



*“Love first. Love always,
and we’ll figure out the rest of it as we go along.”ⁱ*



*January 11th, 2026
11:00 a.m.*

*North Chevy Chase Christian Church is an Open and Affirming Congregation
Connecting Faith with Community.*

The People of God Gather

*If you're new to North Chevy Chase Christian Church, please consider filling out the Feedback Card you will find in the Pew pocket. We'll follow up with a brief phone call or email to say thank you for worshipping with us and to answer any question you may have.
We are glad you're here with us today!*

WELCOME

Rev. Stephen Tickner

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

"Down to the River to Pray"

American Gospel Song, arr Robert Lee

(featured in the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou*)

NC4 Choir

Congregation standing in body or spirit

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer¹

Richard Sherman
Worship Leader

One: This is the day that the Lord has made,

ALL: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: The heavens declare the glory of God-- not in words
but in a glorious technicolor light show...

**ALL: every day shouts in wordless language that
Almighty God made it all.**

¹ The adapted "Call to Worship" written by David Schelhaas for The Network of the Christian Reformed Church. Opening Prayer written by Rev. Kelby Werner for the United Methodist Creation Justice Movement Season of Creation Worship Resources, 2025

One: We are gathered here this morning to worship the creator of this universe who is in his holy temple

ALL: and that temple is the whole blooming creation.

One: let all the earth keep silence before him.

ALL: The Lord is in his holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before him. Amen.

One: Now with our hearts open to God, let us pray...

OPENING HYMN

“Morning Has Broken”

CH 53

Morning Has Broken

C Am Dm G Dm G C

1. Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing, black-bird has
 2. Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing born of the

Em Am Em F G C Am F C

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery

Am G C G Am Dm G7 C

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931
 MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985

BUNESSAN
 55.54D

Words © 1957 Eleanor Farjeon, used by permission of Harold Ober Associates;
 arr. © 1987 CRC Publications

PASSING OF THE PEACE

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Rev. Stephen Tickner

Those who have been elected to serve NC4 in a leadership position are invited to come forward.

Dear friends,

You have been called by God and chosen by the people of God for leadership in the church. This ministry is a blessing and a serious responsibility. It recognizes your special gifts and calls you to work among us and for us. In love we thank you for accepting your obligation and challenge you to offer your best to the Lord, to this people, and to our ministry in the world.

Live a life in Christ and make him known in your witness and your work.

Today we install - *see insert*

Stephen: Do you this day acknowledge yourself a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ?

I do.

Stephen: Will you devote yourself to the service of God in the world?

I will.

Stephen: Will you so live that you enable this church to be a people of love and peace?

I will.

Stephen: Will you do all in your power to be responsible to the task for which you have been chosen?

I will.

Pastor Stephen to the congregation:

Dear friends, rejoice that God provides laborers for the vineyards.

Will you do all you can to assist and encourage them in the responsibilities to which they have been called, giving them your cooperation, your counsel, and your prayers?

The congregation responds:

We will.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Stephen Tickner

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

“Thank You Lord”
verse 1 only

CH 531

LIFE OF DISCIPLESHIP: LOVE AND GRATITUDE

531

Thank You, Lord

1. Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you,
2. Been so good, been so good, been so
3. Been my friend, been my friend, been my

Lord,
good,
friend,
I just want to thank you,
I just want to thank you,
I just want to thank you,
Lord.
Lord.
Lord.

WORDS: Traditional African-American song
MUSIC: Traditional African-American melody; harm. J. Jefferson Cleveland and Verolga Nix, alt.

THANK YOU, LORD
333.7

Harm. © 1981 The United Methodist Publishing House

Proclaim

A READING FROM THE HEBREW BIBLE

Genesis 1:29-31a

²⁹ God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

1 Corinthians 12:12,
14-20, & 24-27

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not

belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members yet one body...But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Rev. Stephen Tickner

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Naomi Edelson
National Wildlife Federation

SPIRITUAL RESPONSE

“Tying it all Together”

Rev. Stephen Tickner

Creator God, Creating Still 62

1. Cre - a - tor God, cre - at - ing still, by will and word and deed,
 2. Re - deem - er God, re - deem - ing still, with o - ver - flow - ing grace,
 3. Sus - tain - er God, sus - tain - ing still, with strength for ev - ery day,
 4. Great Trin - i - ty, for this new day we need your pres - ence still.

cre - ate a new hu - man - i - ty to meet the pres - ent need.
 pour out your love on us, through us, make this a ho - ly place.
 em - power us now to do your will. Cor - rect us when we stray.
 Cre - ate, re - deem, sus - tain us now to do your work and will.

