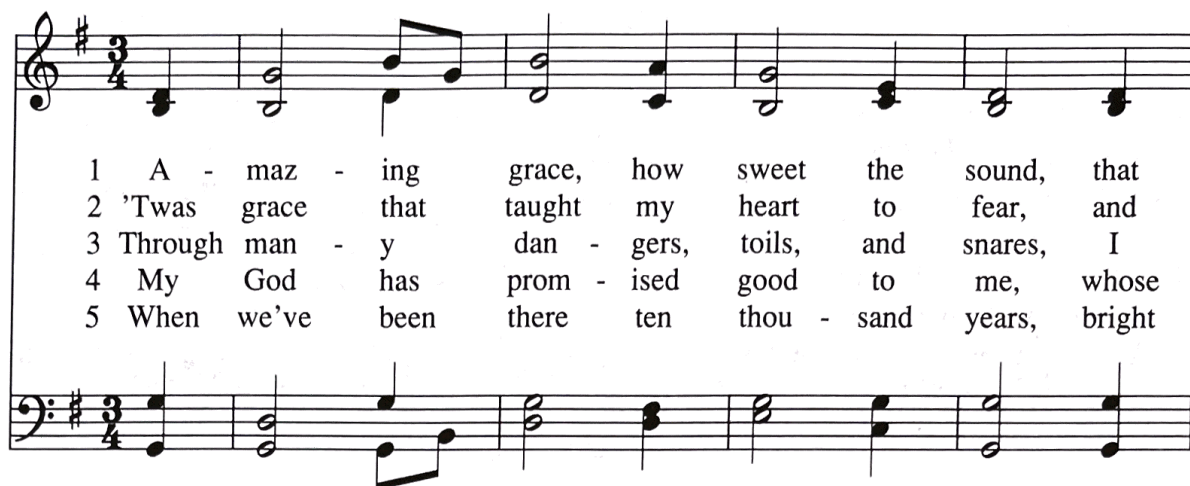
to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -  
 heav - enly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with  
 main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us

sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, Search - ing  
 won - der how the Law and Proph - ets meet: Christ with  
 cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, That our

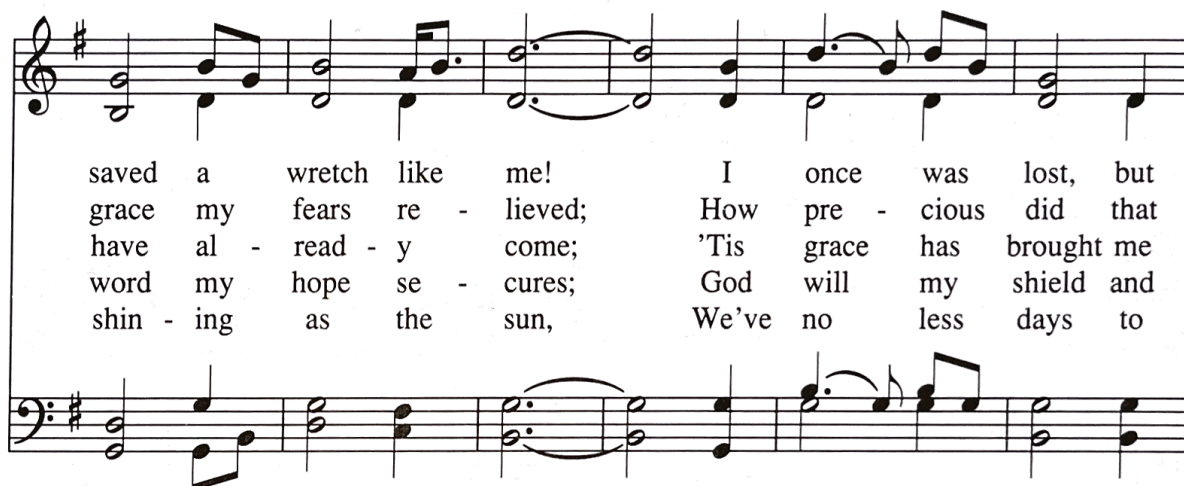
like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.  
 gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com-plete.  
 dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

## Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

547

*St. 1-4, John Newton, 1779; alt.**St. 5, A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790*


1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
 4 My God has prom - ised good to me, whose  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; God will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, was blind but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

*John Newton's autobiographical hymn reflects his conversion from his earlier existence as a slave trader. While serving as curate in the English village of Olney, Newton met William Cowper, and together they published Olney Hymns, which included this hymn.*

Tune: AMAZING GRACE C.M.  
 (NEW BRITAIN)  
 Columbia Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829  
 Arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1900

# When Peace, Like a River

(It Is Well with My Soul)

Ps. 146; Col. 1:19-23; 2:13-14; 3 John 1:2

Horatio G. Spafford, 1873; alt.

1 When peace, like a riv - er, up - holds me each day, when  
 2 Though e - vil should tempt me, though tri - als should come, let  
 3 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought— my  
 4 O God, speed the day that is filled with your light, when

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, What - ev - er my lot, you have  
 this blessed as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ has re - gard - ed my  
 sin— not in part, but the whole— Is nailed to the cross and I  
 clouds are rolled back as a scroll; The trum - pet shall sound and the

Refrain  
 taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."  
 help - less es - tate, and has paid life and blood for my soul: It is  
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!  
 Lord shall ap - pear, "e - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
 It is well with my soul.

