



Third Friday
Jazz
VESPERS

— connection —

featuring guest artists
Rachel Caswell
and Friends



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)

November 19, 2021
6:30 pm

WELCOME TO THIRD FRIDAY JAZZ VESPERS

— connection —

Welcome to *Third Friday Jazz Vespers* at First Christian Church. For centuries, people have asked God for guidance and care as day turns to night. This night, we ask God to refresh, inspire, and call us into a deeper relationship with the Divine Spark that is in this world. Enter into the songs, silence and scripture as you feel so moved: breathe deeply, be still, and know that you are beloved. May God bless you in this time of reflection and meditation.

The Pattern of Vespers

Gathering: God beckons us to gather, to reflect on life where we live it, and to be engaged as fully as possible in the world around us. We light candles and sing a song of thanksgiving for God's bringing light into the darkness of our lives.

Psalms: Psalms are the Bible's language of prayer and praise. They provide us language to speak about all of life, including our joys, disappointments, confusion and anger, sadness, and concern for ourselves, others, and this world.

Word: God continues to communicate through scripture and through words of wisdom, encouragement, hope, and challenge spoken throughout the ages by God's beloved children.

Prayers: Prayer is honest, holy conversation with God and those who gather. God invites our honesty, joys, sorrows, confusion, anger, and wonder. Prayer practices can open us up to deeper understanding and meaningful spiritual connections with God, others, and ourselves.

Community: When we sing, pray, listen, and share life in *community*, we are reminded that we are not alone. We also affirm that life is not about "just me," but about participating in a larger movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.

Going Out: As we leave the vesper service, we are reminded of Christ's peace, presence and purpose in all of life.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Gathering

Gathering Music

Welcome

Lighting of Candles

Leader:

The coming night is dark.

Let us welcome the darkness and the new life

That is nurtured there:

A seed in the ground,

A babe in the womb,

Jesus in the tomb.

The night is quiet.

Let us welcome the quietness and peace that
enfolds us and upholds us.

The night heralds the dawn.

Let us prepare to welcome a new day,

New joys, new possibilities.

Evening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

Gracious God, free us from anything that obstructs our way to you.

Clean away the clutter of discontent and self-centeredness.

Antiphon: *(Sung by all. Repeat as indicated.)*

We gath - er in your light, we meet you in this place. We
place our trust in you, we cel - e - brate your grace. We

Leader:

Lord Jesus, create space in our lives for reflection, for kindness and compassion.

Antiphon: *(Sung by all. Repeat as indicated.)*

We gath - er in your light, we meet you in this place. We
place our trust in you, we cel - e - brate your grace. We

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Leader:

Enlarge our hearts with a spirit of gratitude so we can recognize the simple gifts that lay in abundance around us.

We pray through Christ our Lord.

Antiphon: (*Sung by all. Repeat as indicated.*)

We gath - er in your light, we meet you in this place. We
place our trust in you, we cel - e - brate your grace. We

Introduction to Theme

Connection

Henri Nouwen (1932-1996)

*Song

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

DENNIS

Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love; The
fore our God we come and pour our ar - dent prayers; Our
share each oth - er's woes, each oth - er's bur - dens bear; And
7 we are called to part it gives us in - ward pain; But
Shar - ing of a com - mon life is like to that a - bove Be
fears, our hopes; our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares. We
of - ten for each oth - er flows a sym - pa - thiz - ing tear. When
we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

Text: John Fawcett (1782)

Melody: Hans Georg Nägeli (1828); arr. Lowell Mason, 1845

Jazz Interpretation: Rachel Caswell

Psalm

Psalm 42:2-3, 5, Psalm 43:3-4, Psalm 133

(The Revised Grail Psalter)

Refrain: (*Sung by all. Repeat as indicated.*)

O look and won - der how good it is when
5 hands and voi - ces join as one.

*Please stand as you are able.

Cantor:

²Like the deer that yearns
for running streams,
so my soul is yearning
for you, my God.

³My soul is thirsting for God,
the living God;
when can I enter and appear
before the face of God?

⁵These things will I remember
as I pour out my soul:
for I would go to the place
of your wondrous tent,
all the way to the house of God.

Refrain: (*Sung by all. Repeat as indicated.*)

O look and won - der how good it is when
5 hands and voi - ces join as one.

Cantor:

³O send forth your light and your truth;
they will guide me on.
They will bring me to your holy mountain,
to the place where you dwell.

⁴And I will come to the altar of God,
to God, my joy and gladness.
To you will I give thanks on the harp,
O God, my God.

Refrain: (*Sung by all. Repeat as indicated.*)

O look and won - der how good it is when
5 hands and voi - ces join as one.

