



January 12, 2025 | 10:30 AM

**First Sunday After Epiphany
Last Service at 9525 Colesville Road**

For instructions on how to login to ZOOM, visit ccsilverspring.org
and follow the link from the homepage.

Christ Congregational Church is an inclusive community of spiritual seekers where we honor and celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, abilities, sexual orientations, and gender identities.

Welcome to our first-time and returning visitors!
Please let us know you were with us today:
<https://www.cccsilverspring.org/new-here/>



Please put devices on MUTE before the service begins

**Congregation invited to stand as you are able*

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Matt Braddock and Pastor Aubra Love

For Reflection

“Let go of the battle.
Breathe quietly and let it be. Let your body relax and your heart soften.
Open to whatever you experience without fighting.”

Jack Kornfield, *A Path with Heart: A Guide Through the Perils and Promises of Spiritual Life*

Prelude, “Rhapsody” (Op. 17, No. 1) by Herbert Howells

Colin Carmody, organ

Call to Worship

Pastor Aubra Love

From “New Day’s Lyric” by Amanda Gorman

May this be the day
We come together.
Mourning, we come to mend,
Withered, we come to weather,
Torn, we come to tend,
Battered, we come to better.
Tethered by this year of yearning,
We are learning
That though we weren't ready for this,
We have been readied by it.
We steadily vow that no matter
How we are weighed down,
We must always pave a way forward.

***Opening Hymn, “Great Is Your Faithfulness”**

TNCH #423

**Great is your faithfulness, O God Creator,
With you no shadow of turning we see.
You do not change, your compassions they fail not,
All of your goodness forever will be.**

REFRAIN

***Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed your hand has provided.
Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!***

**Summer, and Winter, and Springtime, and Harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join in all nature in manifold witness,
To your great faithfulness, mercy, and love. REFRAIN**

**Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring,
Your own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside. REFRAIN**

Prayer for Wisdom

Erin Furlong, Lay Reader

An excerpt from “The Hill We Climb” by Amanda Gorman

And so we lift our gazes not to what stands between us
but what stands before us.
We close the divide because we know, to put our future first,
we must first put our differences aside.
We lay down our arms
so we can reach out our arms
to one another.
We seek harm to none and harmony for all.
Let the globe, if nothing else, say this is true:
That even as we grieved, we grew
That even as we hurt, we hoped
That even as we tired, we tried
That we'll forever be tied together, victorious
Not because we will never again know defeat
but because we will never again sow division.

<<Please enjoy a moment of silence >>

Scripture Reading, Psalm 84 (a Just-Peace paraphrase)

Erin Furlong, Lay Reader

How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord of Powers.
I long—yes, I faint with longing—
to enter your sacred courts.
With my whole being, body and soul,
I shout with joy to the living God.
Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow builds her nest
to raise her young near your altar,
O Lord of Powers, my Sovereign and my God.
What joy for those who dwell in your house,
always singing your praises!
What joy for those whose strength comes from you,
who set their hearts on the journey of faith.
As they pass through the Valley of Tears,
it becomes a place of refreshing springs;
the early rains cover it with blessings.
They go from strength to strength,
until each appears before you, O God.
O Lord of Powers, hear my prayer.
Look with favor upon us, O God,
and bless those you have called and anointed.
A single day in your presence
is better than a thousand elsewhere.
I would rather stand at the threshold of your house,
than dwell in the tents of the unrighteous.
For you, O Lord God, are both sun and shield;
you bestow grace and glory.
You withhold no good thing
from those who walk with integrity.
O Lord of Powers,
what joy for those who trust in you!

Time With Children

Pastor Matt Braddock

Musical Offering, “Sicut cervus” by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

The Chancel Choir

*Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum,
Íta desiderat ánima méa ad te, Déus. Psalm 42:1*

Translation

Like as the hart desireth the water-brooks,
so longeth my soul after thee, O God.

Meditation, “God in the Thresholds”

Pastor Matt Braddock

For I am about to do something new.
See, I have already begun! Do you not see it?
I will make a pathway through the wilderness.
I will create rivers in the dry wasteland.
~ Isaiah 43:19

A Ritual of Remembering

Pastor Matt Braddock and Pastor Aubra Love

As part of our farewell to this sacred space, we honor the ancestors who have walked with us on our journey. Let us speak their names, recall their love, and acknowledge their enduring presence as we carry their legacy into our future. All are invited to participate in this moment of reflection and gratitude, affirming that we do not walk this path alone.

