



First United Methodist Church of Germantown

Sunday, January 26, 2025 11:00AM

Welcome To All Coming To Worship!

All people of all ages are invited to full participation in the engaging worship and outreaching mission and ministry of the church. We strongly encourage all persons to sing the gender nouns and pronouns they prefer in referring to God.

Congregational responses are in bold type.

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

TFWS - The Faith We Sing

Carillon Postlude

St. Anne

*by William Croft,
arr. Leen 't Hart*

Announcements & Acknowledgements

As a faith congregation, we acknowledge that this is a pivotal moment in American history and that our mission is clearly laid out in the Gospel of Jesus.

We acknowledge our mission to:

- seek justice for black and brown people of all genders and orientations
- dismantle systems of bias and racism
- call out those who protect the power of state-sponsored violence against black and brown bodies,
- and re-center the voices of the marginalized of our community and society.

We acknowledge our part in perpetuating white norms of language, style, worship, behavior, and culture, and, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we acknowledge the truth that Black Lives Matter.

We acknowledge that this service of worship is being held on the traditional lands of the Lenape people, and we pay respect to elders past and present.

We affirm the sacredness of Native people, their languages, their cultures and their gifts to the church and the world.

Piano Prelude

Call to Worship *Standing with body and spirit*

One: Like Moses, we come this morning worried about many things.

All: Still, this place for us is Holy Ground.

One: The place where we sing songs of praise to the Lord, and repeat the stories of faith that inspire us to respond to Christ's love.

All: God called us here, in whispering winds and in burning flames.

One: And with his presence, disarms us of the barriers we have placed around us.

All: This time for us is holy time.

One: For God meets us in our vulnerability, our humanity.

All: Let us worship the Lord.

Opening Hymn *Standing with body and spirit*

UMH 117 - O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Welcome and Passing the Peace

All young ones and young at heart are welcome to come forward during this time for the children's message.

Children's Message

Sung Response

UMH 395 - Take Time To Be Holy v.1

Gathered Prayer

Laura Stahl

The Lord's Prayer

Our Mother-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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Sung Response

UMH 395 - Take Time To Be Holy v.2

Conversations On Race Update

John Chapman & Dave Brown

Contemporary Reading

Liminality by Carrie Newcomer
(see insert for full text)

Scripture Readings

Deuteronomy 1:19-33

John 1:43-51

(see insert for full text)

Sermon

Rev. Alisa Lasater Wailoo

Embracing Liminality

Hymn

Standing with body and spirit

UMH 448 - Go Down, Moses

v. 1, 2, 3, 5

Connections and Offering

Offertory Anthem

FUMCOG Choir

"Hope Lingers On"

by Lissa Schneckenburger, arr. Andrea Ramsey

Doxology

Standing with body and spirit

UMH 94 - Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Offering Prayer

God, we know that we are standing on stolen land. We know that we are living in a country that was built on slave labor. We confess these things to you today because we are tired of living this way. Help us to use these offerings for reparations so that we can begin to heal ourselves and the harm we have done to others. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Standing with body and spirit

TFWS 2234 - Lead On, O Cloud of Presence

Benediction

Sending Forth

Piano Postlude

Thank you for joining in worship today. You are invited to remain in your pew during the postlude to quietly reflect during this final movement of worship or to move peacefully into your day. You are also invited to Pilling Hall immediately following the postlude for Linger Lunch!

Cover design:

Moses and the Fire at Sinai by Darius Gilmont

www.darius-art.com

Robert Bauer, liturgist

Laura Stahl, gathered prayer

Mandonnah Mahallati, tech

Wayne Snover, tech

Ann Perrone, tech

Janet Tebbel, carillon & organ

Adrianna Barnett, piano

Weekly Calendar

Sun, Jan 26	11:00am	Sunday Worship Service - Rev. Alisa Wailoo preaching
	12:15pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	12:30pm	Linger Lunch
	3:00pm	POWER Leadership Assembly - 4400 N. 6th Street, 19140
Mon, Jan 27	9:00am	Walking Women
Tue, Jan 28	10:00am	Holy Trouble
Wed, Jan 29	6:00pm	Christian Mindfulness & Prayer Time
	1:30pm	Bible Study - via Zoom
	7:00pm	Uncle Bobbies Event - <i>Black in Blues</i> by Imani Perry
Thu, Jan 30	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
	7:00pm	Bible Study - FUMCOG Parlor
Sun, Feb 2	9:30am	Adult Academy
	11:00am	Scout Sunday Worship Service - Mark Chilutti speaking
	12:15pm	Linger Lunch
	12:45pm	Handbell Rehearsal

Moses: Lessons in Liberation Leadership

Do you feel like we are in a "Liminal Time?" By definition, a liminal time is one of transition when people are moving out of an old paradigm and into a new one but aren't exactly clear yet where they are headed or when they will get there. If you are feeling unclear about where we are headed as individuals, a church, a country or a globe, **TODAY** marks the beginning of our newest sermon series "Moses: Lessons in Liberation Leadership." Through the stories of the Israelites wandering in the wilderness, we will explore how we follow God and lead change in liminal times. We hope to see you there and please invite others to join the journey!

