

# **Greenbelt Community Church**

**One Hillside Road,  
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[Rev. Aubra Love – Greenbelt Community Church](#)

## **A Service of Pastoral Installation for The Rev. Aubra Love**

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

**Order of Worship**  
**Installation of the Rev. Aubra Love**  
**as Senior Pastor of Greenbelt Community Church,**  
**Potomac Association and**  
**Central Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ**

***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!***

**The Opening Voluntary (Organ):** Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Chorale from Church Cantata BWV 147) - J. S. Bach Dr. Wei-Der Huang, Greenbelt Community Church

**The Welcome**

The Rev. Mark Granfors-Hunt, Greenbelt Community Church

**\*Opening Hymn: NCH #394 "In Christ There Is No East or West"**

**\*Call To Worship:**

Karen Jones, Greenbelt Community Church

**One:** Spirit of the Living God, we welcome you into this place. Creator and Make of all things, we welcome you. Elohim, Adonai, Jehovah, we welcome you.

**Many:** **Mother of every living thing, Father of all that has breath, we welcome you. The Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end, we welcome you. Ancient of Days, we welcome you.**

**One:** The true and wise God, Sophia, we welcome you. The Rose of Sharon, the Rock who gave us birth, we welcome you. The Great "I AM," we welcome you.

**Many:** **Jesus! We welcome you. Emmanuel, God with us, we welcome you.**

**One:** Holy Spirit! We welcome you. Midwife, so capably birthing the new, we welcome you. Breath of God, who blows over creation, we welcome you.

**Many:** **God of all welcome into this place! We welcome you. Amen.**

**\*Passing the Peace:** Rick Ransom, Greenbelt Community Church

**Reading of the First Testament: Zephaniah 3:14-20 (inclusively adapted) NRSVUE**  
Tina Alston, Greenbelt Community Church

**Anthem: "Glory, Hallelujah!" by Mark Burrows**  
The Greenbelt Community Church Choir

## **Unison Prayer**

Rick Ransom, Greenbelt Community Church

O God, you spoke your word and revealed your Good News in Jesus, the Christ. Fill all creation with that Word again, so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all nations and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples, we may become one living body, your incarnate presence on the earth. Amen.

## **Reading of the Gospel: John 20:24-29 New Revised Standard Version UE**

The Rev. Aubra Love

**Liturgical Dance “Goodness of God”** Bethel Music, Victor Thompson  
The Rev. Darryl Moch, Pastor, UCC of Fredericksburg

## **Sermon: “Blessed Are You Who Have Not Seen and Yet Believed”**

The Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss, Senior Minister at First Congregational United Church of Christ (UCC) in Washington, DC

**\*Pulpit Hymn: CHA #533 “We’ve Come This Far By Faith”**

## **Reading of the Epistle: Galatians 3:23–29**

Dawn Revely, Greenbelt Community Church

**Good News Translation**

## **Invitation to the Offering**

**Focus Text:** *“So there is no difference between Jews and Gentiles, between the enslaved and free people, between women and men; we are all one in union with Christ Jesus”*  
**Galatians 3:28 GNT**

Yolanda Burnett, Chair, Board of Trustees  
Jim Miers, Treasurer, Greenbelt Community Church

## **\*Prayer of Dedication:**

Jan Derry, Greenbelt Community Church

Merciful and compassionate God, join us together today in living out your call to seek justice and walk in the ways of Jesus. May we covenant in holy bond to love each other even in disagreement, to enact patience and loving kindness, and to rejoice in the truth. Bless our labor and grant us the joy of living together in unity. Amen.

## **The Prayer of Jesus (New Zealand Prayer Book)**

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
Now and forever. **Amen**

### **Prayer Response**

## **Order for the Pastoral Installation Greeting**

The Rev. Holly Jackson, Potomac Association,  
Associate Conference Minister

Grace and peace to you. The Potomac Association of the Central Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ greets you in the name of Jesus Christ, the head of the church in heaven and on earth.

**People: Let us look to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was waiting endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

### **Presentation:**

Keith Johnson, Greenbelt Community Church  
Chair of the Committee for Search and Call

Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, has called the Rev. Aubra Love, as its pastor and teacher and respectfully requests that the Potomac Association install her in this ministry among us, according to the faith and order of the United Church of Christ.

The Rev. Holly Jackson

**To you, the Congregation**, the Potomac Association has reviewed the request of Greenbelt Community /church United Church of Christ. We have prayerfully examined Rev. Love, and we are pleased to install her as your pastor and teacher.

**To you, Rev. Love**, servant of God, we invite you to come forward as a sign of your acceptance of the call to this office. Installation is the action...a sign that these covenantal partners are committed to share mutually in the mission of the United Church of Christ and of the ecumenical church.

**Exhortation:** To you, the Congregation, Hear these words from the Apostle Paul: We beg you, our siblings in Christ, to pay proper respect to those who work among you, who guide and instruct you in the Christian life. Treat them with the greatest respect and love because of the work they do. Be at peace among yourselves.