Cantor:

How good and how pleasant it is,
when we live in unity!
It is like precious oil upon the head,
running down upon Aaron's beard,
upon the collar of his robes;
Like the dew of Hermon, which runs down
on the mountains of Sion.
For there the LORD bestows his blessing:
life forever.

Refrain: (Sung by all. Repeat as indicated.)

O look and won - der how good it is when
hands and voi - ces join as one.

Cantor:

Glory be to our Maker, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be forever. Amen.

Word

The Ministry of Reconciliation

2 Corinthians 5:17-18

The Layers

Stanley Kunitz (1905-2006)

Bear One Another's Burdens

Galatians 6:2

Tangled

Dawn Star Sarahs-Borchelt (b. 1977)

A Living Hope

1 Peter 1:3

Tired

Irene Sipos (b. 1947)

*Song

Weave

WEAVE

(The trio will play it once, and then, as invited, please stand as you are able and sing it twice through together.)

Weave, weave, weave us to - geth - er. Weave us to - geth - er in
u - ni - ty and love. Weave, weave, weave us to - geth - er.
Weave us to - geth - er, to - geth - er in love.

Words and Music: Rosemary Crow, 1979

Jazz Interpretation: Rachel Caswell

Community

During this time of quiet meditation, we are reminded that we are not alone. Indeed, we are bound to one another and to all creation in a living tapestry of God's design.

Building Relationships: On the colored piece of paper write a list of all the thoughts and behaviors that block you from connecting meaningfully with other people. Then write a list of all the benefits you know of in establishing meaningful relationships. When you have finished writing compare your lists and note if one list was easier to write than the other.

Candle Table: Light a candle for a person whose relationship with you has shown you caring and compassion.

Reflection: Every relationship, every thought, every gesture is blessed with meaning through the wholehearted attention we bring to it.

1. **Reflect** on the name of a person that you have lost track of or have not connected with for a long time.
2. **Write down** that person's name on the dissolvable paper.
3. **Release** and stir the paper in the water bowl as you pray that God will help you open communication again.

Welcome Table: No matter where you are on life's journey, you are invited to the Table to partake of the (gluten free) bread and cup, reminders of Christ's radical welcome for all – no exceptions. Know that you are welcomed by Christ, loved by God, sustained by the Spirit, and you are not alone. Take the individualized elements back to your seat, open, and partake.

Jazz Meditation

*Song Day is Done AR HYD Y NOS

Day is done, but love un - fail - ing Dwells e - ver here;
Dark des - cends, but light un - en - ding Shines through our night;
Eyes will close, but you, un - sleep - ing, Watch by our side;

5

Sha - dows fall, but hope pre - vail - ing, Calms ev' - ry fear.
You are with us, e - ver len - ding New strength to sight:
Death may come, in love's safe - keep - ing Still we a - bide.

9

God our ma - ker, none for - sa - king, Take our hearts, of love's own ma - king,
One in love, your truth con - fes - sing, One in hope of hea - ven's bles - sing,
God of love, all e - vil quel - ling, Sin for - gi - ving, fear dis - pel - ling,

