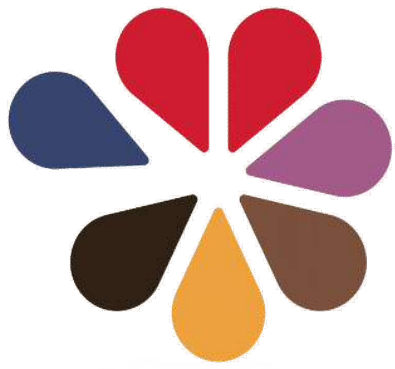
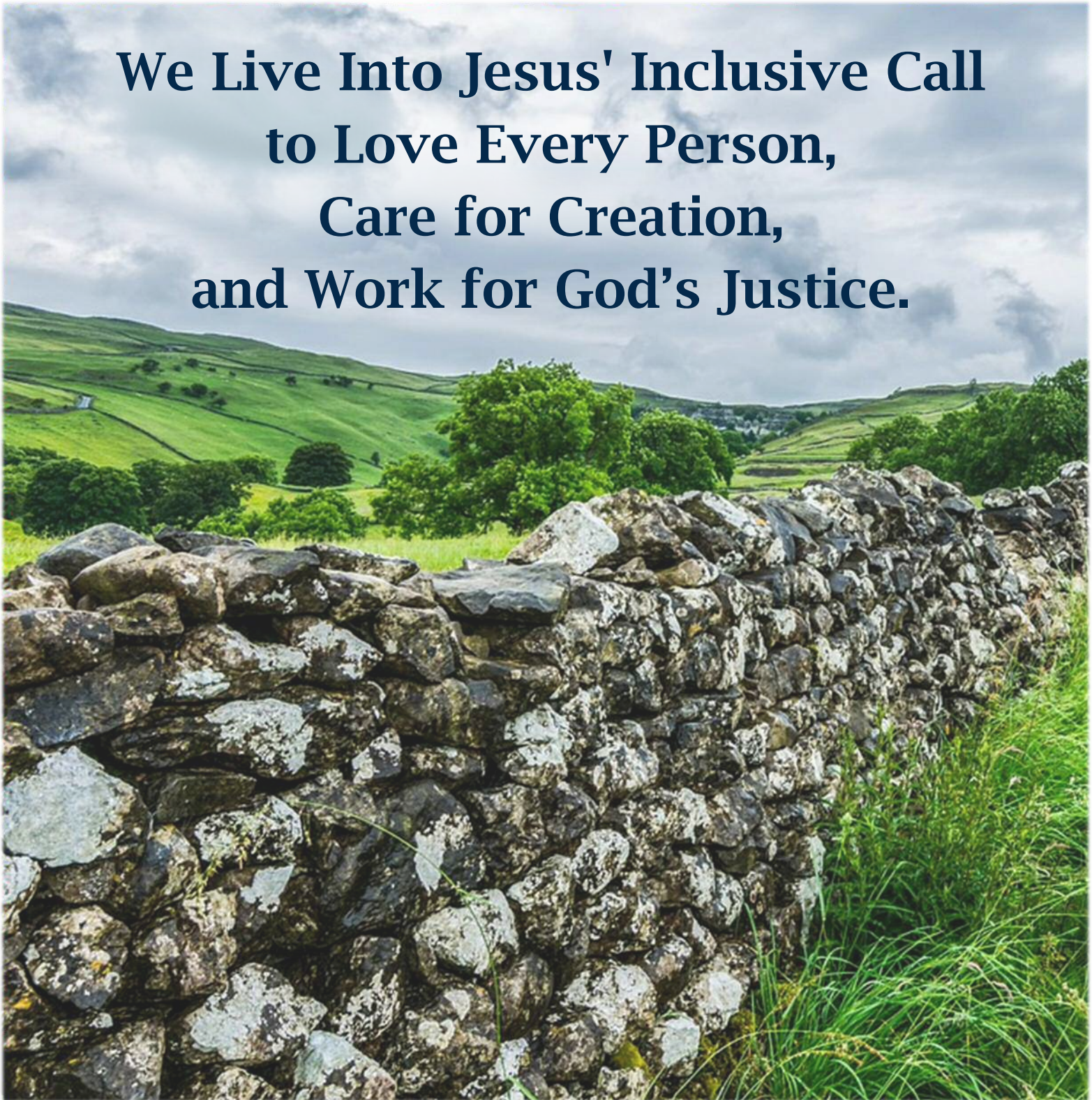




DOWNTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**We Live Into Jesus' Inclusive Call
to Love Every Person,
Care for Creation,
and Work for God's Justice.**



Celebration of Worship
November 9th, 2025, 11:00 AM
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

[Click Here to Watch](#)

*If you have a joy or concern you would like to have lifted in prayer today, please complete a **Prayer Request Card**, including the name of the person (and pronunciation) or event, and additional information you'd like to share.*

*Prayer Requests will be collected during the **hymn following the sermon** to share with the pastor and/or Deacons.*

Prelude

Meditation on "Spirit of the Living God"

Words of Welcome

Rev. William Wilkinson

Announcements

John DeHority

Chime

Introit

Be the Change

Marc Kaplan and Colin Britt

**"Be the change you want to see in the world. . . and change will come to you.
Be the voice you want to hear in the world. . . and change will come to you.
Be the light you want to shine in the world. . . and change will come to you."**

*Call to Worship (based on the song, "On Common Ground", Tom Chapin)

One: Come in, the door is open.

Many: You are welcome here.

One: Come in, the door is open.

Many: Leave out all doubt and fear.

One: Lift up your voice, rejoice in what we've found.

Many: Let every heart take refuge in the sound.

One: In our time together, let us worship in joy, and prepare for witness to Christ's Love.

All: Let us give gratitude to God, the Ground of our being.

Prayer of Invocation

O, God of the Whale and Sparrow, God of all Nations, we are gathered as your community of compassion, peace and justice. We recall the words of the Prophet, Jeremiah, and come to you in humility, boasting only of your loving kindness, right relationship, and justice. As you have always been, be with us, Creator and Sustainer, as we pray, reflect and sing in response to your call to build up the Beloved Community.

*Hymn

God of Grace and God of Glory
(Music may be found on page 7.)

CWM RHONDA

Time With Young Disciples

Robin Sheikh

Prayer of Transformation and New Life (Unison)

We present ourselves to You, Our Creator and Source of Solidarity, Vulnerability and Mutuality. You have entrusted us to be the caring community, part of the Church Universal, in the Family of Faiths in your Cosmos. We admit that we have too often fallen short of our calling, together and individually. O Holy Advocate, we have not only offered unlove where love was sought, while boasting of our baptism and commitments to love, but we have so frequently hesitated to love ourselves, or respond to way you have first loved us, and all. In our prayer, we turn to You. We are Yours, this we know in our inmost being. We ask, humbly, Wise One, your forgiveness, and Your guidance in Jesus' Way of Caring. Guide us, we pray to reflect and embody compassion, peace and justice, our part in building up the Beloved Community of which are a grateful part. Grow in us, we pray, such a faithfulness that overcomes the fears of human living. Root us, we ask, in love. Amen.

Words of Grace

One: Members of God's humankind, hear the good news. The Spirit of Life is in us, around us, both forgiving us and trusting us to be

the growing, changing community of compassion. The first miracle was the life we all have been given. The continuing miracle is God's faithfulness and transforming love.

Many: Thanks be to the God, the Ground of our being.

First Reading "Mending Wall" Robert Frost

Music for Reflection Don't Be Weary, Traveler American Negro Spiritual
*"Don't be weary, traveler,
Come along home to Jesus.
My head got wet wid de midnight dew. De mornin' star was a witness too.
When I was a sinner, just like you, I prayed and prayed till I come through.
Don't be weary, traveler. Come along home to Jesus."*
Arr. Jester Hairston

Second Reading Psalm 98

Sermon "The Covenant as Compassion"

*Hymn Spirit of the Living God LIVING GOD
(Music may be found on page 8.)

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for Healing and Justice

† Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit 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 Spirit, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music Speak, Lord Tom Trenney

*"You are the way, the truth, and the life.
You are our hope, our vict'ry o'er the strife.
You are our peace, our calm upon the sea.
Bringing good news to the oppressed, you call us to set the captive free!"*

*Ref: Speak, Lord, for your children are listening.
Speak, Lord, how we need to hear from you.
Give us courage to speak, Lord, till injustice is silent.
Speak your words of love in all we say and do.*

*You come to heal our broken heart,
to comfort as we mourn, just mercy to impart.
You call us to preach the Gospel, dream the dream
till justice rolls down like water, righteousness like a mighty stream. Ref.*

*Give us sight to see the world through the eyes of a stranger.
Help us to hear the beauty of a language not our own.
Set our hearts to beat with compassion for our neighbor.
When we love each other, you are seen and known. Ref."*

Lindsey Puc, soloist, Text: Tom Trenney

***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Let songs rise up from earth below;
Let stars and galaxies enthrone;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One! Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn**

**Song of Hope/Canto de esperanza
(Music may be found on page 9.)**

ARGENTINA

***Benediction**

Postlude

Marche Religieuse

**Alexis Chauvet
Arr. Frank Asper**

***Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us extend the Peace of Christ to one another.

Thank you to...

