

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 11, 2018

8:30 and 11:00 am

**All who are able may stand.*

Bold type spoken by the congregation.

GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

The Call to Worship

(From *Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22*)

O give thanks to the Lord, Who is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so.

Let those God redeemed from trouble say so.

Let those God gathered in from every direction say so.

God saved, God healed, God delivered.

Give thanks for God's steadfast love and wonderful works to humanity.

Come to offer thanksgiving and sing songs of joy.

The Prayer of Adoration

God of infinite goodness and mercy, we cannot escape Your presence. Your promise remains with us in every situation. When we are desolate, Your Spirit comes to comfort us. Amid our tribulation, Your Chosen One remains our firm hope. We can sing Your song in whatever land we find our abode. We shall forever give thanks for the gift of Your grace. You are God Who never forsakes us. To You be glory and praise now and forever. Amen.

*The Hymn 435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

*The Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess the folly of our sin and the hypocrisy of our complaints. We grumble about the evils in our world, even as we commit injustices and profit through deceit. We fret about the scarcity of resources while hoarding earth's goods and cheating the poor. We protest the problems of our world, but we do not actively work to address them.

Merciful God, expose our sins before the light of Your grace. Heal our sin and free us from our foolish ways that we may know the joy of eternal life in Jesus Christ, in Whose Name we pray . . . (time for silent confession). . .

*The Choral Response

*The Assurance of Pardon

(*John 3:17*)

Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world,

But in order that the world might be saved through him.

Believe the Good News of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*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

Almighty God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, open Your Word and illumine our darkened world, that we may see clearly and live faithfully by the light of Your truth in Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Old Testament Lesson: *Numbers 21:4-9*

p. 174 in the pew Bible

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22*

p. 687 in the pew Bible

The Anthem

God So Loved the World

John Stanier

The Gospel Lesson: *John 3:14-21*

p. 114 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

*The Hymn 209

My Song Is Love Unknown

The Epistle Lesson: *Ephesians 2:1-10*

p. 235 in the pew Bible

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

The Sermon

Lighting the Darkness
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

*The *Apostles' Creed*

p. 35 in the Hymnal

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession
The Lord's Prayer

p. 35 in the Hymnal

The Service of Offering
The Gathering of Our Gifts
The Offertory

*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication Doxology p. 606 in the Hymnal
Mighty God, Our Loving Parent, You overwhelm us with Your great mercy. At the time of our greatest need, You surprised us with Your wondrous love. Jesus offered his life for us to remove our dreadful curse. As You draw us into this renewing relationship of love, may we respond with gratitude as we offer the substance of our souls to continue the ministry of Christ. For his Name and glory we pray and present our gifts. Amen!

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

*The Hymn 366 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

*The Charge and 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 3/11-18

Today (3/11)

Congregation Retreat, *Camp Hanover*
 Worship Services, *S* 8:30 & 11am
 Church School 9:45am
 Sacred Dance, *U* 3:30pm
 Cantate, *UCR* 5pm
 Session, *MH* 7pm

Monday (3/12)

Newsletter Items due
 PW Circle of Prayer, *CF* 10am
 PW Faith Circle, *CP* 1pm

Tuesday (3/13)

Men's Breakfast, *Bob Evans* 7:30am
 PW Friendship Circle, *Chancellor's Village* 10:30am
 CE Committee, *J Brians* 6:30pm
 Worship Committee, *CF* 7pm

Wednesday (3/14)

Lenten Lunch Service, *Shilo Old Site* 12pm
 2nd Wednesday Fellowship, *FH* 6:00pm
 Meditation, *CP* 6:30pm

Thursday (3/15)

Ladies' Bible Study, *MH* 9:30am
 Handbells, *S* 6pm
 Adult Choir, *CR* 7:30pm

Saturday (3/17)

Micah Breakfast, *FH* 6:30am
 Community Dinner, *FH* 2pm

Sunday (3/18)

Worship Services, *S* 8:30 & 11am
 Church School 9:45am
 Sacred Dance, *U* 3:30pm
 Lenten Concert, *S* 4pm
 Youth Fellowship Dinner & Bowling, *FH* 5pm

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

March

11. Daniel Kunkler, McAlister
Leimbach, Lillian Zimmerman
12. Roxanne Nance, Nancy Seale, Lou
Silvey, Kate Yealy
13. Emma Marcotte, Caroline Raska,
Maya Schattgen
14. Katie Kolakowski, Beth Huber,
Jacqui Nix
15. Lindsay Dingman, Sophie Sweet,
Xander Umble
17. Jo Anne Kinnamon, Jim Pates

Hospital Visitor 3/11-17

Mary Elizabeth McManus, 899-9485

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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 fredericksburgpc.org

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 Printed on 30% post-consumer recycled paper.

March 11, 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 James and Marsha Luckett to the glory of God and in memory of their parents.

Capsule of Concern: Paul Ludwig, Billie Plank

Our heartfelt **Christian love and sympathies** are extended to David Techlin and family on the death of his wife, Susie, who died on March 8, 2018.