13

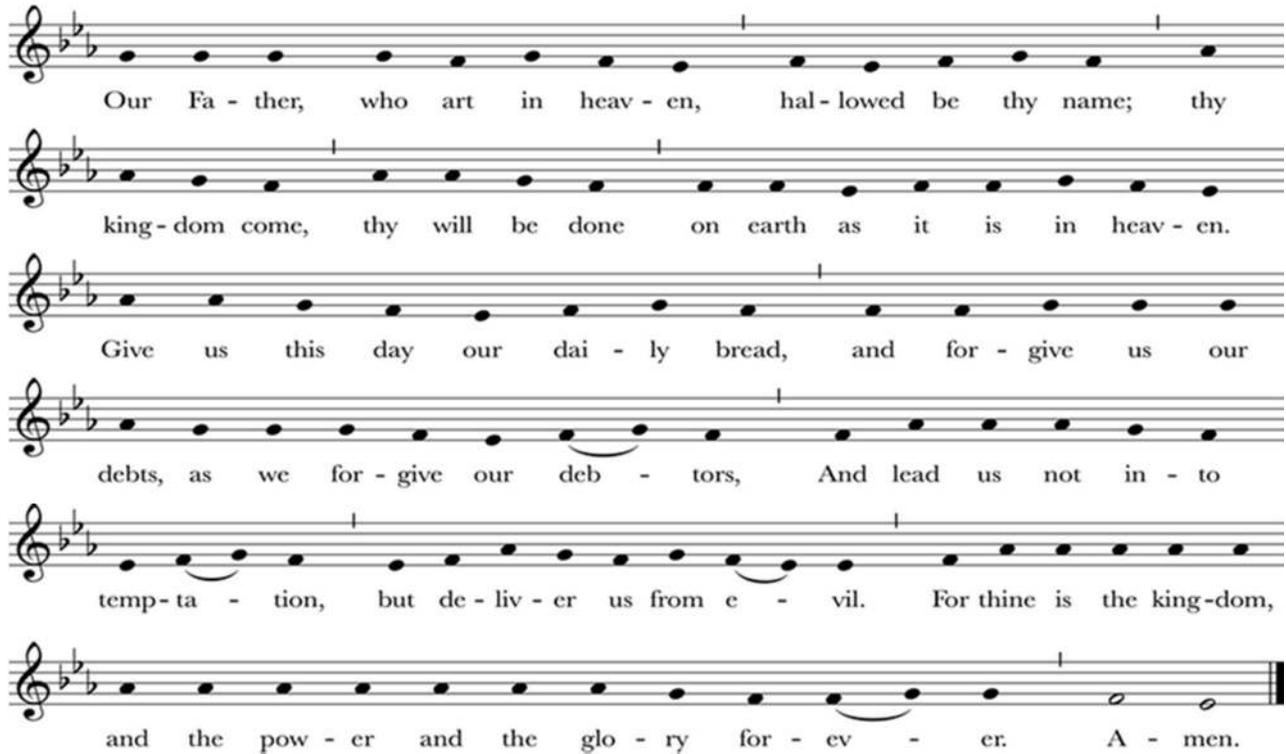
Watch our sleep - ing, guard our wa - king, Be al - ways near.
May we see, in love's pos - ses - sing, Love's end - less light!
Stay with us, our hearts in - dwell - ling, This e - ven - tide.

Text: James Quinn, SJ, 1969, alt. Music: Welsh melody, c. 1764 Jazz Interpretation: Rachel Caswell

Prayers

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*sung first by Cantor, then by all*):



Our Fa - ther, who art in heav - en, hal - lowed be thy name; thy
king - dom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heav - en.
Give us this day our dai - ly bread, and for - give us our
debts, as we for - give our deb - tors, And lead us not in - to
temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom,
and the pow - er and the glo - ry for - ev - er. A - men.

Going Out

Benediction

Leader:

As we go, may the Spirit of God show us the way
to empathy that will make us whole again
as a people, united by our common need
for God and for each other.

All: Amen.

Postlude

PARTICIPANTS

Rachel Caswell and Friends

Rachel Caswell, vocals
Jamaal Baptiste, piano
Brendan Keller-Tuberg, bass
Francis Bassett-Dilley, drums

Readers

Rachel Rosolina
Thomas Thompson

Staff

Linda Abe, Jazz Vespers Ministry
Will Jewsbury, Interim Pastor
Jan Harrington, Director of Music
Garrett Spoelhof, Director of Jazz Vespers
Ben Wesenberg, Director of Online Worship
Braeden Janes, Livestream Mixing

Acknowledgements and Sources:

The Layers: Stanley Kunitz, "The Layers" from *The Collected Poems of Stanley Kunitz*. Copyright © 1978 by Stanley Kunitz.

(W. W. Norton and Company, Inc., 2002; **Tangled:** Dawn Star Sarahs-Borchelt, accessed 2021

<https://www.uua.org/worship/words/poetry/tangled>; **Tired:** Irene Sipos, accessed 2021 from

<http://www.featherflint.com/2018/06/24/powerful-poems-about-humanity/>;

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ed with permission by OneLicense.com with license #724886. All rights reserved. **Benediction:** Mike Keiser, adapted from

<https://voxveniae.com/2016/09/liturgic-reflection-benediction-09-25-2016/>

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Student Associate Pastor

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Sarah Lynne Gershon

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Jihye Choi, assistant director and
handbell choir director

Garrett Spoelhof, Jazz Vespers director

Ben Wesenberg, director of online worship

Youth and Campus Ministries

Ashlyn Reynolds, youth director

Hayley Norris, college ministry intern

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Tom Trippel, assistant treasurer

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Linda Abe

Security and Sunday Caretaker

John Adams

Contact Us

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Office Hours

Monday to Thursday

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Welcome!

Welcome to FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

An Invitation to Community

As God has welcomed us, we welcome you.

With all our differences--
in age, ability and physical condition,
in race, cultural background and economic status,
in sexual orientation, gender identity & family structure--
God has received each one
with loving kindness, patience and joy.

All that we are together
and all that we hope to be
is made more perfect
as the richness of varied lives
meets the mystery of God's unifying Spirit
and we become the Body of Christ.



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**SUNDAY WORSHIP
AT 10:00 AM**

**JAZZ VESPERS
THIRD FRIDAYS 6:30 PM**

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