Worship Leader: Rev. William Wilkinson

Liturgist: John DeHority

Chancel Choir Members

Soprano: Cecelia Allchin, Morgan Cox, Isa Apodaca, Nicole Knickerbocker,
Lindsey Puc, Joan Sussman Alto: Alyssa Koh, Leah Rosenman

Tenor: Olivia Anderson, Jason Cloen, Shawn Cox, Mark Darling

Bass: Rob Brown, John DeHority, Elijah Gebers,
Alan Jones, Stephen Lloyd, Sumner Tessier

Live Stream Team: Don Fairman, David McDowell, Jim Parks, Sally Allison

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We continue to welcome a wide variety of worship leaders. The Worship Team and the Session encourage you to consider what speaks to you in each worship experience and share your feedback with them.

You may write to: session@downtownpresbyterian.org

OR worship@downtownpresbyterian.org. This feedback is vital as decisions are made about our pastoral leadership.

Next Sunday we welcome Rev. Katie Jo Suddaby and the All-Community Choir for music-led worship.

307 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

TEXT: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, alt.
 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
 8.7.8.7.8.7.7

Spirit of the Living God

288

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

The first system of the hymn is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me."

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

The second system of the hymn continues the melody and bass line from the first system. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me."

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

The third system of the hymn continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are: "Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me."

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

The fourth system of the hymn concludes the melody and bass line. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me."

Both the words and the music of this prayer-song were written by a Presbyterian minister from Tarboro, North Carolina. The words were initially inspired by Jeremiah 18:1-6; a friend helped him set them to music during an evangelistic meeting in Orlando, Florida, where the song was first sung.

TEXT: Daniel Iverson, 1926; Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee; Spanish trans. anon.
MUSIC: Daniel Iverson, 1926

LIVING GOD
Irregular

Text and Music © 1935 Birdwing Music (admin. EMICMGPublishing.com)
Korean Trans. © 2001 Birdwing Music (admin. EMICMGPublishing.com)

May the God of Hope Go with Us 765

Song of Hope / Canto de esperanza

May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, fill - ing all our
¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz! Al mun - do en

lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us
cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad. Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da -

on our way, bring - ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.
nos tu luz, luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.

Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our joy with all;
O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos de tu a - mor.

work - ing for a world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.
Lu - che - mos por la paz, fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.

This Argentine folk melody sets Spanish and English words, both created by a PC(USA) missionary with much Latin American experience. The two versions complement each other: the Spanish text offering a prayer to God, and the English one providing inspiration for the singers.

TEXT: Alvin Schutmaat, 1984
 MUSIC: Argentine folk melody

ARGENTINA
 11.11.11.11 with refrain

Coming up at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 9

9:45AM	Sunday Forum, Hybrid
10:00AM	Choir Warm-up
10:45AM	Nursery
11:00AM	Worship - Rev. William Wilkinson
11:15AM	Sunday School
12:00PM	Congregational Mtg., Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 11

10:30AM Psalms+ Bible Study
6:30PM Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, November 12

10:00AM Worship Team Mtg, Zoom
7:00PM Choir Practice

Thursday, November 13

5:00PM Finance Team Mtg, Zoom
7:30PM Property Team Mtg, Zoom

Sunday, November 16

Stewardship Sunday

9:45AM	Sunday Forum, Hybrid
10:00AM	Choir Warm-up
10:45AM	Nursery
11:00AM	Worship - Rev. Katie Jo Suddaby
11:15AM	Sunday School
12:00PM	Refreshments, Sanctuary
7:00PM	Sophia Circle, Zoom



We live into Jesus' inclusive call to love all people,
care for creation, and work for God's Justice.

Welcome Visitors!

Nursery Care is available for young children beginning in the library and moving to C-23 on the second floor. Parents are welcome to come up with their kids if they would like.

Sunday School Children not in nursery care will be invited forward during the "Time with Our Youth" and then will follow their teacher to the Sunday School room.

You may place your offering in the offering plates as they are passed. If you would like to donate online, you can use the QR code to the right to make your contribution to the church.