To you, Rev. Aubra, We urge you, our dear sister, warn the idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with all.

To each of you, See that no one pays back wrong for wrong, but at all times make it your aim to do good to one another and to all people. Be joyful always, pray at all times be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants of you, in your life in Christ Jesus. Amen.

**Covenant: The Rev. Jason Carson Wilson, Moderator,  
Potomac Association Board of Directors**

Dear friends,

Greenbelt Community Church United Church of Christ has declared that having gathered under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, it has called Rev. Aubra Love to minister in this place as pastor and teacher and that it now receives her as appointed by God for this ministry. The Potomac Association of the United Church of Christ has declared that she has met all the necessary conditions for installation to this office.

Rev. Aubra, seeing that you are called to ordained ministry by the grace of God and that Greenbelt Community Church United Church of Christ has been led to call you as pastor and teacher, are you willing to enter this covenant with its members who are one in Christ with us in the Potomac Association?

**Pastor:** I am willing, and I promise to serve this church faithfully, preaching and teaching the word of God, administering the sacraments and fulfilling the pastoral office, according to the faith and order of the United Church of Christ.

Members of Greenbelt Community Church United Church of Christ, will those who are able rise and affirm your covenant with your pastor and teacher?

**Congregational Affirmation:** We, the members of Greenbelt Community Church United Church of Christ, receive Rev. Aubra as our pastor and teacher, promising to labor with her in the ministry of the gospel and to give her due honor and support. We gather with her and with the United Church of Christ as a sign of our mutual ministry in Christ's name. Amen.

**Association Representative:** Members of the Potomac Association, will those who are able rise and affirm your covenant with Greenbelt Community Church and its pastor and teacher?

**Association Members:** We, the members of the Potomac Association of the United Church of Christ, gather with you, the people and the pastor and teacher of Greenbelt Community Church United Church of Christ, as a sign of our covenant and in celebration of our mutual ministry in Christ's name.

**Laying on of Hands and A Womanist Blessing**

The Rev. Dr. Vertie P. Powers  
Associate for Search and Call

*The Laying on of Hands is the symbolic act whereby the church in every age recognizes God's call to ministry in the lives of faithful women and men and asks the Holy Spirit to confer on them gifts for ordained ministry. A Womanist Blessing honors and calls forth all the women ancestors who in ages past pioneered in faith and justice in the frequently silent hope of serving in God's ministry. We summons them to take the next step with us.*

**Prayer of Installation and Declaration**

The Rev. Freeman Palmer. Conference Minister  
The Central Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ

**Almighty God...Christ reigns in glory, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Declaration:** In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the Potomac Association of the Central Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ, I declare you duly installed as pastor and teacher of Greenbelt Community Church United Church of Christ.

**ALL:** Thanks be to God.

Christian love expressed to the newly installed  
**A Joyous Celebration of Congregational Movement: "It Is Well"**  
Victor Ivyic, South Africa, ( Pre-Recorded)

**Charge to the Pastor:**

The Rev. Dr. Matthew Braddock, Senior Pastor, Christ Congregational Church,  
Silver Spring, MD

**Charge to the Congregation:** Min. Patricia White, Women Ignited, Woodland Park, CO

**Words About Wellness:** "I Dream A World" Dia Hodnett, Master of Public Health,  
Global Health Strategist for African Heritage and Indigenous Women

**Pastoral Remarks:** The Rev. Aubra Love

**Benediction:** The Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss, Installation Preacher

**Closing Voluntary** (*piano*) "Get Happy" The Rev. David Flaherty  
Arr. Judy Garland

**\*Recessional Hymn: NCH #593 "Lift Every Voice and Sing"**

The Rev. David Flaherty, St. Sebastian Institute for Catholic Heritage and Culture

*A Reception is prepared for you downstairs in the Social Hall.*  
*Thank you for your presence today.*

*Today's Offering is a gift to **The Midlife Visionary** which supports clergywomen in midlife in releasing life limitations and rediscovering purpose; to awaken inspiration and launch a new vision for their lives. A portion is donated to the **Black Church and Domestic Violence Institute** to train clergy and other practitioners in the appropriate response to the public health crises of gender-based violence.*

**Bulletin Enclosures:**

*The bio and press photo of the Installation Preacher,  
the Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss*

*The Letter of Commendation from the Office of Senator Alonzo Washington, Prince  
Georges County, State Senate of Maryland, Annapolis*

Love and Respect to my Beautiful, God-reverencing Family:  
**R. Alan Brooks II,**  
**Tahira Love Goldson, and Dylan W. Goldson**

