

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

August 16, 2020

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

Cantus

Gilbert Martin

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

The Call To Worship

The Prayer of Adoration

We broadcast Your glorious deeds, O God, and spread abroad the Good News of the Gospel. You have not forsaken Your people, but promise Your presence through the gift of Your Spirit. In Christ You redeem us from a past that enslaves us, and free us for a future of life lived in Your love. Hear us now as we sing Your praises and fill us with wisdom as we learn of Your way. Glory be to You, the One Eternal God- Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.

The Hymn

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

*I greet Thee, who my sure Redeemer art, my only trust and Savior of my heart,
who pain didst undergo for my poor sake; I pray Thee from our hearts all cares to take.*

*Thou art the King of mercy and of grace, reigning omnipotent in every place:
So come, O King, and our whole being sway; shine on us with the light of Thy pure day.*

*Thou art the life, by which alone we live, and all our substance and our strength receive;
sustain us by Thy faith and by Thy power, and give us strength in every trying hour.*

*Our hope is in no other save in Thee; our faith is built upon Thy promise free;
Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure, that in Thy strength we evermore endure.*

*The Prayer of Confession

Marjolijn Bijlefeld, liturgist

Have mercy on us, Lord Jesus; we are tormented! Our lives have been disrupted by the devil and by our own devilish desires and evil exploits. We are dismayed at Your presence, anguished by the awful fallout of our own failures. We cannot take back what we have said or undo what we have done or atone for the agony we have caused. We are haunted by the past, plagued by the present, and fearful of the future. We shrink away from Your gaze as strangers outside Your circle of blessing. Yet the faith You have planted in us reaches out for Your favor, returns to Your presence, and hungers for Your mercy...(time for silent confession)... . Hear our prayers and be merciful through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Assurance of Pardon

Our God kisses us with kindness, forgiving our sins,
preserving our lives and restoring our souls.

**We believe the Gospel Good News:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

*The Gloria Patri (spoken)

**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!**

(For those worshiping in the Sanctuary, please be careful to maintain adequate distance
as you exchange this ancient greeting with worshipers seated near you.

For those worshiping 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 Old Testament Lesson: *Genesis 45:1-15*

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalms 133*

The Anthem

How Can I Keep from Singing

Quaker Hymn/Gwyneth Walker

*My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real though distant song that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife I hear the music ringing.
It sounds an echo in my soul, how can I keep from singing?
What though the tempest loudly roars, I hear the truth, it's living!
What though the darkness round me close, songs in the night it's giving!
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since I believe that love abides, how can I keep from singing?
When tyrants tremble when they hear the bells of freedom ringing.
When friends rejoice both far and near how can I keep from singing?
In prison cell, in dungeon dark, our thoughts to them are winging.
When friends hold courage in their heart, how can I keep from singing?*

The Epistle Lesson: *Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32*

The Gospel Lesson *Matthew 15:21-28*

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

The Sermon

A Greater Reach
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

*The Affirmation of Faith

A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God.

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba Father.

**In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.**

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

**Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.**

We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

**In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah
chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.**

**Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.**

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

**Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

**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 317

In Christ there Is No East or West

*In Christ there is no east or west, In him no south or north;
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.
In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord close-binding humankind .
Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God are surely kin to me.
In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth*

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

arr. Franklin Ritter

Announcements for - August 16-23

Moving Ahead

Your Session has been busy studying, deliberating, and planning in these last several months of extraordinary circumstances. With thoughtfulness and purpose we have switched our worship life to online webcasts grounded in the experience of our

Sanctuary and liturgy that make our congregation distinct.

We hope you have appreciated the improvements in our webcasting of the services.

Shortly, we will return to live, in-person services on Sundays, if infection rates and other community practices improve.

In the meantime, many thanks are due to a number of our members who have stepped up to provide continuity and leadership in these transition months. Milton McNatt has led our video ministry and upgrades to webcasting and recording. Ed Foresman has been part of nearly all our recorded services behind cameras and recording equipment. They have been assisted and supported by numerous other technical volunteers who have consulted, helped design and install our improved recording system.

And particular thanks are due to Roy Jarnecke and Chris Fisher, who have combined with our music staff to provide amazing contributions to the services along with staff members Amy, Mary Ann and Larry.

Please remember to thank these folk as best you can. And look forward to news about how you can join us in the Sanctuary and in an upcoming virtual congregational meeting.

Thanks to you for your faithful support!

Birthdays this week August 16-23

16. Eric Gunther, Shaun Sullivan
17. Lavada Allen, Madison Hughes-Capman
18. Brendan Shirk, Ted Williams
19. Mary Kukla, Carole Nelen, Jean Ravinsky
20. Mike Adams, Stacie Buck, Durward Dunn, Casey Naatjes
21. Aubrey Raska, Eleanor Williams
23. Jessica Conway, Cayden Green



Lectionary Readings for Sunday, August 23:

Exodus 1:8 – 2:10; Psalm 124;
Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

Church Family News:

Capsule of Concern: Scott Fischer, Donn Langfitt, Kaci LeFebre, Karla Lewis Debra Myers, Billie Plank

Heartfelt love and sympathies are extended to Debbie Leimer and family on the death of her father, Gene Brower, who died on August 8, 2020.

