

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The First Sunday in Lent

February 18, 2018

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

**All who are able may stand.*

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING. . .

The Prelude *Break Thou the Bread of Life*
Jubilate Ringers

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit *God Is Never Late* Nathan Smith
Covenant Choir

The Call To Worship (From *Psalm 25*)

People of the covenant:
God does not remember us according to our sins and transgressions.
God remembers us according to God's own steadfast love!
The God of our salvation teaches us right paths and leads us in truth.
**All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness;
we put our trust in God.**

The Prayer of Adoration

Your paths are straight and true, O God; they guide all who seek the way of salvation. By Your mercy You instruct Your children how to pursue steadfast love and faithfulness. Upheld by Your covenant and enlightened by Your testimony, we live securely in Your goodness and truth. Hear us now as we lift our souls in praise to You. Accept our glad adoration, and teach us Your will. Glory to You, the One Eternal God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*The Hymn 32 *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

*The Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on Your church, O God, for we forget the covenant into which You call us. We muddle along in our self-serving schemes rather than waiting on Your word. We follow the path of least resistance without seeking Your higher way. We forget our baptism into a faith community built on trust and forgiveness. We turn from the vision of heaven to the treacherous hell of competing egos. O God, we turn to You to lead us to a new day. According to Your steadfast love, forgive us, we pray. ...*(time for silent confession)*...

*The Assurance of Pardon

*The Gloria Patri p. 581 in the Hymnal

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**
(Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ and exchange this ancient greeting with worshipers seated near you.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson: *Genesis 9:8-17* p. 9 in the pew Bible

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalms 25:1-10* p. 618 in the pew Bible

The Anthem *Benedictus* Brian William

*Benedictus, qui venit in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis*

*Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest*

The New Testament Lesson: *1 Peter 3:18-22* p. 284 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

*The Hymn 634 *To God Be the Glory*

The Gospel Lesson: *Mark 1:9-15* p.42 in the pew Bible

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Meditation *Covenant not Condemnation*
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

*The *Nicene Creed* p. 34 in the Hymnal

The Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Dedication

The Service of Offering
The Gathering of Our Gifts
The Offertory

TO CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT. . .

The Presbyterian Church welcomes and invites everyone - children and adults - baptized in the name of Jesus Christ to come to The Table of the Lord and participate in The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

*The Hymn of Preparation 516 *For The Bread Which You Have Broken*

The Invitation

The Call To Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

...we sing to the glory of Your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

...Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer

p. 35 in the Hymnal

The Communion

(You are invited to partake of the elements as you receive them with reverent meditation.)

The Prayer After Communion

**We thank You, O Lord, for being our host at this table. Our hearts are
gladdened because You have nourished our faith, hope and love. As You have
welcomed us in Christ, lead us to welcome others in Jesus' holy name. Amen.**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD'S NAME. . .

*The Hymn 618 *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*
(verses 1, 2, 3 & 5 only)

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude



The Rev. Allen H. Fisher, Jr., *Pastor*

The Rev. Brittany Tamminga, *Associate Pastor*

E. Bruce Harvey, Jr., *Coordinator of Christian Education*

Mary Ann & Larry Casey, *Choirmasters*

Amy L. Shirk, *Organist*

MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES 2/18-25

Today (2/18)		
Worship Services, <i>S</i>	8:30 & 11am	
Church School	9:45am	
PW Lesson Overview, <i>CF</i>	12pm	
Sacred Dance, <i>U</i>	3:30pm	
Cantate, <i>UCR</i>	5pm	
Youth Fellowship & Dinner, <i>FH</i>	6pm	
Monday (2/19)		
Office Closed		
PW Coordinating Team, <i>Rm 209</i>	10am	
Mission Committee, <i>CF</i>	7pm	
Tuesday (2/20)		
Men's Breakfast, <i>Bob Evans</i>	7:30am	
Deacons Grief Ed. Workshop, <i>CF</i>	6pm	
Dolce Flutes, <i>CR</i>	6pm	
Wednesday (2/21)		
Lenten Lunch Service, <i>St. Mary's</i>	12pm	
Meditation, <i>CP</i>	6:30pm	
Wed. Fellowship Planning Cmte, <i>CF</i>	7pm	
Thursday (2/22)		
Ladies' Bible Study, <i>MH</i>	9:30am	
Handbells, <i>S</i>	6pm	
Adult Choir, <i>CR</i>	7:30pm	
Saturday (2/24)		
Micah Breakfast, <i>FH</i>	6:30am	
Sunday (2/25)		
Worship Services, <i>S</i>	8:30 & 11am	
Church School	9:45am	
Empty Nesters' Fellowship, <i>6B&IG</i>	12:30pm	
Sacred Dance, <i>U</i>	3:30pm	
Cantate, <i>UCR</i>	5pm	
Youth Fellowship & Dinner, <i>FH</i>	6pm	

