

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 8, 2022

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

Morning Has Broken

The Call To Worship

Macon Fino, liturgist

The Lord is our shepherd, our guide and protector.
The Lord is our parent, our companion and friend.
The Lord is almighty, with wisdom and power.
The Lord is present, with comfort and care.
Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving,
honor and might be to our God! Alleluia!

The Prayer of Adoration

You are the Good Shepherd. Lord, we hear Your call; we know Your voice; we follow Your paths. You lead us beside still waters. You guide us to the springs of life. You shelter us and restore our souls. In You we find life everlasting. We come humbly into Your presence this day, in praise, worship, and adoration. Our hearts run over with Your unfailing goodness and never-ending love. In the Name of our Savior, we pray. Amen.

*The Hymn 268

Crown Him with Many Crowns

*Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne; hark how the heavenly anthem
drowns all music but its own! Awake my soul and sing, of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.*

*Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side, rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky, can fully bear that sight, but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.*

*Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways from pole to pole,
that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise. His reign shall know no end;
and round his pierced feet fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.*

*Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time; creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me; thy praise shall never, never fail through-out eternity.*

The Prayer of Confession

God of everlasting life, we confess that we continue in the ways of death. We see Your work in our world and still do not believe in You. We listen to other leaders and ignore Your loving voice. In the presence of our enemies, we divide and demonize. When You face our enemies, You choose neither contempt nor punishment, but set a table and make provision for us all. Our ways are not Your ways, O Creator and they are an affront to the work of Your hands. Have mercy on us, O God, and heal us ...(time for silent confession)... . Restore us to Your flock and fold so that we may believe and receive eternal and abundant life in You, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us,
Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*The Gloria Patri (sung)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: World without end. Amen.**

*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. For those worshipping at home, please share Christ's peace with someone outside Your home this week.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The New Testament Lesson: *Acts 9:36-43*

The Psalter Hymn 801

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want
(Psalm 23; Tune: Evan)

*The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want; he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by*

*My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness e'en for his own name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear none ill,
For thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me comfort still.*

*My table thou has furnished in presence of my foes;
My head thou does with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.*

*Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me,
And in God's house for evermore my dwelling place shall be.*

The Epistle Lesson: *Revelation 7:9-17*

The Anthem

I Have Felt the Hand of God

Craig Courtney

*I have felt the hand of God in your hand. Holding me, you gave me strength to stand.
When I was all alone, you came and met my need. And when I lost my way, your hand was there to lead.
Through your touch, God's hand reached out to me. I have felt the hand of God in your hand.*

*I have heard the voice of God in your voice, Singing praise, you taught me to rejoice.
Your voice of comfort caused my grief to end. And when my faith was gone you called me home again
When you spoke, God's voice called out to me. I have heard the voice of God in your voice.*

*I have seen the face of God in your face. Giving all, you shared with me God's grace.
And you were faithful to guide me as I grew. I saw your love for God and I saw God in you.
When you smiled, God's love surrounded me. I have seen the face of God,
I have heard the voice of God, I have felt the hand of God through you.*

A Moment with the Children

*The Hymn 265

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

*Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.*

*To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head;
His name, like sweet perfume, shall rise with every morning sacrifice.*

*People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.*

*Blessings abound where're he reigns: the prisoners leap to loose their chains;
The weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.*

*Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud Amen.*

The Gospel Lesson: *John 10:22-30*

p. 127 in the pew Bible

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

The Sermon

Gratitude Given and Kept
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

*The Apostles' Creed

p. 35 in the Hymnal

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Lord' Prayer

p. 35 in the Hymnal

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

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

*The Hymn 37

Let All Things Now Living

*Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished, as forward we travel from light into light.*

*By law God enforces, the stars in their courses, the sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration, a song let us raise,
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving: to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!*

*The Charge and Benediction

*The Postlude

The rosebud on the pulpit rail celebrates the birth of Chloe Mae Hendricks, born April 25, 2022. Chloe is the daughter of Will and Shannon Hendricks. Owen and Theodore are her brothers.

Crown Him with Many Crowns – Text: Mathew Bridges, 1851 Public Domain

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want – Text: Scottish Psalter, 1650; Public Domain

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun – Text: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.; Public Domain

Let All Things Now Living – Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1939, alt; © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company

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Announcements for May 4-11

MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU

Did you know May 4th, is national “Star Wars Day”?

Tonight from 6:00-8:00 p.m., our church will host a wonderful fellowship event, entailing delicious food trucks, fun crafts, and, of course, showings of Star Wars films.

Although I would not call *Star Wars* a “Christian series,” there are many fascinating connections between *Star Wars* and Christianity. Religion was clearly an important influence for George Lucas.

For example, we can find many parallels between the Biblical stories and the *Star Wars* revolutions against an unjust empire. Another overlapping theme is martyrdom. Numerous times throughout *Star Wars*, characters are willing to sacrifice themselves to protect their loved ones and/or further the cause of the rebellion.

The most powerful crossover of all is the belief in redemption, that no matter how old we are, or how hopeless we may feel, everyone has the opportunity to right past wrongs. We can choose good and act on it.

For more conversation on the religions and theology of Star Wars, I invite you to come and sit with me this evening!