† **We seek** to use diverse images and liberating language about divine presence in our services of worship. Please feel free to adapt the words in hymns and prayers as needed so that they express your faith.

This is a Hearing Loop equipped sanctuary – please switch your hearing aid to the "T" (telephone) position.

*** An asterisk indicates** "please rise in body or spirit."

We hope you will join us after worship for conversations and refreshments! Cookies and drinks are available in the front of the sanctuary.

Joys and Concerns – If you have a joy or concern that you would like to lift in prayer today, please complete a Prayer Request card (available by the worship bulletins) naming the person (s), situation or event, and any other information that you would like to be shared. The requests will be collected during the hymn following the sermon and provided to the Deacons.

The Downtown Church Staff

Cheryl Bittle, Weekend Receptionist	Robin Sheikh, Office Administrator & Sunday School Teacher
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician	
Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations	Ebony Smalls, Evening Receptionist
Alan Jones, Associate Musician	Michael Stagles, Maintenance Lead
David Mear, Business Manager	Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
Moses Nhial, Maintenance	Ed Verna, Maintenance
Penelope Paredes, Nursery Coordinator	Lee S. Wright, D.M.A., Director of Music Ministry
Andrea Piccone, Bookkeeper & Receptionist Coordinator	

Parish Leaders

Mary Rees and Pat Tweet - Clerks of Session
Cindy Hamilton, Jacque Hancock - co-Moderators of Deacons

Session

The Rev. Val Fowler, Moderator	Lea Kone	Jim Vesper
Nancy Brown	Bob Richane	Pat Tweet
John DeHority	Sally Allison	Mary Rees
	Sam King	

Deacons

Bob Carlisle	Jacqueline Hancock	Becky Parks
Andrea Folan	Elizabeth Katz	Susan Richane
Helen Ganotis	Stephen Lloyd	Kelley Sheils
Cindy Hamilton	Grania Marcus	Marilyn Terpening
	Sandy Morales	

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www.DowntownPresbyterian.org



Sunday Forum - November 2025

Working for God's Justice Locally and Globally

Nov. 2 "Making Policy in Community: Presbyterians Proclaiming Anti-Racism"



Presenters: Beth Laidlaw, Elder, Third Presbyterian Church and Pat Tweet
The Genesee Valley Presbytery has directed each church in the region to create their own Anti-Racism Policy with strategies and practices specific to that congregation. Elder Beth Laidlaw, from Third Pres. will share the process her church experienced, and Pat Tweet will summarize additional suggestions and guidance that the DEIB will use in crafting a policy for our congregation's approval on November 9th.



Nov. 9 "Federal Lawmaking with Local and Global Consequences: The View from the House Chamber."

Presenter: Representative Joe Morelle

Congressperson Morelle will speak about the role he has played in solving domestic problems and impacting global troubles and tragedies. Joe has been apprised of our church's progressive tradition, and welcomes questions about the daily challenges of bipartisanship.

Nov. 16 "From Sudan to Rochester to South Sudan: Always Seeking to Make a Difference."



Presenter: Mathon Noi

Mathon is the Vice President and Co-founder of Building Minds in South Sudan. He fled Sudan as a "Walking Boy" at the age of 9 and came to Rochester in 2001. Since then, he achieved his bachelor's degree in accounting and now lives in Buffalo with his family. He will share his story and its impact on the way he lives his life today, as well as the challenges of fulfilling the mission of Building Minds in South Sudan in a contentious political climate.

Nov. 23 "Answering the Call: Fighting the Powers That Be."

Presenter: Windsor Wade



Windsor's parents, Louis and Katie, fled the Jim Crow South in 1952. Ten years later, on a trip South to visit family, Windsor drank from a "Whites Only" fountain. Today, he is a long-time member of Veterans for Peace, and also a member of its national board. Heeding the Dalai Lama's admonition, "It's not enough to be compassionate, you must act," Windsor became a teacher and has continually worked for justice, including service with two local organizations, Metro Justice and the Gandhi Institute.

Sundays, 9:45 AM ~ The Shaw Room



Arts Link

at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

≈Coming in November≈

Monthly All Community Choir Sunday November 16, 11AM

Music-led worship with
community choir and
congregational participation.



Downtown Arts Community PRISM Concert Sunday, November 2, 2PM



Proceeds support local youth music students.
in collaboration with Arts Link at Downtown Church
Featuring a variety of local musicians and ensembles.

First Inversion Concert “We/Our: Honoring LGBTQ Voices” Friday, Nov. 7 & Sunday, Nov. 9, 4PM

First Inversion

