

# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

## *The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost*

July 26, 2020

\*All who are able may stand.

**Bold type spoken by the congregation**

### GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

*Psalm*

Gordon Young

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

*You Shall Have a Song*

Ziegenhals

The Call To Worship (from *Psalm 105*)

Tim Tamminga, liturgist

O give thanks to the Lord, call on his Name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.**  
Glory in his Holy Name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.  
**Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.**

The Prayer of Adoration

**O God, as Christ intercedes on our behalf, we are emboldened to come before Your throne of grace. You make us mindful of Your bountiful care as each morning we arise to greet the dawn of a new day. As Your Word is read and proclaimed, we hear how You have been faithful throughout the ages. Be pleased with our offerings of praise and thanksgiving as we respond to Your goodness in thought, word, and deed. Amen.**

The Hymn

*Be Thou My Vision*

*Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.*

*High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

\*The Prayer of Confession

**God, Your kingdom confounds us, You challenge our assumptions about right living and stretch our understanding of what holds worth. You reverse our expectations and reorder our priorities until they reflect Your vision of well-being for all. Your kingdom surprises us with grace upon grace. But we cling to the values of this world, which privilege products over people, success over service, and completion for resources over the common good. In Your mercy, forgive us ... (time for silent confession)... . In Christ's Name open us to new ways of living that embody Your desire for creation and contribute to a commonwealth marked by justice and joy. Amen.**

\*The Assurance of Pardon

*(Romans 8:31-39)*

What then are we to say about these things?

**If God is for us, who is against us?**

Sisters and brothers, nothing we have done, nothing we will ever do,  
is enough to separate us from the love of God made known in Jesus Christ.

**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 29:15-28*

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalms 105:1-11, 45b*

The Anthem

*Praise the Lord, Alleluia!*

William Boyce

*Alleluia, praise, O praise the Lord. All heaven and earth rejoice, and sing the glory, Alleluia.  
Creatures great and small, nature and all, now shout with joy, Alleluia!*

The Epistle Lesson: *Romans 8:26-39*

The Gospel Lesson: *Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52*

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

The Sermon

*Second Look*  
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

*Lead On, O King Eternal!*

*Lead on, O King eternal! The day of march has come;  
Henceforth in fields of conquest Your tents shall be our home.  
Through days of preparation Your grace has made us strong,  
and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.*

*Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace;  
for not with swords' loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums;  
with deeds of love and mercy the heavenly kingdom comes.*

*Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears;  
for gladness breaks like morning where'er Your face appears;  
Your cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light.  
The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might!*

\*The Charge & Benediction

\*The Postlude

*Trumpet Voluntary*  
Based on an old English hornpipe

Gordon Young

## Announcements for - July 26-August 2

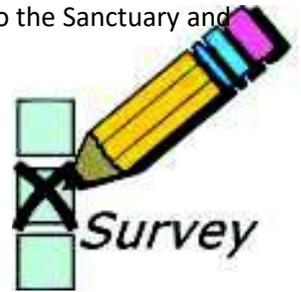
### Session Invites Your Input

As we refine our processes to manage a return to in-person worship services we want to hear from you. You recently received a survey to help us measure your comfort level and commitment to returning to the Sanctuary and Church grounds.

Thanks to the many of you who have already responded.

Please make time to complete the survey online: <https://forms.gle/WxSYRm86MvLYVgFu9> or print the survey at the end of these announcements complete and mail-in your replies.

Thanks for your input and your continued support and prayers for the ministry and mission we share.



Blessings to you and yours in Christ!