Location Key:
CP: Church Parlor *MH:* Middle House
S: Sanctuary *CH:* Church House
EB: Education Building *CF:* Conference Room
U: Undercroft *FH:* Fellowship Hall
UCR: Choir Room in Ed. Building *CR:* Choir Room

Birthdays this Week

February

18. Polly Furr, Carol King

19. Brian Raska, Stanley Rembisz

20. Morgan Milstead, Amy Spinnanger

21. James Avery

22. Erin Bushman, Lisa Kuiper

23. Theo Blashford, Sharon Robertson

24. Christie Doherty, Josiah Rowe

Hospital Visitor 2/18-24
 Betty Ellett, 371-3032

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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 Printed on 30% post-consumer recycled paper.

February 18, 2018

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

8:30 and 11:00 am

We are delighted to have visitors worship with us!

To aid you in our liturgy, we want to acquaint you with our following custom: In the *Lord's Prayer*, we use the words, "*Forgive us our debts... our debtors.*"

We encourage you to stand for singing, if you are able, as the organ sounds the first note of introduction. When appropriate to the hymn, the organist and choir will lead the congregation in singing "*Amen.*"

Assistive listening devices (amplified earphones and telecoilneckloops), and **large-print bulletins** are available from the ushers.

Child care is provided in the Education Building for infants through kindergarteners.

All worshipers are encouraged to sign the Attendance/Friendship pad, greet your friends, and welcome visitors.

The flowers today are given by Don and Bev Newlin to the glory of God and in memory of their parents, Gladys and Hale Newlin and Lula and Roger Clarke.

Capsule of Concern: Dora Mae Crooks, Laura Miller, Elizabeth Rehm, Billie Plank, Bob Snow, Susie Techlin

**Lectionary readings for next Sunday,
 February 25:**

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31;
 Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

Service Attendants

Liturgist
 Susie Kuliasha

8:30 AM
Sanctuary Guild
 Terrie Crawley

Greeters
 Al & Jan Erkert, Mary Raye
 Cox, Lamoine Knepfelkamp

Ushers
 Kaden Yealy, Wayne Hibbeler,
 Steve & Susie Davis

Elevator Assistant
 Paul Kukla

11:00 AM
Sanctuary Guild
 John & Chrissy Conway

Greeters
 Helen Fortune, John Bailey

Ushers
 Brian & Kim Liska, Jane Eger,
 Ann Warner

Elevator Assistant
 Dave Bohmke

Nursery Attendants
8:30 & 11:00 services
 Linda Benn, Al & April
 Stevens, Patty Toler, Julie
 Young

Faith & Movie Class will discuss *Hidden Figures* on Sunday, February 25.

The **2018 Confirmation Journey Explorers** will meet this morning in the Middle House, 2nd floor, at 9:45 a.m. They will participate in Part 2 of their study of the Apostles' Creed.

PW Lesson Leaders, please plan on joining Rev. Brittany Tamminga today, in the Conference Room in the Education Building at 12:15 p.m. for an overview of Lessons 7, 8, and 9 of the Horizons Bible Study, Cloud of Witnesses - The Community of Christ in Hebrews.

Youth Fellowship activities today - Middle and high school youth will meet for our regular Youth Fellowship dinner at 6:00 p.m., followed by our first ever Great Escape Breakout game night. *Next Week:* We will begin an exploration of the basic tenets of other faiths as a way of coming to better understand our own.

On February 25, at 12:30 p.m., the **Empty Nesters Fellowship Group** will gather at 6 Bears & a Goat Brewing Co., 1140 International Parkway, off U.S. 17 in southern Stafford. A tour and samples of 6B&G's hand-crafted beer, appetizers and a pint of your choice or glass of wine will be offered for \$20. Karen Johnson will collect the money for the group. Lunch may be ordered individually after the tour and tasting. Please RSVP by February 18, to Jim Toler, 540-207-1202, (jimtoler4@yahoo.com).