WORDS: Jane Parker Huber, 1977
 MUSIC: Attr. William Croft, 1708

ST. ANNE
CM

Words © 1980 Jane Parker Huber

We Give and Receive

Communion is the central act of community within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in remembrance of the life, death and resurrection of Christ. The invitation to the Table is extended to all who wish to follow Jesus and to share in the community of God's people.

Everyone is invited to eat from this Table.

THE INVITATION TO GIVE AND RECEIVE

Rev. Stephen Tickner

PRAYER BY THE ELDER

Anne-Marie Crawford

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*COMING FORWARD TO GIVE, AND
TO RECEIVE THE BREAD AND THE CUP*

We come forward to bring our physical bodies and our financial gifts to God. You are invited to come forward down the center aisle to place your tithes & offerings in the trays available; and to receive the elements of bread and cup, taking them and returning to your seats down the side aisle, to consume the elements in silent reflection.

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

“Follow Him First Through the Waters”

By Don Schlosser

NC4 Choir

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

...And Go Forth to Serve

SHARING OF JOYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregation standing

CLOSING HYMN

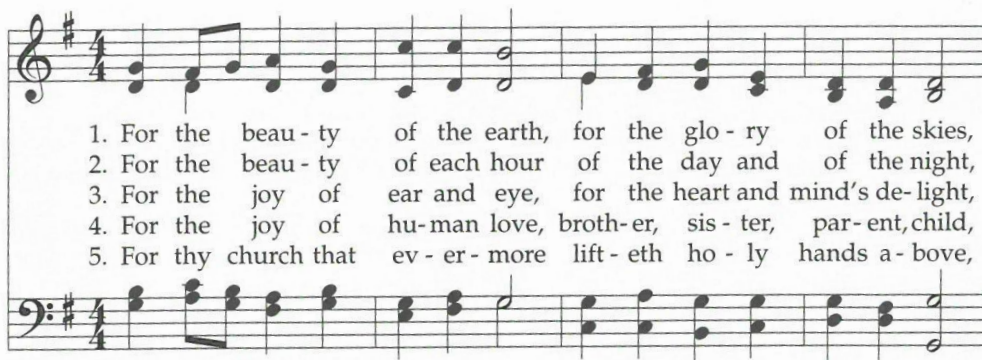
“For the Beauty of the Earth”
verses 1,4,5