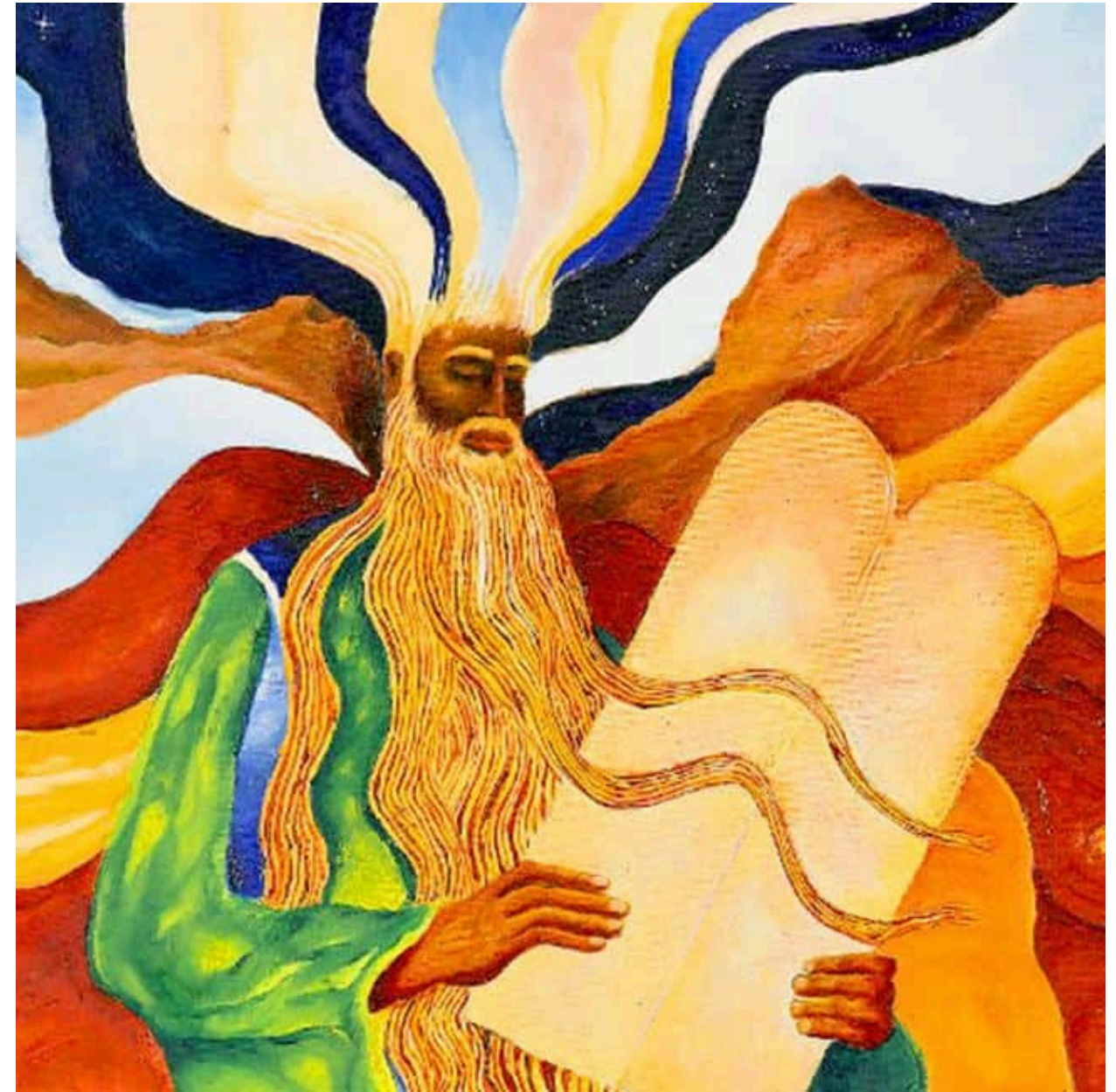
Permission to podcast or stream the music in this service was obtained from CCLI via License #2983492.