God of our ancestors, we carry their love and legacy forward as we step into a new chapter. Bless their memory and guide our steps.

Amen.

Call to Offering

Pastor Aubra Love

“I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland.”
Isaiah 43:19b

We are grateful for your continued support.

- Mail checks to CCC (made payable to Christ Congregational Church)
- Click on the “[donate](#)” button at cccsilverspring.org to give through Vanco
- Give through Breeze at <https://cccsilverspring.breezechms.com/give/online>
- Text the word “give” to **1.301.867.7143**
- If giving electronically, select the ACH or EFT option to minimize processing fees



Offertory, “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” by Robert Robinson and John Wyeth, arr. Jay Rouse

The Chancel Choir

Come Thou Fount of ev’ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming, tongues above.
Praise His name! I’m fixed upon it, name of God’s redeeming love.

Hither to Thy love has blessed me, Thou hast brought me to this place;
And I know thy hand will bring me Safely home by Thy god grace.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand’ring from the fold of God,
He, to rescue me from danger, bought me with His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wand’ring heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love:
Here’s my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

Finish then Thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee.
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav’n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

***Doxology and Offertory Prayer**

Pastor Aubra Love

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God for all that love has done.
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

Closing Prayer of Blessing with Laying on of Hands

We invite you to lay hands on pews, walls, the organ, the pulpit, or the altar as we speak a prayer of blessing together.

God, who dwells in all places, bless this building and the memories held within these walls. As we depart, bless those who come after us, and consecrate the spaces we will inhabit, that they may also become places of love, justice, and community. Amen

***Closing Hymn, “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”**

TNCH #76

Removal of the Cross

As we prepare to remove the cross from the sanctuary, we honor its significance and the faithful hands that crafted it. Made by former Associate Pastor Len Ebel, this cross has stood as a symbol of Love’s abiding presence among us.

Its removal is not an end but a continuation. Carrying it to our new home, we affirm that the Spirit of Love is not bound by walls or location. Wherever we go, Jesus leads the way, transforming every space into holy ground.

**Sent Forth by God’s blessing, our true faith confessing,
The people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended, O now be extended
The fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God’s grace did invite us, and love shall unite us
To work for God’s realm and to answer the call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
The tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
Embracing God’s children of each tribe and race.
With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us,
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all be living with praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.**

***Benediction**

Pastor Matt Braddock and Pastor Aubra Love

An excerpt from “The Hill We Climb” by Amanda Gorman

We will rebuild, reconcile and recover
and every known nook of our nation and
every corner called our country,
our people diverse and beautiful will emerge,
battered and beautiful
When day comes we step out of the shade,
afraid and unafraid
The new dawn blooms as we free it
For there is always light,
if only we’re brave enough to see it
If only we’re brave enough to be it

**Postlude, “Tu es petra et portæ inferi non prævalebunt adversus te”
by Henri Mulet**

Colin Carmody, organ

***Recession of the Cross**

The Congregation

This cross, born from the heart of this congregation, now journeys with us, a sign that we are not leaving behind the sacred but bringing it with us into the future God unfolds.

*Our online prayer form is available to submit prayers directly to our pastors.
[CLICK HERE](#) or scan the code.*



Altar Flowers



Today's altar flowers are given by Mary Scott and Cindy Todd in memory of Mary Twilley Scott, Mary's mother, who would have been 93 this month.



***Please join us for coffee and refreshments UPSTAIRS
in the Conference Room after worship!***

Announcements

Please see our [weekly eNews](#) (scan QR code) for a full list of our upcoming events and announcements



Today, we welcome a documentary film crew, filming CCC's final moments after 75 years at our Colesville Road address.

Join us after service in the second floor conference room, for our coffee/fellowship hour. There will be sheet cake! In the second floor lobby area and hallway, there will be display tables with mementos and books for all ages for you to take home as keepsakes.

The youth group and other volunteers will be packing boxes of hymnals and bibles in our sanctuary. Led by the move team, volunteers will be filling a U-haul truck and personal vehicles with essential belongings, and moving these to our new interim location at Silver Spring United Methodist Church (8900 Georgia Ave). Come join the CCC move milestone fun!

Last but not least - if you have belongings at church, please know that today is your last day to retrieve, pick up, or store these at church. (If you are joining us on Zoom today, please contact Tony Ingram (tomoingram@yahoo.com) to make other arrangements if you have any items you need to pick up.)