CH 56

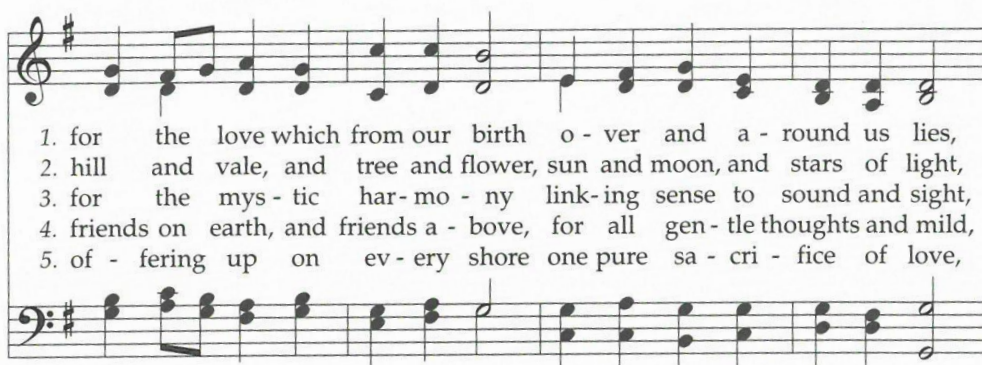
GOD THE CREATOR

For the Beauty of the Earth

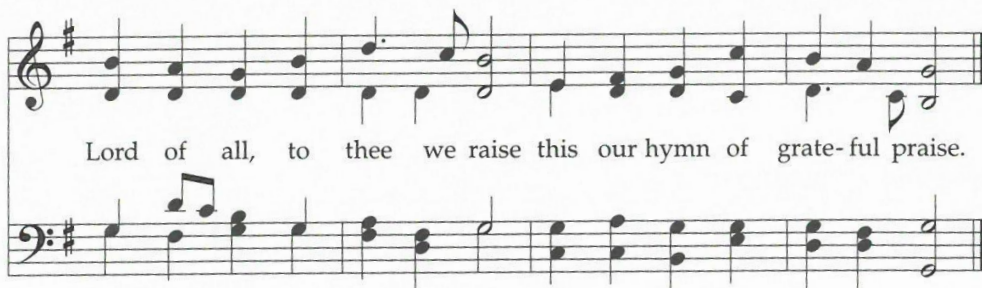
56



1. For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
2. For the beau - ty of each hour of the day and of the night,
3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4. For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5. For thy church that ev - er - more lift - eth ho - ly hands a - bove,



1. for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,
2. hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
3. for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight,
4. friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,
5. of - fering up on ev - ery shore one pure sa - cri - fice of love,



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

WORDS: Folliot S. Pierpoint, 1864
MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; arr. William Henry Monk, 1861

DIX
77.77.77

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Glenn Pearson, Pianist/Organist

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*Please join us for coffee hour in Harlow Hall*

*following the conclusion of the Postlude*

~~~~~

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Stephen Tickner, Minister

Naomi Edelson, Guest Speaker

Glenn Pearson, Pianist/Organist

Christine Schadeberg Wydro, NC4 Adult Choir Director

NC4 Choir

Richard Sherman, Worship Leader

Anne-Marie Crawford, Elder at the Table

A/V Team - Yvonne McGee, Lydia Oladapo,

Devi Rambarran

Naomi Edelson



Naomi is an inspirational leader in the wildlife conservation community who is gifted at building movements of people inspired to action. She is respected for convening coalitions and motivating teams for success, as well as being an innovator in the field, creating new practical tools and expert guidance. As Senior Director for Wildlife Partnerships at National Wildlife Federation, she leads their partnerships with state wildlife agencies and other state based partners to secure greater funding to prevent wildlife from becoming endangered, including legislative, communications, grassroots and coalition building elements of the campaign. On the federal side this includes the Recovering America's Wildlife Act campaign (www.nwf.org/recoveringamericaswildlife). Naomi has also developed a state-based toolkit for wildlife leaders on "Strengthening State Wildlife Agencies" which includes securing state-level funding for wildlife with numerous tips, tools, and case studies. She also works with Gardening for Wildlife program (www.nwf.org/garden) to restore wildlife habitat where people live, work, learn, play and worship, including creation of the Native Plant Finder (www.nwf.org/nativeplantfinder) and Sacred Grounds, a program for faith communities.

Before working with NWF, Naomi raised more than \$1 billion U.S. dollars in new conservation funding through her work as the Teaming with Wildlife Director at the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. She initiated and directed all aspects of Teaming with Wildlife, a national grassroots coalition of more than 6,000 groups focused on securing federal funding for state-level wildlife conservation.

Naomi is a wildlife biologist with a M.S. from the University of Florida where she studied wading birds and wetlands, and a B.S. from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

HEARING ASSISTANCE HEADPHONES are available in the Narthex.

Please set all pagers and cell phones to vibrate at this time.

CH = Chalice Hymnal (found in the pew racks)

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Acknowledgment of Native Americans: A Statement toward Reconciliation

For thousands of years indigenous people have walked in this land, on their own country. Their relationship with the land is at the center of their lives. We gratefully acknowledge them, past and present, and their stewardship of this land on which we stand.

ⁱ Quote from Chaplain Owen Chandler at the 2023 General Assembly. Attribution for Cover Art:

Pittman, Lauren Wright. Shining Hope, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57077> [retrieved December 29, 2025]. Original source: Lauren Wright Pittman, <http://www.lewpstudio.com/>.

2026 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

2026-2027 CHURCH OFFICER

Moderator:	Sally Coberly
Vice-Moderator:	Andrea Sherman
Clerk:	Cheryl Parson
Treasurer:	Nancy Solomon
Assistant Treasurer:	Anne-Marie Crawford
Financial Secretary:	Richard Sherman
Asst Financial Secretary:	Lydia Oladapo
Member at Large:	Ann McClure

CHURCH TRUSTEE

(2yr term continue through 2027)

Wilsonia Cherry	Nancy Longo
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CHURCH ELDERS

(2yr term continue through 2027)

Sarah Casseday	Devi Rambarran
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PEF TRUSTEE

(3yr term continue through 2028)

Mary Brock	Karen Bartman
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