Blessings,
Michelle

Birthdays this week

8. Lee Gibbons, Ian Norfleet, Jacob Poudrier
9. Mary Lou Cramer
10. Eva Lewis, Samuel Lewis
13. David Rice, Morgan Veil, Robert Page, Anne Tarzier, Skip Brandon, Cole Young
14. Ian Duffy, Jamie Loder, Lexie Loder
15. James Campbell, Mary Wynn McDaniel



Weekly Meetings & Activities

Wed. (5/4) — Meditation Group, 5:30pm(Library)

May the 4th Night of Fun and Food, 6-8pm

Thurs. (5/5) — Women’s Bible Study, 9:30am (Zoom)

Jubilate Ringers, 6pm (Sanct. Balcony)

Adult Choir, 7:30pm (Choir Room)

Print Communication Cmte, 7pm (Conf. Rm.)

Sun. (5/8) — Worship, 8:30 (Sanct./Youtube)

LIFT Hour, 9:45am

Worship, 11am (Sanct.)

Mon (5/9) — PW Faith Cir., 1pm (Fellowship Hall)

Keep It Moving-Body & Soul, 3:15pm (FH)

Tues. (5/10) — Men’s Breakfast Group, 7:30am

(Conf. Rm/Zoom) Contact [John Howe](#)

PW Circle of Prayer, 10am (Conf. Rm.)

Ent. the Afterlife Class, 7pm (Zoom)

Wed. (5/11) — Meditation Group, 5:30pm (Zoom)

CE Cmte, 6:30pm (J. Brian’s)

Church Family News:

Capsule of Concern: Tom Edwards, Bob Deaderick, Carole Fariss, Doris Glidden, Doris Gulatsi, Donna Hughes, Sharon Moser, Larry Repanshek, Lou Silvey

Congratulations to Will and Shannon Hendricks on the **birth of their daughter, Chloe Mae**, who was born on April 25, 2022. Chloe’s brothers are Owen and Theodore.

Nora James Dominick, born July 9, 2021, was **baptized** May 1, 2021. Tim and Caitlin Dominick are her parents. Her grandparents are Tim and Karen Duffy.

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, May 8:

Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23;
Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

May the Fourth Be With You!

Join us May 4th to celebrate Star Wars and the Force. Mama’s Soul Food truck will be in the parking lot from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., and shows from the Star Wars canon will be showing on the big screen. Come out for a night of fun and fellowship, and may the force be with you!

Keep It Moving—Body & Soul

Mondays in May at 3:15-4:30 in the Fellowship Hall (where we have ample room to spreadout).

Invitation is to all for fellowship through moving in community. We open with prayer, and then Vicky Wilder leads us through movements which develop balance, strength, and flexibility. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes. Questions? Call Vicky 786-7227.



LIVING IN FAITH TOGETHER *For Creation*

LIFT Hour ~ Sunday, May 8, 9:45 a.m.

CHILDREN'S LIFT

Age 4 - 5th grade, Ed. Building. 2nd Floor

Child Care available for infants—age 3, Ed. Building 1st Floor

YOUTH & ADULT LIFT CLASSES

Parent Class - All Ages and Stages, Middle House

Faith & Movies, Church Parlor

Order of Worship, Undercroft

Mark your calendars for **VBS and Grown-Up Camp!**
June 12-16, 11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Sunday,
and 5:30-7:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday.

The program will begin with a catered meal and fellowship, followed by VBS for children and Grown-Up Camp for adults of all ages.

The theme for children's VBS is Under Construction! They will explore stories in the Bible around a theme of building community, and be led in building projects by Steve Eckel, Steve Spratt and Gary Vaughn.

Adults will have the choice between two classes: a Bible Study that follows the same stories the children will be learning, led by Dorothy Mondak; and a hands-on class that will explore a different interest each night. The leaders for this class will change with the topic.

Registration will open May 15.

The week of May 15, we will be congratulating and celebrating those who are **graduating from high school and beyond**. Please email the church office with the name of the school from which you or someone you know is graduating (cjforsing@fredericksburgpc.org). Thank you!

Brownies are needed for the **Community Dinner** on May 21. Contact Karen Johnson if you would like to help, ksjohnson422@msn.com, (540) 621-5685.

Looking Ahead:

May 15: Graduate Recognition Sunday

May 22: Confirmation Sunday
LIFT Hour (final until fall)
End of School Year Picnic

June 1: Pints & Parables

June 5: Begin Summer Schedule
(Worship at 8:30 & 10)

June 12-16: VBS & Adult Camp

June 21-24: Middle School Retreat at Massanetta

June 24: Movie Night



A Memorial service for former member Phyllis Muir, will be on Saturday May 7, at 3:00 p.m. at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1627 Monument Ave, Richmond, VA. Allen Fisher will be participating in the service



The Youth Group has organized a canned food drive, and are looking for help from you, the congregation. Our goal is to collect 500 cans of food that will eventually be donated to the Fredericksburg United Methodist Food Pantry. Before they are donated though, the youth group will be using the cans to create a construction of the church in the Education Building Lobby. If you would like to donate **cans**-truction supplies, bring your cans to the church this week, because we are still collecting. There are bins in the Education Building Lobby where donations can be dropped off. Help us not only create something fun and unique, but also help us feed the families and individuals who live around us in our community!