

# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

## *The Fifth Sunday After Pentecost*

July 5, 2020

\*All who are able may stand.

**Bold type spoken by the congregation**

### GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

*He Leadeth Me*

William Bradbury

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

I Need Thee Every Hour

The Call To Worship (from *Psalm 45*)

Linda Benn

Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever.

**You love righteousness and hate wickedness.**

I will cause Your Name to be celebrated in all generations;  
**therefore the peoples will praise You forever and ever.**

The Prayer of Adoration

**You are our Guardian and Shield, O God, our Protector who keeps us from falling. You surround us with righteousness that wards off evil forces; in Christ is the assurance to withstand ways that may tempt us. You shower us with Your mercy that cleanses wrongdoing. You temper Your judgment with compassion. We stand in adoration and in praise of Your Name. All glory and honor are Yours, the One Eternal God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

\*The Hymn 611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, Opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.*

*All Thy works with joy surround Thee; earth and heaven reflect Thy rays;  
stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.*

*Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in Thee.*

*Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began;  
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.  
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.*

\*The Litany of Confession

(from *Romans 7*)

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

**I do not understand my own actions.**

**For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

**But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells with me.**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

**I can will what is right, but I cannot do it ... (time for silent confession)...**

\*The Assurance of Pardon

...There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

**Miserable creature that I am! Who will rescue me from the body of death?**

God alone through Jesus Christ our Lord!

**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!**

(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: *Read Genesis 24*

The Epistle Lesson: *Romans 7:15-25a*

The Anthem

*Sing a New Song*

Michael Haydn

*Sing a new song, sing to God a new song. All the earth break in joyful praise. Sing in joyful praise.  
God is our lasting hope, unending praise we sing. Sing praise to God, Sing a New Song.*

The Gospel Lesson: *Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30*

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

The Sermon

*Burden and Blessing*  
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD . . .

\*The Affirmation of Faith

(from "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 Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.**

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:**

**preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,**

**teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,**

**healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts,**

**forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,**

**Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain**

**and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,**

**breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**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 338

*O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

*O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,*

*For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!*

*America! America! God shed his grace on thee,*

*and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!*

*O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,*

*Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!*

*America! America! God mend thine every flaw;*

*Confirm thy soul in self control, thy liberty in law!*

*O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years*

*thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears! America! America!*

*May God thy gold refine till all success be nobleness and every gain divine!*

\*The Charge and Benediction

\*The Postlude

*Grand Choeur*

Gordon Young

## Announcements for - July 5-12

Another stunning disruption to community life under public health restrictions in a pandemic is the fragmentation of our communication. We hope you are staying in touch with friends, family and neighbors even when we don't routinely see each other.

The streets around our Church campus are still ringing with organized protesters nearly every day. As with many public movements, the media tend to report when and as it suits their need for stories, pictures and drama. Despite what you may have heard these demonstrations have been remarkably peaceful, non-violent, and respectful of traffic and property. But the questions, concerns and protests have not gone away.

The good news is that conversations (some in public spaces, some personal direct communications) are well underway between community organizers and elected officials and have begun to produce positive fruit as relationships are being forged.

Our session is carefully considering our witness, engagement and messaging in the midst of these new dynamics. The harder work of improving our common life as a city and region is still ahead. We know that the fatigue factors are high for many of you, yet we encourage you to consider how you can help.

Please keep the energy going by examining the resources we share each week: *Watch, Read, and Listen* are invitations to continue what can be a halting, segmented process. It is important work for the future of our community and a great opportunity and process to share the Gospel values of peace, hope and love.

**Capsule of Concern:** Mike Kuliasha, Debra Myers, Billie Plank, John Walker

### Lectionary Readings for Sunday, July 12:

Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112;  
Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

### ***Birthdays this week July 5-12***

5. Coy Franklin, Cara Miles
8. Ed Heinrich, Doris Johnson, Amy Shirk
9. Dick Balch, Kyle Barnes, Annette Lowery, Eleanor McCord, Dorothy Mondak, Opal Ritchie
10. Michelle Early, Mitch Harrison, Jim Pickens
11. Ann Harry, Althea Harvey, Annette Richards

### **Church Family News:**

Condolences to:

Jerry Zekert and family on the death of his mother, Mary Helen Zekert, who died on June 24, 2020.

### **Online SAFETY NOTICE:**

Recently there has been a rash of 'phishing' emails sent to members of the congregation. They are attempts to connect, pretending to be from one of our pastors. NOTE: Official communication and church emails come only from our @fredericksburgpc.org domain address. If you receive emails purporting to be from church staff with a different domain address (i.e. @gmail.com) please DO NOT REPLY, and DO NOT CLICK ANY LINKS. If you have questions about any church email, please call the church office Monday - Friday mornings.

### **Furthering the Conversation: Resources to Engage Issues of Race**

WATCH: *Birth of a White Nation*, Keynote speech by legal scholar Jacqueline Battalora, offers a blow-by-blow description of the moment the idea of, and word for, "white" people entered U.S. legal code.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=riVAuC0dnP4>

READ: *White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack*, by Peggy McIntosh;

[https://psychology.umbc.edu/files/2016/10/White-Privilege\\_McIntosh-1989.pdf](https://psychology.umbc.edu/files/2016/10/White-Privilege_McIntosh-1989.pdf)

LISTEN: *1619*, An audio series on how slavery has transformed America, connecting past and present through the oldest form of storytelling. (Can be accessed wherever podcasts are found)

**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).

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. The Corona virus pandemic has had far reaching effects, including the lack of blood donations causing a national blood shortage for the American Red Cross. Extensive precautions are implemented at each and every Red Cross Drive to prevent the spread of this virus. Safety for every individual is at the center of all donations. A few 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 precious 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 our upcoming 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. For the safety of the donor community and in accordance with CDC guidelines, all donors are required to wear a face covering or mask. Please bring one to your donation. If you do not have one, a mask will be provided to you. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Benn via email lkrab@verizon.net, or phone 540-370-1646, before 9:00 p.m.

We are collecting items to put in backpacks for **School Dressing Days**. Donations of soap, deodorant, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, 1” binders, athletic socks for boys/girls, and backpacks may be brought to the Education Building Lobby, Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. or Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Monetary donations are welcome. Checks may be made out to Interfaith Community Council, with School Dressing Days on the memo line and mailed to IFCC, PO Box 1336, Fredericksburg, VA, 22402

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 will be displayed that depict various representations of Christ and those pieces will be 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)), for a Zoom link or for additional information.

**Faith and Movie Class** - Do you like to watch movies – both old favorites and unfamiliar titles? If you like to discuss the stories and themes in movies, and relate them to our sacred stories and faith, this class is for you. Class participants choose a movie for everyone to watch during the week and then lead the discussion via Zoom. This class meets on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m., and the Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84012359434>.

**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.

**Summer Book Club 2020 – Pandemic-Style** continues to discuss *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis on Tuesday evenings this summer via zoom - July 7 & 21, and August 4. We will meet via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to join this book club, please email Jen ([jenrowe@cox.net](mailto:jenrowe@cox.net)) for a reading schedule and a 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 Luckett ([luckett@juno.com](mailto:luckett@juno.com)) for the Zoom link.  
Women’s Bible Study, Thursday, 9:30 a.m. Contact Marsha Luckett ([luckett@juno.com](mailto:luckett@juno.com)) for the Zoom link.