

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

July 12, 2020

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

Jesus Is All the World to Me

by Edward Broughton

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

In Christ There Is No East or West

The Call To Worship (from *Psalms 119*)

Erik Fino, liturgist

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord, and teach me Your ordinances.

Your decrees are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.

I incline my heart to perform Your statutes forever, even unto the end.

The Prayer of Adoration

Your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Like a beacon You lead us to safe havens. You discern the thoughts of our hearts. You enlighten our darkness and clarify our confusion. You, indeed, rescue us when we are bewildered and lost. Accept now our offerings of praise and thanksgiving as we open Your Word and learn of Your ways. All glory be to You, Eternal God- Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of all. Amen.

The Hymn

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 Prayer of Confession

Holy and merciful God, in Your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against You. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your love. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to hear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to tarnish Your Gospel and stain Your redeeming grace ... (time for silent prayer) Forgive our sins and help us to live in Your light, and walk in Your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior in Whose Name we pray. Amen.

*The Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News: There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,

that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Believe the Good News of the Gospel:

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

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 25:19-34*

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalms 119:105-112*

The Anthem

For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter

*For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.
For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.
For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent child,
Friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.
For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

The Epistle Lesson: *Romans 8:1-11*

The Gospel Lesson: *Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*

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

The Sermon

Profligate
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

O God in Whom All Life Begins

*O God in whom all life begins, who births the seed to fruit,
bestow your blessing on our lives; here let your love find root.
Bring forth in us the Spirit's gifts of patience, joy, and peace;
Deliver us from numbing fear, and grant our faith increase.
Unite in mutual ministry our minds and hands and hearts
that we may have the grace to seek the power your peace imparts.
So let our varied gifts combine to glorify your Name
That in all things by word and deed we may your love proclaim.
Through tears and laughter, grief and joy, enlarge our trust and care;
so bind us in community that we may risk and dare.
Be with us when we gather here to worship, sing, and pray;
then send us forth in power and faith to live the words we say.*

The Charge & Benediction

The Postlude

Larghetto in C Major

by G. Bentivoglio

Announcements for - July 12-19

Opportunities to serve

As we approach the fourth full month of social restrictions, many of you are beginning to venture out with face masks and social distancing in mind. What has not decreased, but is now also growing is the number of families in our communities who are struggling to make ends meet. Recently, the Fredericksburg City School district that had been providing meals to underprivileged students and families had to discontinue their daily food distribution network. We, as part of the area Micah partner churches, have been asked to help by staffing one distribution point for 2 hours in the middle of the day, Monday thru Friday. Many of our most able and interested volunteers are still quarantining to various degrees, and we know many others interested to help are committed to working remotely through the midday. If you would be willing to give 2 hours of service to people in need, please contact the church office.

Your generous support of the congregation continues to meet needs for other families in town as we have combined our food pantry efforts, relocating them to Fredericksburg United Methodist Church who has an excellent drive through pick-up distribution capability. Many of our Food Pantry volunteers are now working in concert at that church.

If you are willing to help in other ways and or times, please be in touch with the church office as occasional transportation, pick-up and delivery requests have begun to come in from members. *“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”* (Matthew 25:40)

Thanks for your ongoing ministries in Jesus' name.

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, July 19:

Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 131:1-12, 23-24;
Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Birthdays this week July 12-19

13. Erma Baker, Clyde Bentley, Jackson Stevens
14. Steven Schattgen
15. Kim Baker, Bob Harry
16. Meg Bohmke, Emy Noxon
17. Ann Glover, Christopher Hall, Nancy Raines, Michael Wimberly
18. Josh Rehm, Holly Saunders, Kierstin Schneider, Jo Smiley, Adelaide Stevens
19. Ellie Cox, Matthew Rembisz

Church Family News:

Capsule of Concern: Debra Myers, Billie Plank

We celebrate the birth of Hazel Miriam Williams, born July 7, 2020. Hazel's parents are Roy and Lindsey Williams and her sister is Eleanor.

Heartfelt love and sympathies are extended to Jean Walker on the death of her husband, John Walker, who died on July 2, 2020.

Furthering the Conversation: Resources to Engage Issues of Race

WATCH: *Confronting 'Intergroup Anxiety': Can you try too hard to be fair?*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UsBpGmUeAsI>

READ: *Who Gets to Be Afraid in America?*, by Ibram X. Kendi, author of *How to be an Antiracist*

<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/05/ahmaud-arbery/611539/>

LISTEN: *Here and Now - Without Slavery, Would the U.S. be the Leading Economic Power?*, by host Jeremy Hobson and author Edward Baptist.

<https://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2014/11/19/slavery-economy-baptist>

CANCELLED It is with much regret that we will not be able to hold our annual **School Dressing Days** event this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Our member churches are closed and there is no safe way to proceed with such a large event. We know families really need help this year and we wish we could be of assistance; it is such an unfortunate situation. Good luck and blessings to all who have been helped by this ministry and may your families stay healthy.

Getting Involved Through Service and Mission

We have adopted a Food Distribution Site through the School Feeding Program. Volunteers are needed to help with food distribution 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. If you are interested in joining these efforts, please be in touch with Sherman Brown at (540) 226-3295.

Thanks 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.

Help is needed for the July 18 **Community "Dinner."** This month we deliver pizza to Micah guests who are being housed at 3 local motels. Volunteers are needed to box and deliver the pizza (around 4:30 p.m.); contribute individual bags of salad; and contribute brownies, bagged 2 to a bag. Contact Karen Johnson for more details and to volunteer, ksjohnson422@msn.com, 540-371-2719, 540-621-5685.

Our **Presbyterian Church sponsored summer Red Cross Blood Drive** will be on Tuesday, August 4, from 1:00-7:00 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Extensive precautions are implemented at each and every Red Cross Drive to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Safety for every individual is at the center of all donations. Some steps being implemented include requiring masks be worn by all participants (workers included), sanitation of all areas touched and used by the people who make the wonderful choice to give their blood in order to save three lives. Please consider donating blood to the American Red Cross. Volunteers are needed for coordinator and registration help. Also, the Red Cross **will be testing for COVID-19 antibodies at the blood drive.** This test is being offered as an additional service on all completed blood donations. The antibody test is authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and will indicate if the immune system has produced antibodies to the coronavirus, regardless of whether symptoms were present. This test is not to diagnose current symptoms, referred to as a diagnostic test. Results of your antibody test will be available in your Blood Donor App, or in your donor profile on RedCrossBlood.org about one week after your donation. To be a part of this life saving mission, register online at Redcrossblood.org; search for the sponsor code: FredericksburgPresbyterian. We highly encourage you to complete your RapidPass® pre-donation questionnaire before you come to the blood drive. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Benn via email lkrab@verizon.net, or phone 540-370-1646, before 9:00 p.m.

Now on **our YouTube Channel: Storied, a video series of The Presbyterian Church**, as well as additional resources for young families. Subscribe to the channel for the latest updates, using the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIJ5e8hmZeE2K-SAtfjoWpA>

Summer Offerings for Christian Education

Faith and Art, Images of Jesus - A six-week Zoom class begins Sunday, July 12, 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 is on break for the month of July.

Sowing Tears, Reaping Joy: The Bible and Brahms' Requiem - Follow this famous requiem on a tour of Biblical prompts about death, grief, the brevity of life, and faith for here and hereafter. Through music and Scripture, we move from graveside to grieving, from the challenges of self-reflection to new perspectives and hope beyond. This class will meet on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m., beginning July 1. To participate in this study, please email Larry and Mary Ann Casey (lmacasey@fredericksburgpc.org), for the Zoom link.