

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2021

9:00 a.m.

**All who are able may stand.*

Bold type spoken by the congregation

Self-service assistive listening devices are located on top of the bookcase at the rear of the Sanctuary on the Princess Anne St. side.

GATHERING. . .

***Masks are to be worn throughout the service.
Please remain seated for the hymns.***

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

God of the Sparrow

The Call To Worship (From *Psalm 25*)

Alex Fino, liturgist

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 – Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.

The Hymn 370

This Is my Father's World

*This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears all nature sings,
and round me rings the music of the spheres.*

*This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees,
of skies and seas, his hand the wonders wrought.*

*This is my Father's world. O, let me ne'er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet. This is my Father's world. The battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.*

*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

As Noah and his family were brought safely through the flood onto dry ground,
so in baptismal waters we are brought from death into new life in Christ.

**Jesus Christ, Who is at the right hand of God, forgives us and reconciles us
and all things in heaven and on earth. Thanks be to God! 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!**

(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 Old Testament Lesson: *Genesis 9:8-17*

The New Testament Lesson: *1 Peter 3:18-22*

p. 284 in the pew Bible

The Anthem

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

E.A. Hoffman/Eric Nelson, arr.

Chris Fisher, Mary Ann Casey, Roy Jarnecke, Larry Casey

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;

What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms?

I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms

The Gospel Lesson: *Mark 1:9-15*

p.42 in the pew Bible

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

The Meditation

Jesus in the Wild

Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

**The Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,

Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no

end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sin s.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of Thanksgiving, and Intercession

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 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

...who forever sings 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

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.

The Communion

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 774

There Is Now a New Creation
There is now a new creation through the grace of Jesus Christ,
peace and reconciliation with the God of endless life.
Call the lost and found together; tell the news to everyone:
now the past is gone forever and a new life has begun
Come and join the celebration; come and join this happy feast;
Jesus makes an invitation to the greatest and least.
There is now a new creation through the grace of Jesus Christ.
Sing, with thanks and adoration, to the God of endless life!

The Charge & Benediction

The Postlude

Kindly remain seated during the Postlude.
You will be dismissed by our Safety Ushers
from the back to the front of the Sanctuary.
We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

Announcements for February 17-24

Is it possible to observe Ash Wednesday without the imposition of Ashes?

Here we go again, folks: figuring out how to keep the holy days when we are in a place where the pandemic has prevented us from meeting. Nothing is the same as it would be, if we could gather.

The importance of hearing the call to a holy Lent, receiving ashes, and confessing the Litany of Penitence together *as an assembled body* is significant to the meaning of these practices. We are the body of Christ, and our ministry in Christ is done *as a body*, not as an aggregate of individuals. But unlike receiving communion, whose sacramental meaning is intimately connected to *eating together from a shared table with the assembly*, ashes are not a sacrament. They are external signs, a provocation, a reminding.

According to our theology, it is possible to observe Ash Wednesday without the imposition of Ashes. Will we experience this as a loss, in a year of losses, having come to expect ashes in our current practice? *No doubt*. And it is a loss – we needn't pretend that the changes this moment has brought to our liturgical lives are not losses. But it is possible that an observance of Ash Wednesday without Ashes, either distanced where allowed, or on a digital platform, might mark the day in ways that could even enrich our practice when we are able to return to the real-time, real-space Assembly.

Though it may look and feel different than years past, we hope you will participate in this evening's 7:00 p.m. service, either virtually or in person.



Brittany

Use Realm to Reserve Your Seat for Sunday Worship by FRIDAY NOON

If you would like to participate in Worship in the Sanctuary this Sunday, please make a reservation by calling the church office, 540-373-7057, Monday - Friday between 9:00 a.m. and Noon. You may also make your reservation online by using Realm. If you have not yet set up your Realm log in, visit <http://onrealm.org/FredericksburgP> and click "Forgot Password."

Communion

We will celebrate communion in worship on Sunday, February 21, the first Sunday in Lent. If you plan to join us online at 9:00 a.m., or watch the recording at any time, please set aside two things for each member of your household: a morsel of bread and a drink of your choosing. Kindly place them in front of you as you prepare to worship, perhaps on a plate and/or in a special cup or glass.