The First United Methodist Church of Germantown (FUMCOG) is a diverse, urban community of faith that seeks to experience and worship God through Jesus' message of love and inclusion and the mystery of grace expressed through his life. We affirm our commitment by working together, taking risks for social justice and peace in our community, our city, our nation, and our world.

Lead Pastor Rev. Alisa Lasater Wailoo • **Assistant Pastor** Rev. Jacqueline Newsome
Director of Music Adrianna Barnett • **Office Administrator** Michael Yancey
Organist/Pianist Jodi Acker Bohr • **Media Specialists** Mandonnah Mahallati & Joey Ward



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**FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF GERMANTOWN**

JANUARY 26, 2025 • 11 AM



Upcoming Dates

- Philomusica Chorale Concert
Saturday, Feb 1 at 7:30pm
- Ad Council Meeting
Monday, Feb 3 at 7pm
- Black Mens Conference
Saturday, Feb 8 at 12pm
- HealYourLove. Meditation
Saturday, Feb 8 at 3pm
- Moses Possible's Recital
Saturday, Feb 8 at 7pm
- Abolition Teach-In 2
Saturday, Feb 22 at 10am
- Uncle Bobbie's Author Event
Saturday, Feb 24 at 7pm

**Uncle Bobbie's Author Event:
Black in Blues by Imani Perry**

Join us as we welcome one of the most important writers of our time for the release of her latest book, *Black in Blues*. Go to unclebobbies.com for tickets!

Imani Perry will be talk with author, activist and Uncle Bobbie's owner, Marc Lamont Hill. Q&A will follow, and all copies of *Black in Blues* will be signed.

Please come help as ushers or greeters at this Uncle Bobbie's event on **Jan. 29th!** It's always helpful to have a few friendly FUMCOG faces present! Please contact the church office if you are interested.



New-ish to FUMCOG?

Join our Intro Class to explore our faith community's beliefs, history, and commitments to social justice. Discover how we follow the Spirit of Christ, working together for justice and peace locally and globally. Sessions will be held after worship on **January 26, February 2, and 9**. Contact Pastor Alisa at wailoo@fumcog.org or 267-405-1383 with questions or to RSVP.

Want to Connect?

Use this QR code to access our link tree. From there, you can follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or Youtube, fill out an online connect card, or easily reach our website:

www.fumcog.org



Staff and Office Information

Office Hours

Monday, 11am-5pm

Tuesday-Friday from 9:30am-5pm

Pastor Alisa takes Sabbath on Mondays

Rev. Jackie takes Sabbath on Mondays

- Pastor Alisawailoo@fumcog.org
- Rev. Jackie.....newsome@fumcog.org
- Dwight Woolford.....info@dwcleaningco.com
- Joey & Mandonnah....fumcogtech@gmail.com
- Adrianna Barnett.....music@fumcog.org
- Michael Yancey.....office@fumcog.org
- Taneal Walker.....pastorsassistant@gmail.com



Prayers for FUMCOG Friends and Family

Please know that we are thinking about and praying with you.

For **Phyllis Martino**, who will be undergoing lung surgery this week.

For **Todd Kirkman**, Alisa Wailoo's step-brother, who is in ICU with sepsis from a severe Strep infection.

Prayers of healing for **Betty & Geraldine** who have been diagnosed with cancer.

Prayers for a peaceful presidential transition and thoughtful consideration of administrative appointees and policies.

For the family and friends of **Joan Kosloff**, who died suddenly on Jan. 2nd. Joan was the step mother of Dante and Raphael Zappala, and a dear friend to Celeste Zappala.

For **Severin Witte**, grandson of Charlene Segal, who is home in Texas recovering from a Dec. 23rd gunshot wound to his head in a shopping center parking lot.

For **Rebecca Witte**, daughter of Charlene Segal, who has been recently diagnosed with a brain tumor.

For **Alex Cox**, who has returned to his home.

For **Willie Little**, who is home and recovering.

For **Andy Singer**, brother-in-law of Anne Toensmeier. Andy is struggling after a serious fall and some reactions to medications.

For healing for **Priscilla Hollerbach**, the daughter of Priscilla Schafer, who is recovering at home form major surgery.

For **Skyy** and all students as they pursue their educational goals.

For the healing of **Renee Conners** and quick resolution of her medical issues. Renee is a former volunteer of the After School Program.

For **Corey Walker**, Jean Walker's great nephew, who is recovering from a serious health issue.