*The Session*

### Lectionary Readings for Sunday, August 2:

Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15;  
Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

### ***Birthdays this week July 26-August 2***

- 26. Gaye Copley, Carol Mayer
- 27. Elizabeth Hamlett, Pearl Miller, Maggie Wilder
- 28. Chase Catullo, Eva Watkins
- 29. Nancy Brandon, Karen Duffy, Annie Pates
- 30. Noah Adams, Megan King, Chloe Kiracofe,  
William Oplinger, Willard Raines
- 31. Julian Cadger, William Demarest, Scarlett Joel,  
Al Moreau
- 1. Elliott Farley, Susan Frost, Patty O'Brien
- 2. Chris Fisher, Patrick Foreman, Lois Nixon,  
Ava Wright

### ***Church Family News:***

**Capsule of Concern:** Debra Myers, Billie Plank, Doreen Vaughn



### ***Getting Involved Through Service and Mission***

Thanks to all those who have volunteered to help with the School Feeding Program. 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.

CORRECTED LINK: <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](http://www.fredericksburgpc.org).



For the July 18 **community "dinner,"** a meal of pizza, salad and brownies/cake was delivered to Micah guests who are staying in 3 local motels. Thanks to all who helped with the delivery and contributed by donating salad and brownies. It will be a while before there is a dinner in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to help with the next meal delivery on August 15th by donating salad or brownies or by helping to distribute the meals, contact Karen Johnson, [ksjohnson422@msn.com](mailto:ksjohnson422@msn.com), (540) 621-5685.

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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](http://RedCrossBlood.org) about one week after your donation. To be a part of this life saving mission, register online at [Redcrossblood.org](http://Redcrossblood.org); search for the sponsor code: [FredericksburgPresbyterian](http://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](mailto:lkrab@verizon.net), or phone 540-370-1646, before 9:00 p.m.

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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](mailto: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](mailto:lmacasey@fredericksburgpc.org)), for the Zoom link.

### **Weekly Zoom Meetings**

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

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

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

The Presbyterian Church in Fredericksburg, Virginia, is planning to resume in-person worship services by the fall. Session has required that all members and visitors wear masks on church grounds and in the sanctuary, and safety ushers will direct people where to sit to maintain appropriate social distancing. Total available seating will not exceed 50% capacity of the main floor.

We will continue to offer live-stream and recorded versions of the service to those who prefer to participate from home.

To help us determine interest and concerns, Session and staff ask that you please complete this short survey by July 26.

**Which best describes your attitude about reopening in-person worship?**

- I'm ready to come back.
- I'd be more comfortable continuing to watch online.
- I'm undecided.

**In addition to guidance from government and healthcare officials, are there other signals you want to see before participating in person at Sunday worship? (check all that apply)**

- We should open fully now.
- Schools should be open.
- Restaurants/bars should be fully open.
- Other downtown congregations should be resuming worship in-person.
- There should be wide availability of a vaccine.
- There should be a continual decline in regional COVID-19 cases.
- Other – (write in)

**If in-person services resume, would you be willing to send your children to in-person church school on Sunday mornings?**

- Yes
- No
- Maybe
- Not applicable

**If in-person services resume, would you be willing to teach in-person church school on Sunday mornings?**

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

**Have you been part of any ongoing virtual church school class?**

- I didn't know about the option.
- I know about the option but haven't attended.
- I've been at least once.
- I'm a regular attendee.

**How frequently have you viewed and participated in our online recorded services?**

You can watch services here: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIJ5e8hmZeE2K-SAtfjoWpA?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIJ5e8hmZeE2K-SAtfjoWpA?view_as=subscriber)

- I didn't know there were online services.
- I knew there are online services, but I haven't watched them.
- I tune in occasionally.
- I'm a regular watcher.

**Have you been able to continue your support of our ministries and mission during the quarantine? (Check all that apply.)**

- I have been unable to provide financial support to the church.
- I have given online.
- I have mailed check(s).
- I would like to give online, but need help with the process.
- I am waiting for in-person services to resume.

You can mail checks to: *Presbyterian Church, 810 Princess Anne St. Fredericksburg, VA 22401*

You can give online <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=90894>

If you have questions, please email the office at [cjforsing@fredericksburgpc.org](mailto:cjforsing@fredericksburgpc.org)