A wholehearted thank you to everyone who donated blood on August 4, to Beth Huber, Trina Parsons, Katie Fidler, Erik Fino, and Ralph Lewis who took temperatures, verified appointments, logged in donors, refilled the refreshment table with drinks and snacks, and sanitized all of the surfaces that were touched by donors. A sincere thanks also to Linda Benn and Sharon Moser for coordinating the drive. Because of the generosity of our donors and the hard work of our volunteers we were able to collect 36 pints of blood. That's 8 pints more than our goal!! Thank you for your time and dedication to helping others and for being a part of this life saving mission.



Session has called a **virtual meeting of the congregation** for Sunday, August 30, at 10:00 a.m. Details of how to participate and an invite will be coming soon. The purpose of the meeting is hear the report of the Church Officer Nominating Committee and to elect Elders, Deacons and other officers.

Getting Involved Through Service and Mission

The **School Dressing Days** partnership with the Salvation Army - to distribute clothing and other items to area children- is ready to roll! We have used every inch of space to make it work. Volunteers will be needed on the 8 distribution days, (Wednesdays and Fridays), each day has two time sessions as seen on the flyer. Volunteers will "fill an order" with the sizes requested while parents wait in their cars. Even with the scaled-down version, we will still be able to help children with the basics. Only four volunteers will be working at one time, masks are required and temperature checks will be done prior to starting. EmpowerHouse staff came last week and filled an order for the children staying there and they greatly appreciated it. Donations of boys and men's crew socks any size (not plain white please), boys boxer briefs any size, men's boxer briefs size medium or large, teen girls underwear -adult sizes 5,6,7,8 are needed. Donations of backpacks and toiletry items are greatly appreciated as well. A sign up genius link has been created to volunteer for a session, thanks for your support!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044EACA72CA2FA7-interfaithsalvati>

The **School Feeding Program** continues to help families in need through our local school system. We have slots to be filled if you would like to volunteer. The food distribution site is at the Weston Circle Apartment Complex (100 Weston Ln) from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. We are looking for two volunteers per day (or one family unit). Please use the following link to sign-up or be in touch with Carol Campbell, 352-372-5227, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044ba5a822a2fc1-school>

Since our **Food Pantry's** temporary closing due to issues related the coronavirus pandemic, we have shifted our efforts to help support the good work of our siblings in Christ at Fredericksburg United Methodist Church, as they continue to distribute food to neighbors in need. Volunteers are needed Monday—Thursday or Saturday, and there are lot's of ways to serve: hand out bags of groceries, check-in clients, pack bags or receive deliveries. If you are interested in joining these efforts, please be in touch with Sherman Brown at (540) 226-3295 or sign up online: <https://tinyurl.com/PantryHelp>.



Thank for your faithful support of our ongoing ministries. Please send your checks to the church office or give online through our website www.fredericksburgpc.org.

Storied, a Video Series of The Presbyterian Church - The church isn't a building, it's a *people*. The series, which can be accessed through our YouTube channel, seeks to illuminate the stories and experiences of just some of the people that share in the life and ministry of our congregation. It is the hope of our staff and session that these short videos will help to connect us, one to another, as well as encourage and strengthen our fellowship in these days of limited gathering. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIJ5e8hmZeE2K-SAtfjoWpA>

Weekly Worship - Recordings of our weekly worship service are available on our YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIJ5e8hmZeE2K-SAtfjoWpA>) or go to our website: www.fredericksburgpc.org and click on the video recording button on the right side of the page. **Bulletins and announcements** are also posted each week on the church website, so you may follow along as you watch the services.



Offerings for Christian Education

The fall 2020 semester's classes and opportunities for faith formation will kick-off via Zoom the week of September 13.

Faith and Art, Images of Jesus - A six-week Zoom class concludes this Sunday, August 16, at 9:45 a.m., led by David Johnson, Debe Garrison, and Mary Szymanski. Art that depict various representations of Christ will be displayed and used as a jumping off point for discussions of how we imagine Jesus theologically, historically and culturally. Class participants will

be able to submit depictions of Christ and share how they are meaningful to them. Contact David Johnson (tomten46@msn.com), if you are planning to attend so we can create a backup email list.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/71567819287?pwd=YTV4ZzBZZ051T2Jobncram56RmdPZz09>

Meeting ID: 715 6781 9287; Password: 8WzVW1;

Faith and Movie Class This class meets on Sunday mornings from 9:45 to 10:00 a.m., via Zomm. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84012359434>.

Weekly Zoom Meetings

Men's Breakfast Group, Tuesday, 7:30 a.m. Contact John Howe (jhowe1969@cox.net) for the Zoom link.

Meditation Group, Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Contact Marsha Lockett (lockett@juno.com) for the Zoom link.

Women's Bible Study, Thursday, 9:30 a.m. Contact Marsha Lockett (lockett@juno.com) for the Zoom link.