

Greenbelt Community Church

**One Hillside Road,
Greenbelt, MD 20770**

office@greenbeltucc.org



**Morning Service for United Church of Christ
Pastoral Installation**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter
APRIL 26, 2026**

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Greenbelt Community Church is a community centered around the belief that we are all created in the image of God. We welcome everyone seeking God's presence, in any of the ways that you may identify... by economic class, by race, by national origin, by gender identity/expression, by age, by physical or mental ability... whoever you are and wherever you come from, we welcome you into full participation here. We rejoice that you chose to worship with us, today, as we extend an invitation to live out the extravagant welcome of Christ. Together, we are listening for God's still speaking voice. WELCOME, People of God!

A special welcome to our first-time and returning visitors! Please let us know you were here with us, today: Contact: office@greenbeltucc.org

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Aubra Love

***Call To Worship:**

Pastor: O God, Jesus remained with the disciples after the resurrection, teaching them to love all people as neighbors.

People: As his disciples in this age, we offer our prayers on behalf of the universe in which we are privileged to live and our neighbors with whom we share it.

Pastor: Receive our prayers, O God, and transform us through them,

People: That we may have eyes to see and hearts to understand not only what you do on our behalf,

ALL: But what you call us to do so that your Realm will come to fruition in glory. Amen.

Opening Hymn: NCH #368 "Sheltered by God's Loving Spirit"

***Passing the Peace**

Time with Young Disciples

Pastor Aubra Love

Anthem: "Hymn of Grateful Praise" by J. Carter

The Greenbelt Community Church Choir

Scripture: Psalm 23 New International Version

Liisa Granfors-Hunt, Lay Reader

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. God makes me lie down in green pastures, and leads me beside quiet waters, God refreshes my soul and guides me along the right paths, to affirm God's reputation as a shepherd. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me, your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord, forever.

Unison Prayer

Liisa Granfors-Hunt, Lay Reader

O God, Jesus remained with his disciples after his resurrection, teaching them to love all people as neighbors. As disciples of Jesus in this age, we offer our prayers on behalf of the universe in which we are privileged to live and our neighbors with whom we share it.

Scripture: Acts 2:42-47 New International Version

Pastor Aubra Love

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Sermon: "A Common Life for Uncommon Joy" Acts 2:42-47 NIV

Pastor Aubra Love

***Pulpit Hymn: NCH #309 "We Are Your People"**

The Community at Prayer

Pastor Aubra Love

(Joys and Concerns, Prayers of the People, Lord's Prayer, choosing to use debts/debtors, or trespasses/trespases, or sins/sinners as familiar to you)

Prayer List:

We offer our condolences in the transition of Ms. Johnetta Taylor, the beloved mother of Yolanda Burnett, in Arizona on Thursday, April 2nd, 2026. Yolanda asks that we keep their family in prayer. We want to extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers of comfort to Yolanda, Orville and the entire family on the passing of Yolanda's mother.

Ken C; Marty F; Anne G; Gil L; Butch N; Melissa R. ,Sue N; Thyra P; Kenny P; Joyce P; Rhonda; William and Phyllis S; Jim T; Lora T; Gwen V and Carolyn and Phil W.

Rhonda N. is in Holy Cross hospital and has pneumonia and some other ailments having to do with her blood pressure. She hopes to be able to go home soon.

Barbara R.'s surgery on Monday was successful, and she is home resting and recuperating.

We pray for those thousands who have experienced job losses. And for peace during this season of urban occupation by military reserve forces. For women and children who have been made homeless due to intimate partner violence. For all young persons who have been made homeless due to gender identity or expression; For our mental health warriors (those struggling and those helping). For veterans who may return with no place to call home and no circle of love; For the formerly incarcerated who cannot find work; For all those around the world dying of starvation and AIDs due to the closure of USAID; For peace for Ukraine and the Gaza peninsula.

We ask protection for immigrant communities in our country as they are subjected to suspicion, detention and deportation. We pray for the Seventh Day Adventist congregation that shares our space at Greenbelt Community Church. O God, in your tender mercies, hear each of our prayers.

The Lord's Prayer

(in the words that are familiar to you)

"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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory. Forever."

Amen

Prayer Response

Invitation to the Offering

Focus Text: *“Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts...”*
Acts 2:46 NIV

(Opportunities to give for the ministries of this church are available through the offering plates during the worship service; by mailing your gift to the church office, or by signing up for electronic giving at greenbeltcommunitychurch.org/)

Offertory

***Doxology**

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. AMEN.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Liisa Granfors-Hunt, Lay Reader

Holy God, you have called us to follow in the way of the risen Christ, and to care for those who are our companions, not only with words of comfort, but with acts of love. Seeking to be true friends of all, we offer our resources on behalf of the church and the world.

***Closing Hymn: NCH #30**

"Colorful Creator"

***Commissioning and Blessing**

Pastor Aubra Love

***Choral Response**

***Postlude**

Announcements

TODAY! April 26, 2026, at 2:00PM --Installation Worship Service at Greenbelt Community Church for the Rev. Aubra Love, as Pastor. Thank you, to each member and friend, board and committee for your care through faith and action to bring this service to fruition.

Our heartfelt gratitude to the Pastoral Installation Planning Team!

CROP Hunger Walk 1pm Sunday, May 3 at David C. Driskell Community Park, 3911 Hamilton Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781

Please save the date for the interdenominational 2026 Hyattsville CROP Hunger Walk: 1pm Sunday, May 3 at David C. Driskell Community Park, 3911 Hamilton Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781. Funds raised will go 25% to Help by Phone local food pantries and 75% to Church World Services to fight hunger globally.

Donation envelopes are available for pick-up from Naomi Littlefield (202) 246-1072. If you register online, please use this web address to join our church team (or email littlefieldnaomi@gmail.com and ask Naomi to send this to you as a link): <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/chw/team/greenbelt-community-church-greenbelt-md>

Rhonda N. is in Holy Cross hospital and has pneumonia and some other ailments having to do with her blood pressure. She hopes to be able to go home soon.

Barbara R.'s surgery on Monday was successful, and she is home resting and recuperating.

NEW! Free Produce Distribution, Every 3rd Thursday of the Month
Greenbelt Community Center Parking Lot, 15 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770 [Next Date, Thursday, May 21st]

The Board of Missions has designated April-June Special Missions to CASA, a Latino and immigration advocacy-and-assistance organization based in MD that is active throughout the state, but has major foci in Prince George's County, Montgomery County and Baltimore. Also, The **Help by Phone** pantry at Berwyn Presbyterian is running low on: pancake mix, syrup, fruit, tomato soup, and vegetable soup. Please donate if you can!

Local Food Pantry Information

Here are three county-sponsored food pantries. They are open weekdays from 8:00 am to 4:30pm:

- North County - 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, MD 20782
- Central County - 425 Brightseat Road, Landover, MD 20785
- South County - 4235 28th Avenue, Temple Hills, MD 20748

Residents can find information on food pantries and assistance programs in the county by visiting: socialservices.mypgc.us Additional food pantries can be found here:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SIKk4gr_FvWNWx5FXGVt1I0b-eYlq825z_n0qS7clrE/edit?tab=t.0

Lectionary Readings,

May 3, 2026

Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14

New Members Informational Conversations with the Pastor are welcomed.

If you are finding community among us and want to deepen your commitment to Christ and the church by considering membership at Greenbelt Community Church, our Pastor is available to answer your questions and share information about this church; and about *“acting justly, loving mercy and walking humbly with God.”* There is no obligation to join the church if seeking further information about Greenbelt Community Church.

–Contact, Pastor Aubra at pastoraubragcc@gmail.com.