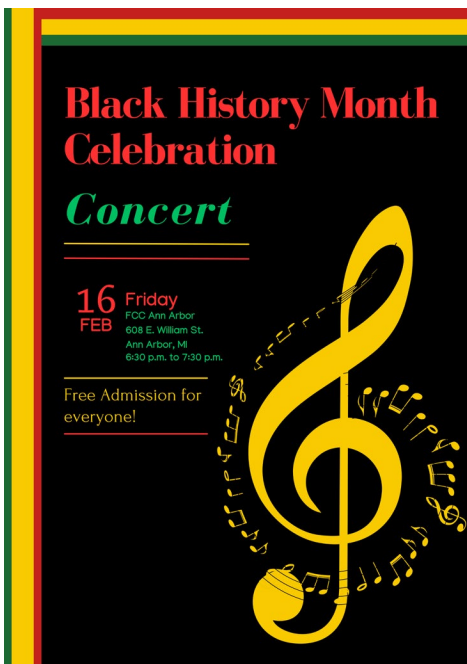
*This hymn was written out of grief over the loss of the author's four daughters in the sinking of the SS Ville du Havre. After leaving his Chicago law practice, Horatio G. Spafford and his wife settled in Jerusalem.*

Tune: VILLE DU HAVRE 11.8.11.9, with refrain  
 Philip P. Bliss, 1876



## Music in The Black Church: February 17 and 18

- Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.:** Presentations and interactive workshops, including a choral reading session with Music supplied by GIA Publishing, inc., will provide an in-depth examination of many of the roles, types, and current issues surrounding Music in the Black Church and beyond. Guests include Dr. James Abbington, Dr. Uzee Brown, Jr, Dr. Willis Patterson, and Alice McAllister Tillman.
- Sunday, 4:00 p.m.:** The Brazeal Dennard Chorale of Detroit will join Our Own Thing Chorale and guest soloists to perform works by African American composers and arrangers illustrating the "kaleidoscope" of music representative of the Black Church in America. The concert will feature a performance of Adolphus Hailstork's / Will Lift Mine Eyes. Alice McAllister Tillman, Music Director, OOTC, Artistic Director, Brazeal Dennard Chorale, Brian E. Buckner, OOTC Assistant Director and Accompanist.



## Friday, February 16th, at 6:30 p.m. at FCC

Black History Month Celebration Concert will be performed by the Chancel Choirs from The First Congregational Church (FCC) of Ann Arbor and First United Methodist Church (FUMC) of Ann Arbor and chamber orchestra. These two choirs join together for a collaborative concert celebrating African-American composers under the direction of FCC Director of Music Benjamin Gaughran and FUMC Director of Chancel Choir Dr. Bryan Ijames. Join us for an evening of music by esteemed African-American composers Nathaniel Dett and Adolphus Hailstork and others.



**Daytime Warming Shelter M-F February 19 – March 1**  
Mark your calendars for the warming shelter from 2/19 – 2/23 and 2/26 – 3/1 (Monday – Friday both weeks)! More information regarding signing up to volunteer will come in the following weeks.

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**Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>**

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8:15 a.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
9:00 a.m.	Change of Pace Service, Douglas Chapel
9:30 a.m.	Chapel Communion, Douglas Chapel
10:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
11:15 a.m.	BOCE Meeting, Mayflower Room

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**Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>**

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8:15 a.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
9:00 a.m.	Change of Pace Service, Pilgrim Hall
9:30 a.m.	Chapel Communion, Douglas Chapel
10:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	COF Meeting, Mayflower Room

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**UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

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01/30	7:00 p.m.	Tuesday Night Series – Mayflower Room
01/31	9:00 a.m.	Text Breakfast – Alpha Koney Diner
01/31	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
02/03	9:00 a.m.	Underground Railroad Experience – FCC Detroit
02/06	7:00 p.m.	Tuesday Night Series – Mayflower Room
02/07	9:00 a.m.	Text Breakfast – Alpha Koney Diner
02/07	10:15 a.m.	Mind & Spirit – Mayflower Room
02/07	5:00 p.m.	Missions & Outreach Meeting - Hybrid
02/09 - 02/10	5:30 p.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Confirmation Opening Retreat - FCC

**FCC STAFF EMAILS**

Senior Minister  
Associate Minister  
Adjunct Minister  
Office Manager  
Children's Ministry Coordinator  
Congregation Liaison  
Bookkeeper  
Director of Music  
COP Music Director  
Organist  
Pianist  
Hand Chimes Director  
Wedding Coordinator  
Minister Emerita  
Director of Music Emeritus  
Minister Emeritus

Darcy A. Crain  
Lily Tinker Fortel  
Eric Hausman  
Jared Peterson  
Marina Baker  
Nancy Sauve  
Crystal McBride  
Benjamin Gaughran  
Terry Farmer  
Timothy L. Huth  
Joshua Marzan  
Cindy Bylsma  
Betty Jahnke  
Dorothy Lenz  
Willis Patterson  
Robert Livingston

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