Weekly Meetings & Activities

- Wed. (2/17) — Meditation Group, 5:30pm (Zoom)
Contact Marsha Lockett (marshajlockett@gmail.com)
Ash Wednesday Service, 7pm (Sanctuary & Youtube)
- Thurs. (2/18) — Women's Bible Study, 9:30am (Zoom)
Adult Choir, 7:30p.m. (Zoom)
- Sun. (2/21) — Worship, 9am (Sanctuary & Youtube)
Adult Church School Classes—Schedule on page 2
Sacred Dance, 3:30pm (Undercroft)
Youth Fellowship, 5pm (Zoom)
- Tues. (2/23) — Men's Breakfast Group, 7:30am (FH & Zoom)
Contact John Howe (jhowe1969@cox.net)
CE Committee, 6pm (Zoom)
Book Study, 7pm, (Zoom) Details on page 2
- Wed. (2/24) — Meditation Group, 5:30pm (Zoom)

A New Way to Connect

We in the church office want to introduce you to Realm®, an updated church record keeping system. The new system offers more ways for us to communicate and connect as a church family. You will be able to register for events, communicate with your groups, access your contribution statement, receive church news, update your personal information, give online, and more.

You should have received an email from Realm inviting you either join our Realm community. If you didn't receive an invite visit <http://onrealm.org/FredericksburgP> and click "Forgot Password." We hope you help us maximize our new system by registering soon. Contact the Church Office if you have questions.

Church Family News:

Capsule of Concern: Rachel Erb, Kim Fischer, Doris Glidden, Doris Gulatsi, Donna Hughes, Donn Langfitt, Karla Lewis, Debra Myers, Billie Plank, Larry Repanshek, Pam Werner, Nancy Wilson.

Condolences to Debra Myers and family on the death of her brother, Earl Hollibaugh, who died on January 13, 2021; Chuck Penick and family on the death of his father, Charles, who died on January 18, 2021.

Birthdays this week February 21-28

- 21 James Avery, Ryan Hughes
- 22. Lisa Kuiper
- 23 Theo Blashford, Sharon Robertson
- 24 Christie Doherty, Will Hendricks
- 26. Judy Balch, Finian Joel, Curtis Ramer, Sophie Statler
- 27. Joyce Allison, Dave Bohmke, Monica Cox, Louis Illi, Evan Sullivan
- 28. Matthew Green, Les Johnson

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.

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, February 28:

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

Are you looking for ways to serve neighbors in need? During these cold months, consider hanging a scarf, hat, gloves, socks, etc. on our **Cold Weather Clothesline** we have placed along our church fence (both George and Princess Anne Streets). All donations should be placed in Ziplock bags and then hung (using clothespins we will provide) anytime along the clotheslines. Passersby will be encouraged to take as they have need.



Youth Fellowship

Sunday, 5:00 pm, Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89710985778?pwd=K3YvQWMzWlc1eUJaUE41bWFrU2FhQT09>

Adult Ministry and Education (Youth participation is welcomed and encouraged)

Virtual Conversations in the Public Square Series, Sundays in Lent at 11:00 a.m.

The topic of this year's Conversations in the Public Square Series is *Connecting with Creation: How is the Church called to Engage?* The series will begin Sunday, February 21, at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom. We hope you, along with your neighbors, will join us for these important conversations.

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89363943223?pwd=QmtmbExwNDZL25sK0JOZUJyTE1JZz09>

February 21 – Pastor Fisher

This session will offer a broad introduction to our scriptural, confessional and theological traditions pertaining to questions of ecology and our stewardship of creation.

February 28 – Pastor Tamminga

This session will explore the ways in which God is working through the current human-made catastrophe of global climate change, deforestation, massive extinction, and toxic poisoning to find a way for life to push through once again.

March 7 – Tim Tamminga and Jerry Zekert

This session will offer a brief overview of issues related to city planning and investigate ways we as citizens might engage with civic planning to promote sustainability in our communities.

March 14 – Jason Hayob-Matzke, Professor of Philosophy at University of Mary Washington

This session will examine ways of imaging the human relationship to nature, while exploring the question: how can we move forward in a way that better enables solutions to arise to our current ecological crisis?

March 21 – High School Youth

In this session, some of our high school students will help us to determine our carbon footprint and explore ways to reduce our harm on the environment.

March 28 – James Luckett

This session will confront the question, how do our actions and decisions as a congregation tie us to the global web of life?

Creation Care and the Congregation

Sunday, 2:00 pm, led by James Luckett

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83637373913?pwd=OE0zMOJkNnVSUJlVQ2k0SEpLNi9aUT09>

Book Study: Learning to Speak God from Scratch

Tuesday, 7:00 pm, led by Jen Rowe

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88274047075>