

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Third Sunday After Epiphany

January 24, 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

Andante

Franz Schubert

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

The Call To Worship (*Psalm 62:1-2*)

Nick Medina, liturgist

From God comes my salvation.
For God alone my soul waits in silence.
God alone is my rock and my salvation.
God is my fortress; I shall never be shaken.

The Prayer of Adoration

You are our rock and our strength, O God, and in You rests our deliverance. You defend us in the midst of adversity; You protect us from ultimate harm. You humble the mighty with acts that manifest Your transcendent power; the lowly You comfort with Your tender embrace. We gather in worship this day, saved by Your mercy. Hear now our praises as we herald Your greatness. For to You Eternal God belong all glory, praise and honor in Jesus' Name, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Hymn 275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

*A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing.
Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.
Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he, Lord Sabaoth His name,
from age to age the same, and he must with the battle.
That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also. The body they may kill;
God's truth abideth still. His kingdom is forever.*

The Prayer of Confession

O Holy God, You called the disciples to drop their nets and follow You. We confess that often we are hesitant to drop the tools and comforts of our lives. We distract ourselves from Your call with busyness, stress, and worry. We tangle ourselves in webs of racism, sexism, and hatred that disguises itself as fear. We are prone to sin, too quick to judge others and slow to recognize our own failings. Have mercy on us O God ...(time for silent confession)... .

*The Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News proclaimed:
God hears our words, God sees our changed hearts,
God's steadfast love is poured out upon us!
Trust in God, in Whom salvation rests.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. 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!**

(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

God, our Loving Parent, Your voice claims us as Your people and calls us into new relationship with ourselves and others. By Your Holy Spirit, help us to hear Your voice speaking to us through these words of scripture, and prepare us for Your service, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

The Old Testament Lesson: *Jonah 3:1-5,10*

The Epistle Lesson: *I Corinthians 7:29-31*

The Anthem

You Are Mine

David Haas/Mark Hayes, arr.

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

*I will come to you in the silence, I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice, be still and know I am here.
I am hope for all who are hopeless, I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night I will be your light, come and rest in me.
Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine.
I am strength for all the despairing, I am healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and all will know my name.
I am the Word that leads all to freedom, I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name embracing all your pain. Stand up, now walk, and live!
Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine.*

The Gospel Lesson: *Mark 1:14-20*

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

The Sermon

Time

Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

The *Apostles' Creed*

**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 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 410

God Is Calling through the Whisper

*God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit's deepest sighs,
through the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise.
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder:
God is calling – can you hear? God is calling – can you hear?*

*God is calling through the voices of our neighbors' urgent prayers,
through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.
Place of hurt or face of needling; strident cry or silent pleading:
God is calling – can you hear? God is calling – can you hear?*

*God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts,
through the hymns of earth and angels, and the carols of our hearts.
Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing:
God is calling – can you hear? God is calling – can you hear?*

*The Charge and Benediction

*The Postlude

Recessional from "The Redemption"

Charles Gounod

***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 January 20-27

And So We Pray

“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings should be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.” (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

Pastors are occasionally asked why we pray for elected officials and public servants in our prayers in public liturgy. We are not officers of the state, yet we feel an obligation to pray for people in power whose work, decisions and actions impact us all.

Please notice that our prayers for leaders comes directly from our obligation to pray for everyone. I take that to mean our obnoxious neighbors, the person who cut you off on the interstate and the foolish ones who root against your favorite home team. The discipline of interceding for others is part of the practice of our faith. It helps us to remember that we are all children of God – those who know and understand that, and those who don’t.

Yes, it is time to pray for our President, Vice President, Representatives, Senators, Judges and all who are in authority over us. As it always is. Supplication, Intercession and Thanksgiving are always good ingredients in the prayer life of the faithful in Christ.

May God bless us all as we pray for each other, our leaders and our nation as well as our neighbors, enemies, friends, family and strangers too.

Who have you prayed for today?

“This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” (1 Timothy 2:3-4)

Peace,

Allen

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 ACSReservations by clicking on this link: https://secure.accessacs.com/access/login_guest.aspx?sn=90894.

Church Family News:

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

Session has called a **virtual meeting of the congregation** for Sunday, January 31, at 10:00 a.m. Details of how to participate and an invite will be coming soon. The purpose of the meeting is to elect members of the Congregational Nominating Committee for 2021, and to vote on proposed changes in pastors’ terms of call.