Join Us for Our Upcoming Events!

January 19, 10:30am | MLK Sunday, "Being the Change: CCC Elders Speak"
Worship services via Zoom* only

Today, we commemorate the humanitarian service of the **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** and **Our Beloved Community**. Mahatma Gandhi inspired the world with these words, "**Be the change you wish to see in the world.**" The revolutionary power of nonviolence, engaged with strategic resistance, was the cornerstone of the Civil Rights Movement and was influenced by Gandhian philosophy. This nonviolent social action became the template for every other progressive movement in North America and around the globe. We will hear the stories of liberation as told by our CCC members and friends on a wide range of "movement" topics, from Civil Rights Freedom Riders to South African anti-apartheid; from LGBT+ communities to Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The voices we will hear are from Anne Weissenborn, Dave and Toko Ackerman, Dean Ripple and Erma Barron, in conversation with Pastor Aubra Love.

January 26, 10:30am – Worship services via Zoom* only (details to follow)

February 2, 10:30am – Worship services via Zoom* only (details to follow)

* <https://zoom.us/j/119508399> - Meeting ID: 119 508 399

Or visit cccsilverspring.org and follow the link from the homepage.

(To dial in via phone: 1-301-715-8592 - Meeting ID: 119 508 399)

February 9, 2025, 10:30am – Our First Sunday Service at our New Interim Home!

Join us in the Fellowship Hall (side entrance on Ballard Street) at Silver Spring United Methodist Church, 8900 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Parking for CCC is across Ballard Street in the Dept of Health and Human Services parking lot.

Note: The Church Office will be reachable every day by email, phone, and in person by appointment only, between today and February 1st. Starting Tuesday February 4th, the Church Office will most likely resume normal hours: 9:30am – 12:30pm Tuesday through Thursday, and by appointment. (**Please note:** We follow MCPS for weather-related closure decisions.)



On January 20th, MLK Day of Service, youth and adults from CCC will be building playhouse structures which will be placed in the yards of Habitat for Humanity homeowners. These playhouses will provide a safe and joyful space for children to play and grow.

What a great project to be a part of this year as we recognize the decades of service the late President Jimmy Carter gave to Habitat for Humanity. We are excited to honor the incredible life and legacy Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and remember his powerful words: "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?"

Please consider donating toward this service project through our "CCC youth group" team fundraising page: <https://www.classy.org/team/625471>





Christ Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
www.cccsilverspring.org
Office: 301.585.8010
Email: cccoffice@cccsilverspring.org

Interested in receiving our eNewsletters? Email us! Or sign up on our website.

Mark Your Calendars:

Sundays, January 19, 26, and February 2: we will meet via Zoom only (10:30 a.m.).

Sunday, 10:30 a. m. on **February 9, 2024**, we will meet in person at our new interim home:

the fellowship hall (side entrance on Ballard Street) at
Silver Spring United Methodist Church
8900 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910

(Parking for CCC is across Ballard Street in the Dept of Health and Human Services parking lot)

Zoom Worship available every Sunday:

<https://zoom.us/j/119508399> - Meeting ID: 119 508 399

Or visit cccsilverspring.org and follow the link from the homepage.

(To dial in via phone: 1-301-715-8592 - Meeting ID: 119 508 399)

The Church Office will be reachable every day by email, phone, and in person by appointment only, between today and February 1st. Starting Tuesday February 4th, the Church Office will likely resume normal hours: 9:30am – 12:30pm Tuesday through Thursday + by appointment.

(Please note: We follow MCPS for weather-related closure decisions.)

Rev. Dr. Matthew Braddock (*he/him/his*) | Senior Minister, mattb@cccsilverspring.org

Rev. Aubra Love (*she/her/hers*) | Executive Pastor, alove@cccsilverspring.org

Sandra ‘Sam’ Wack (*she/her/hers*) | Music Director, samw@cccsilverspring.org

Lindsay Vogelsang (*she/her/hers*) | Church School Superintendent, lindsayv@cccsilverspring.org

Mariya Gjoni (*she/her/hers*) | Church Administrator, Ext 222, mariyag@cccsilverspring.org

Zoe Vallabha (*she/her/hers*) | Office Administrator, zoev@cccsilverspring.org

Angela Ranzoni (*she/her/hers*) | Administrative Assistant, Ext. 221, cccoffice@cccsilverspring.org

Rev. James A. Todhunter | Minister Emeritus