For **Wendy Sharin**, Jean Walker's niece who is in the ending stage of her 14-year battle with cancer.

For **Vicente Castenada** and his family. Vincente has been diagnosed with end stage prostate cancer.

For healing for Patrica Hayward, Nicole Bull's mother.

FOR OUR KIDS

Children are welcomed and beloved in our worship space! There are Kid Activity Bags by the door. There is also a children's space in the sanctuary's back corner.

Ask the ushers for more information.

Monthly Christian Mindfulness

Need a time to re-center your heart, mind, and soul? Do you ever struggle to pray alone? Want to expand your prayer and meditation practices?

Please join Pastor Alisa on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6pm for an hour of "Prayer and Christian Mindfulness Practices." Our next meeting is on **Jan 28th** but there is no need to RSVP or come to every session. Just drop in when your soul needs it or you feel led to pray with and for our beloved community. Questions? Ask Pastor Alisa at wailoo@fumcog.org or 267-405-1383.

Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 1:19-33

Then, just as the Lord our God had ordered us, we set out from Horeb and went through all that great and terrible wilderness that you saw, on the way to the hill country of the Amorites, until we reached Kadesh-barnea. I said to you, ‘You have reached the hill country of the Amorites, which the Lord our God is giving us. See, the Lord your God has given the land to you; go up, take possession, as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you; do not fear or be dismayed.’

All of you came to me and said, ‘Let us send men ahead of us to explore the land for us and bring back a report to us regarding the route by which we should go up and the cities we will come to.’ The plan seemed good to me, and I selected twelve of you, one from each tribe. They set out and went up into the hill country, and when they reached the Valley of Eshcol they spied it out and gathered some of the land’s produce, which they brought down to us. They brought back a report to us, and said, ‘It is a good land that the Lord our God is giving us.’

But you were unwilling to go up. You rebelled against the command of the Lord your God; you grumbled in your tents and said, ‘It is because the Lord hates us that he has brought us out of the land of Egypt, to hand us over to the Amorites to destroy us. Where are we heading? Our kindred have made our hearts fail by reporting, “The people are stronger and taller than we are; the cities are large and fortified up to heaven! We actually saw there the offspring of the Anakim!”’ I said to you, ‘Have no dread or fear of them. The Lord your God, who goes before you, is the one who will fight for you, just as he did for you in Egypt before your very eyes, and in the wilderness, where you saw how the Lord your God carried you, just as one carries a child, all the way that you travelled until you reached this place. But in spite of this, you have no trust in the Lord your God, who goes before you on the way to seek out a place for you to camp, in fire by night, and in the cloud by day, to show you the route you should take.’

Scripture Reading John 1:43-51

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”



REMINDER

There are hearing assistance devices located in the back of the church near our tech crew. If you need one, please ask an usher and they will be more than happy to help you receive one.

Contemporary Reading

Liminality

So much of what we know
Lives just below the surface.
Half of a tree
Spreads out beneath our feet.
Living simultaneously in two worlds,
Each half informing and nurturing
The whole.
A tree is either and neither
But mostly both.
I am drawn to liminal spaces,
The half-tamed and unruly patch
Where the forest gives way
And my little garden begins.
Where water, air and light overlap
Becoming mist on the morning pond.
I like to sit on my porch steps, barn jacket and boots
In the last long exhale of the day,
When bats and birds loop in and then out,
One rising to work,
One readying for sleep.
And although the full moon calls the currents,
And the dark moon reminds me that my best language
Has always emerged out of the silence,
It is in the waxing and waning
Where I most often live,
Neither here nor there,
But simply On the way.

IMPORTANT

Since the first Sunday of February is Scout Sunday, we will instead have communion on February 9. There will also be a potluck linger lunch on February 9, so please bring a dish to share (like your favorite Super Bowl snack!)

There are endings and beginnings
One emerging out of the other.
But most days I travel in an ever present
And curious now.
A betwixt and between,
That is almost,
But not quite,
The beautiful,
But not yet.
I’ve been learning to live with what is,
More patient with the process,
To love what is becoming,
And the questions that keep returning.
I am learning to trust
The horizon I walk toward
Is an orientation
Not a destination
And that I will keep catching glimpses
Of something great and luminous
From the corner of my eye.
I am learning to live where losses hold fast
And grief lets loose and unravels.
Where a new kind of knowing can pick up the thread.
Where I can slide palms with a paradox
And nod at the dawn,
As the shadows pull back
And spirit meets bone.

*From Until Now: New Poems by Carrie Newcomer.
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