Birthdays this week January 24-31

- 24. Jeff Kunkler
- 25. Fred Betz
- 26. Carol Campbell, Harry Lewis
- 27. Jamie Gillespie
- 28. Claire Fritz, Don MacNemar, Sue Stone
- 29. Brian Baker, Ellie Bell, Zac Cunningham, Bruce Harvey, Kim Liska, Paula Steven, April Stevens
- 30. Kaileen Coffman, Don Doherty
- 31. Robert King, Lynn Norfleet

Weekly Meetings & Activities

- Wed. (1/20) — Meditation Group, 5:30pm (Zoom)
Contact Marsha Luckett (marshajluckett@gmail.com)
- Thurs. (1/21) — Women’s Bible Study, 9:30am (Zoom)
Contact Marsha Luckett (marshajluckett@gmail.com).
Adult Choir, 7:30p.m. (Zoom)
- Sun. (1/24) — Worship, 9am (Sanctuary & Youtube)
Adult Church School Classes—Schedule on page 2
Sacred Dance, 3:30pm (Undercroft)
Youth Fellowship, 5pm (Zoom)
- Tues. (1/26) — Men’s Breakfast Group, 7:30am (FH & Zoom)
Contact John Howe (ihowe1969@cox.net)
Blood Drive, 1pm (Fellowship Hall)
Book Study, 7pm, (Zoom) Details on page 2
- Wed. (1/27) — Meditation Group, 5:30pm (Zoom)

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, January 31:

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111;
1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

Service of Healing and Wholeness, January 24, at 4:00 p.m. (virtual and in-person)

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

So come, you who are burdened by regrets and anxieties,
you who are broken in body or in spirit,
you who are torn by relationships and by doubt,
you who feel deeply within yourselves the divisions and injustices of our world.

Come, for Jesus invites us to bring him our brokenness.

If you would like to participate in this service in-person, please make a reservation by emailing (cjforsing@fredericksburgpc.org) or by calling the church office, 540-373-7057, Monday – Friday between 9:00 a.m. and noon.



Thanks to all who donated brownies and helped with the meal delivery to our homeless neighbors in local motels on January 16. Brownies will again be needed for the meal delivery on Saturday, February 20. Contact Karen Johnson for information, 540-621-5685 (ksjohnson422@msn.com).

Feeding Neighbors in Need

In addition to our feeding ministry for refugees and other food insecure families identified through the City Schools, we serve neighbors through our Food Pantry through combined efforts with the pantry of Fredericksburg United Methodist Church. Between deliveries, packing and actually distributing food 5-days a week, it takes about 190 volunteer hours per month. If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please be in touch with Elder Sherman Brown at 540-226-3295 or sign up online: <https://tinyurl.com/PantryHelp>. Another service opportunity has become available. Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry in King George is looking for additional volunteers on Sundays. If you are interested, please be in touch with Wayne Hibbeler.

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.

A heartfelt "thank you" is extend to those of you who generously gave your time, talent and energy on behalf of those in need through the **2020 Red Kettle Campaign**. Your kettle brought in \$1,262.59, and thanks to you and the other volunteer bell ringers, The Salvation Army Fredericksburg, VA Corps was able to raise funds to help provide holiday and other services for this year. Your charity and compassion aides us in the ability to assist needy men, women and children in our community, and is a direct reflection on the generosity of the residents of our community. Thank you for supporting the vital work of The Salvation Army and helping us show God's love through your gifts of volunteerism.

Our annual January **Red Cross Blood Drive** is this Tuesday, January 26, from 1:30-7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Items about the blood drive: 1) Registering for Rapid Pass (www.redcross.org/RapidPass) can save 20 or less minutes for registering. 2) Donors, please eat a full breakfast, lunch and drink lots of water before donating blood. 3) Please bring a current photo identification. 4) Donors during January are eligible to win 2 tickets to Super Bowl LVI in a getaway to L.A., California. For info visit RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl. Many heart felt thanks to all who helped save lives with this blood drive.

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)

Faith and Movie Class

Sunday, 10:30 am, led by Marty and Vicky Wilder; Kathy and Eric Rocholl

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86223901848?pwd=S1MyYVpaK0xtVVZrcHQwSnZ0QUkzd09>

Discovering the Psalms

Sunday, 12:00 pm, led by Brittany Tamminga & Lindsey Williams

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89898477424?pwd=RVF5VDVqWVZyYXpVTGIySGNLSndFQT09>

Creation Care and the Congregation

Sunday, 2:00 pm, led by James Lockett

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83637373913?pwd=OE0zM0JkNnVSUIJVQ2k0SEpLNI9aUT09>

Book Study: Learning to Speak God from Scratch

Tuesday, 7:00 pm, led by Jen Rowe

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