Lectionary readings for next Sunday, March 18:

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12 *or*
 Psalm 119:9-16;
 Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

Service Attendants

Liturgist
 Lee Gibbons

8:30 AM
Sanctuary Guild
 David & Tammy Hancock

Greeters
 Linda Benn, Chauncey &
 Shirley Kutz

Ushers
 Ellie Crane, Joan Darby, Mike
 Gibson, Tracey Rembisz

Elevator Assistant
 Richard Harrison

11:00 AM
Sanctuary Guild
 Mike Fritz

Greeters
 James & Marsha Luckett, John
 & Nita Deegan

Ushers
 Dick & Mary Szymanski, Piper
 Foresman, Suzi Ashby

Elevator Assistant
 James Luckett

Nursery Attendants
8:30 & 11:00 services
 Mike & Melissa Gloyd, Rachel
 Hole, Bridget Harvey, Amanda
 Wimberly

Lenten Concert: The Adult Choir will present Telemann's "Laudate Jehovam omnes gentes" and Haydn's "Missa Sancti Nicolai" with chamber orchestra in a **Lenten Concert** on Sunday, March 18, at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

The CE Committee will meet at 6:30 on Tuesday, March 13, at J. Brian's Tap Room, 200 Hanover Street.

Faith & Movie Class will discuss *Risen* on Sunday, March 18.

We had a total of 70 children, youth, and adults who participated in the **congregational retreat** at Camp Hanover on Saturday. We have 55 at the retreat this morning. They will worship including the sacrament communion led by the Rev Carson Rhyne and enjoy brunch together before returning to Fredericksburg.

The **2nd Wednesday Fellowship for March** will meet on March 14. Beginning at 6:00 p.m., we will enjoy a spaghetti dinner prepared by Becky Paul and the PW Circle of Prayer. After dinner, the participants will enjoy board games and Big Circle dancing. Children, youth, and adults are asked to bring your favorite board game. The Empty Nesters will set up, serve, and clean up at the dinner.

Youth Fellowship - No evening Youth Fellowship activities today. *Next Week:* An evening of bowling. There is no youth choir, so we will meet for an early Youth Fellowship Supper at church at 5:00 p.m., depart at 5:30 p.m., bowl from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at AMF of Fredericksburg, and return to the Church parking lot by 8:30 p.m. All students can be picked up at the church at 8:30 p.m. Cost of this event is \$10 (includes 2 hours unlimited bowling and shoe rental - don't forget your socks!) **If you would like to attend this event, you MUST use this link <https://goo.gl/forms/Gm4GO0fY0ZP7tF6p1> to RSVP no later than March 11.** It is important that we have an accurate headcount for those who will attend this event in order to make reservations and provide for transportation.

There is still space available to **register for the Montreat Youth Conference**. If you or someone you know would like to join other young people from all over the country for a week of study, worship, and recreation, contact Pastor Tamminga, 373-7057 (btamminga@fredericksburgpc.org).

The **20s/30s Fellowship Group** will meet for lunch at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 24, at Spencer Devon Brewing. Childcare will be provided for this event.

The **Prime Timers' April outing** is to Meadow Event Park, the birthplace of Secretariat, on April 4. We will meet at church at 9:45 a.m. to drive to the Meadow for the museum and tram tour. The cost is \$15 per person. Lunch will be at Trackside Restaurant, 3015 Railroad Ave., Ashland. Please give your payment of \$15 to either Patti Myers or Bruce. We will carpool. Please call Patti Myers at 540-656-2705 for a reservation by March 18.

Camp Hanover summer camp information is available on the table outside the Sanctuary.

The middle school youth will continue to **collect diapers and diaper wipes** through the month of March. Thank you to all who have already made donations.

Mark your calendar for Monday morning (10:00 to 12:30), March 26, for the next **Presbyterian Women Mission Lunch**. The PW Spring Mission lunch is a wonderful opportunity to gather for mission and fellowship. After a morning of cutting and sewing, we join together for lunch and dessert. The PW Mission Lunch is open to all women of the church.

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!

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 one of the committee members: Marjolijn Biljefeld, John Conway, Connie Barnes, Macon Fino, Wayne Hibbeler, Libby Humes, Ed Foresman, Jim Toler, Doreen Vaughn, or Stacy Whalen.

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 assists 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.

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.

Mar. 14: Shiloh Baptist Church Old Site

Mar. 21: Fredericksburg United Methodist Church

Hello! My name is Barbara Nance and I am hosting a book drive for my Girl Scout Silver Award. I am a member of the church and belong to Girl Scout Troop 5208. As many of you know, some people can't afford books. I plan on donating the collected books to the Treasure House in Spotsylvania County and other charities nearby. I am accepting books for all ages. If you have any books that you are willing to donate, please drop them in the bin located in the Lobby of the Education Building. If you are unable to drop the books off, please call at (540)-735-7319 or (540)-786-3086, and I will gladly come and pick up the books.