On March 7, the **Prime Timers** will meet for lunch at Brock's Riverside Grill, 503 Sophia Street, at 11:30 a.m. The planned visit to Ferry Farm has been canceled and will be rescheduled at a later date. The menu choices are Caesar salad with chicken, cheddar burger with French fries, or capellini pomodoro. Please call JoAnne Kinnamon, 898-2500 or Gina Whitticar, 373-7271, by February 26, for reservations and menu choice.

Re-creation Retreat is the theme for the congregational retreat on March 10-11 at Camp Hanover. You may register using the form in the February Newsletter or at the table outside the sanctuary or in the lobby of the Education building. All participants are asked to bring recyclables - cardboard, plastic, newspaper, cans (no glass). The registration deadline is March 4.

The **Wednesday Planning Committee** will meet on Wednesday, February 21, at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Would you like to **help feed hungry students and their families** in the Fredericksburg City Schools? Our church, along with 3 to 5 other Micah churches, is beginning this project in February. We want 2 or 3 volunteers who will deliver 10 to 20 meal bags either to Lafayette Upper School or Walker Grant Middle School once or so per month at most. In April, our church will package about 140 of these bags. The time is to be scheduled. We are partnering with Stafford Food Security, Inc who is already providing these meal bags to schools in Stafford and Spotsylvania Counties. Please contact Bruce Harvey, 373-7057, (bharvey@fredericksburgpc.org) if you would like to assist. Thanks.

Volunteers are needed to host **Pitch, Hit & Run** and the **Junior Home Run Derby** at Sunshine Ballpark in Fredericksburg, on Saturday, April 7, and Sunday afternoon, May 6. This is a free MLB program for boys and girls ages 7-14. No baseball skills are necessary to help and times are flexible. Contact Jim Toler, 540-207-1202, (jimtoler4@yahoo.com) to sign up. Softball and baseball players in our congregation and community are welcome to participate in these events!

The **Mission Committee** will meet on Monday, February 19, at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Our Church's **nominating committee** has begun its work of nominating elders and deacons for election by the congregation. If you sense that you may be called to serve in one of these positions or you know of someone you feel could be considered for service, please inform a committee member: Marjolijn Biljefeld, John Conway, Connie Barnes, Macon Fino, Wayne Hibel, Libby Humes, Ed Foresman, Jim Toler, Doreen Vaughn, and Stacy Whalen.

Adults are invited to the **Know Your Neighbor: An Interfaith Event** on Sunday, March 25, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at the Fredericksburg Library (formerly Headquarters) on Caroline Street. Members from our church, the Fredericksburg Islamic Center, and Beth Shalom Temple will come together for a time of fellowship and sharing. Each faith community will have a limit of 25 participants due to the space at the library. If you wish to participate, please sign-up today at the table outside the sanctuary or in the lobby of the Education Building. More events are planned for the coming months.

Micah Ecumenical Ministries is much more than a Christian nonprofit that our church supports. It is a *ministry* of our nine "Micah" churches. While Micah is best known for its ministry to the street homeless and its community dinners, it is evolving into our churches' collective response to address community needs. Through Micah, we also care for the homeless coming out of the hospital, help equip the homeless for a path to permanent housing through employment assistance, and offer basic job training and furniture for their first home. Micah recently opened a community café—a place where people from all walks of life can come together for a meal, regardless of ability to pay. Micah can't do all this without both financial support AND volunteers. Please prayerfully consider the ways you can help our churches in action through Micah. Envelopes are available in the pews for your donations, and you can learn more about volunteer opportunities by calling Micah at 540-470-4116. With your help, *neighbors find a home here!*

Each Wednesday during Lent, the downtown area churches host a **Community Lenten Worship Service**. Services begin at noon and last approximately 30 minutes, followed by a light luncheon.

- Feb. 21: St. Mary's Catholic Church
- Feb. 28: The Presbyterian Church
- Mar. 7: St. George's Episcopal Church
- Mar. 14: Shiloh Baptist Church Old Site
- Mar. 21: Fredericksburg United Methodist Church

During Lent, you will hear a couple of moments for mission about the **One Great Hour of Sharing** Offering and there is also an article in the March newsletter. The OGHS offering is one of the four special offerings of the PC (USA). OGHS goes to presbytery and General Assembly to support the Presbyterian Hunger Program - 36%, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance - 32%, and the Self-Development of People - 32%. The offering offers assistance in natural and man-made disasters, feeding the hungry, and helping people learn skills that will help them to be independent. You are invited to pray for and support the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. You may use the envelopes in the pew or in your offering envelope box.