

Use the following worship guide as we gather on Sunday morning via Zoom. Simply click here:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2398495210>

The Service of Worship
First and St. Stephen's United Church of Christ
Baltimore, Maryland
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Year C
Baptism of Avery Lake Prescott

September 14, 2025

10:30 a.m.



Prelude

Nancy Chronister, Director of Music

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Kelly M. Sisson, Pastor

Call to Worship

~congregation please read **bold print**~

The foolish say, 'there is no God.'

We come, trusting in Jesus, the face, the voice, the presence of the God who loves us.

The scoffers of our age ask, 'why do you seek after God?'

We come, in this time, because God's grace has spilled over in our lives.

The hopeless around us think, 'no one cares about me.'

We come, in this time, to this place, because Jesus has found us and brought us home.

Hymn for Worship NCH # 273 *Praise with Joy the World's Creator*

LAUDA ANIMA

~ as you are able, please stand ~

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Remember these known joys and concerns:

- Families of victims of shootings this week.
- Laura Weaver-Haas – neck pain
- McKenzie Shaw – living with chronic pain
- Jen's friend, Andrew and his family
- Peace in our world, our country, our community

If you share a concern and wish for it to be printed on this list, please consult with the person/s whose names are involved, then let the pastor know in writing via email they give their consent.

Silence is Observed

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Sisson

Congregational Response MV # 157 *I Am a Child of God* ~ see insert ~
by Cheryl and Bruce Harding

Scripture Lessons

Readers

Anthem

Halle, Halle, Halle

Choir

Traditional Caribbean arranged by Hal. H. Hopson
arranged by Courtney Draper and Tom Baker

The Message

Child of God

Rev. Sisson

Hymn for Baptism NCH #351 *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*

BORNING CRY

~ as you are able, please stand ~

Receiving the Water

Promises of Baptism

(see insert)

The Sacrament of Baptism

Prayer of Blessing
Making an Offering

Please consider making an offering through on-line giving or mail your check to the church address. You can find information on our church web page: first-ststephens.org You may also place your offering in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Or, you may use the QR Code in this bulletin. Thank you.

Prayer of Dedication ~congregation reads **bold print**~

When we could not find our way, you came searching for us. So may our gifts be used to bring hope to those cast aside by the world, peace to those whose lives are troubled, and grace to all who are alone. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn for Sending NCH # 524 *This Little Light* THIS JOY

~ as you are able, please stand ~

Choral Benediction *May God Who Creates You* Choir
Words and Music by Loise Skibsted

Postlude

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Worship Resources for today are adapted from:
Thom Shuman

Welcome! We are glad you are here. If you are visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's card from the back of one of the chairs and place it in the offering plate or hand it to the pastor after the service.

ACTC is asking for any non-perishable food items. Place items in the red wagon in the foyer so they may be delivered weekly. For September, we will be collecting **cereal** and continuing to bring **fruit cups**.

Mark your calendars!

Sunday, September 21st – Pastor Kelly's last Sunday and Service of Release

Sunday, October 12th – The church will vote regarding the recommendation of next steps.

Church Office (410) 377-5224

WiFi Password: ONAcomma

Church Staff

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