*"And great shall be the peace of my children." -Isaiah 54:13*

## **INSTALLATION PREACHER**



### **The Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss**

serves as the Senior Minister at First Congregational United Church of Christ (UCC) in Washington, DC as the first female senior minister in the church's more than 150-year history. As a Woodruff scholar at Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, Amanda earned her Master of Divinity in 2005 with certificates in Black Church Studies and Church and Community programs. In 2009, Amanda co-founded the thriving community of Land of the Sky United Church of Christ in Asheville, NC, where she served as Co-Pastor for eight years in an intentional, power-sharing model. Her vocation as a pastor is shaped by Amanda's particular calling to racial justice. In August of 2017, she engaged in sacred activism in Charlottesville where she served as an on-call chaplain to those impacted by the tragic violence of white supremacy. Amanda is a certified trainer in the national UCC's Sacred Conversations to End Racism. She spoke at the 35 th General Synod about her congregation's journey to excavate their hidden history with the installation of stained-glass panels to commemorate the lives of the people who once lived and worked in bondage on the land on which the church now sits. Rev. Amanda is a public voice of faith in our nation's capital in witness for justice. She lives in northern Virginia with her spouse, Seth, youngest child Simon (13), and Ginger the dog. Her oldest, Myles (19), studies computer engineering and runs track at Christopher Newport University.

ALONZO T. WASHINGTON  
Legislative District 22  
Prince George's County

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Finance Committee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

April 26, 2026

Reverend Aubra Love  
Greenbelt Community Church  
One Hillside Road  
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

Dear Reverend Love,

It is my distinct honor and heartfelt privilege to extend warm congratulations and enthusiastic support on the occasion of your Pastoral Installation Worship Service as settled pastor of Greenbelt Community Church, to be held on Sunday, April 26th at 2:00 PM.

This sacred and celebratory moment marks a significant milestone in your distinguished journey and a time of great promise for the Greenbelt Community Church and the broader community it serves. Your extensive experience in ministry, including your recent service on the pastoral team of a United Church of Christ congregation in Silver Spring, your leadership across multiple Conferences of the United Church of Christ, and your work in church revitalization, reflects a deep and abiding commitment to faith, service, and transformative leadership.

A lifelong activist and retired commercial banker, you have consistently embodied a ministry that extends beyond the pulpit. As the founder of The Black Church and Domestic Violence Institute, you have demonstrated extraordinary courage and compassion in addressing urgent issues affecting vulnerable communities. Your work as the award-winning author of *Our Lactating God: The Embodied Amen* further exemplifies your ability to challenge, inspire, and uplift through both theological reflection and lived witness.

Your academic achievements, including a Bachelor of Science from Cornell University and a Master of Divinity from the Morehouse School of Religion at the Interdenominational Theological Center, speak to your intellectual rigor and spiritual depth, qualities that will undoubtedly guide your congregation with wisdom and grace.

It is also inspiring to see the strong covenantal support surrounding this occasion. The presence of esteemed leaders such as the Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss as installation preacher; the Rev. Freeman Palmer, Conference Minister for the Central Atlantic Conference; the Rev. Holly Jackson, Associate Conference Minister for the Potomac Association; the Rev. Dr. Vertie Powers, Associate for Search and Call; and the Rev. Dr. Matthew Braddock, who will offer a charge to the pastor, reflects the deep connections and shared commitment that undergird your ministry and the wider United Church of Christ community.

As Maryland State Senator for Legislative District 22, I am proud to recognize and celebrate leaders like you, whose work strengthens the moral and social fabric of our communities. I have every confidence that under your pastoral leadership, Greenbelt Community Church will continue to flourish as a place of inclusion, healing, and hope.

Please accept my best wishes for a meaningful, spirit-filled installation service and a joyful celebration with all who gather in fellowship. May your ministry in Greenbelt be blessed with continued impact, growth, and fulfillment.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alonzo T. Washington". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Alonzo T. Washington  
Maryland State Senator

**In Today's Worship**  
(In order of appearance)

**The Rev. Mark Granfors-Hunt**, Greenbelt Community Church

**Karen Jones**, Greenbelt Community Church

**Rick Ransom**, Greenbelt Community Church

**Tina Alston**, Greenbelt Community Church

**The Rev. Darryl Moch**, Pastor, UCC of Fredericksburg

**Dawn Revely**, Greenbelt Community Church

**The Rev. Amanda Hendler-Voss**, Senior Minister,  
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Washington, DC

**Jan Derry**, Greenbelt Community Church

**The Rev. Holly Jackson**, Associate Conference Minister, Potomac Association

**Keith Johnson**, Greenbelt Community Church, Chair of Search and Call

**The Rev. Dr. Vertie P. Powers**, Associate for Search and Call

**The Rev. Freeman Palmer**, Conference Minister,  
The Central Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ

**The Rev. Dr. Matthew Braddock**, Senior Pastor, Christ Congregational Church,  
Silver Spring, MD

**Minister Patricia White**, Women Ignited, Woodland Park, CO

**Dia Hodnett, MPH**, Global Health Strategist for African Heritage and  
Indigenous Women, New Orleans, LA

**The Rev. David Flaherty**, St. Sebastian Institute for Catholic Heritage and Culture,  
Baltimore, MD

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**Our Staff**

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