

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2020

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

My Lord, What a Morning

arr. Robert Lau

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

God is Calling Through the Whisper

The Call To Worship

(from Psalm 31)

In You, O God, we seek refuge.
In Your righteousness, deliver us.
Incline Your ear to us; rescue us speedily.
Be a rock of refuge for us, a strong fortress to save us.
You are indeed our rock and our fortress.
For Your Name's sake, lead us and guide us.

The Prayer of Praise

You are the reason we rejoice, O God, and You fill us with gladness. You know what afflicts us; You can sense our distress. You remove whatever net will ensnare us; give our feet firm places to stand; and keep our eyes upon You Lord. In Christ, You have delivered us and shown us the way, revealing to us Your truth and offering us everlasting life. For all Your mercies we praise Your Name and worship You now as our refuge and strength, almighty and glorious One in Three. Amen.

The Hymn 643

Now Thank We All Our God

*Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed;
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
All praise and thanks to God who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son, and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore,
The God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.*

The Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, Your Word offers freedom from sin, but we confess that we have not obeyed Your Word. We have harbored malice toward our enemies; we have been deceitful in our relationships; we have been insincere in our commitments; through gossip we have slandered our friends. Forgive us our sins and lead us to genuine repentance. In Your great mercy, hear our prayers ...
(time for silent confession)... **Help Your children long for Your pure, spiritual milk that we may grow in the joy of salvation through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*The Assurance of Pardon

(from 1 Peter 2:10)

Once you were not a people,
but now we are God's people;
Once we had not received mercy,
but now we have received mercy;
Believe the Good News of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*The Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
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!**

(Consider sending a message to someone you have not been in touch with lately. A note, a phone call, a text or email reminding others that Christ is with us and blesses us when we are together and apart.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The New Testament Lesson: *Acts 7:55-60*

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16*

The Epistle Lesson: *1 Peter 2:2-10*

The Anthem

In the Sweet By-and-By

Webster/Howard Helvey, arr.

*There's a land that is fairer than day, and by faith we can see it afar;
For the Father waits over the way to prepare us a dwelling place there.
In the sweet by-and-by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore;
In the sweet by-and-by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.
We shall sing on that beautiful shore the melodious songs of the blest;
And our spirits shall sorrow no more, not a sigh for the blessing of rest.
In the sweet by-and-by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore;
In the sweet by-and-by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.
To our bountiful Father above, we will offer our tribute of praise,
For the glorious gift of His love and the blessings that hallow our days.
In the sweet by-and-by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore;
In the sweet by-and-by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.*

The Gospel Lesson: *John 14:1-14*

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

The Sermon

The Places Where We Go
Lindsey J.P. Williams

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 the People

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 246

Christ Is Alive!

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*

*Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.*

*Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.*

*Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy,
with justice, love, and praise.*

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude

He Reigns Triumphant

James Denton

Announcements for May 10 - 17

Rejoice!

Have you, or someone you live with experienced this: tired? cranky? irritable? impatient with self and others thanks to the pandemic restrictions? You may be what some call ‘out of sorts.’ -Not your best self by any measure.

The phrase comes from typesetters of centuries ago who painstakingly set on letter at a time in rows to exploit the power of the printing press. As different fonts and typefaces entered into use, it was easy to get letters, characters, and symbols confused. So sorting was an essential skill for these early technicians. Out of sorts meant you couldn’t find exactly what you needed.

Think a moment about our **High School graduates** this spring. No prom, no class nights, no award ceremonies, no parties with friends and extended families, neither cap or gown, and no large graduation ceremony. An unusual way to end their public school careers!

Will you help us recognize them? We ask that you write signed messages of congratulations and send them to the church office. We will distribute them to members of our church who are graduating this spring without the ‘Pomp and Circumstance’ of earlier generations. A word of congratulation, encouragement and blessing would go a long way to seal this important milestone on their life journey.

In the midst of pandemic crankiness, remember to “Rejoice with those who rejoice!” (see Romans 12:15) And thanks for your help!

All Adult Church School Classes and Youth Fellowship Meetings that have been convening through Zoom will be in Recess as of May 25. Thanks is extended to those whose participation made these meetings possible. We are especially grateful to our Church School Teachers and Youth Advisors for their time, energy, and dedication to our shared ministry. Please be attentive to future opportunities for education and fellowship.

Church Office hours are Monday - Thursday 9am-1pm and Friday 9am-12pm

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.

Capsule of Concern: Kathryn Hower, Donn Langfitt, Billie Plank, David Scott, John Walker, Don Wilson

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, May 17:

Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20;

1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

Birthdays this week May 3-10

10. Eva Lewis, Samuel Lewis
11. Mary Kate Herndon, Gordon Nash
12. Garrett John
13. Skip Brandon, Kate Cornet, Robert Page, David Rice, Anne Tarzier, Morgan Veil, Cole Young
14. Meredith Beattie, Ian Duffy, Rebecca Hamlett, Alexis Loder, Jamie Loder
15. James Campbell, Mary Wynn McDaniel
16. Peg Langdon, Bob Smiley
17. Carole Green

Honoring Graduates

We will virtually acknowledge those who are graduating from high school and beyond. Please email the church office (cjforsing@fredericksburgpc.org) with the name of the school from which you are graduating. Thank you!

Weekly Family Home Church School Activities are on the education page of our website.

Weekly Zoom Meetings

Tuesday

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

High School Youth Fellowship, 8:00 p.m. Contact Brittany Tamminga (btamminga@fredericksburgpc.org) for the Zoom link.

Wednesday

Meditation Group, 6:30 p.m. Contact Marsha Lockett (lockett@juno.com) for the Zoom link.

Middle School Youth Fellowship, 8:00 p.m. Contact Brittany Tamminga (btamminga@fredericksburgpc.org) for the Zoom link.

Thursday

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

College Age Fellowship, 8:00 p.m. Contact John Howe (jhowe1969@cox.net) for the Zoom link.

Church School Class Schedule:

Please see the schedule listed below for class offerings and times. Email the Church Office (cjforsing@fredericksburgpc.org) for the Zoom link for individual classes. If you have any questions OR if you would like to participate but do not own any devices with audio/visual capabilities, please contact Pastor Tamminga (btamming@fredericksburgpc.org.)

Sunday Morning Church School Classes

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| 8:30am | <i>Color of Law</i> Book Study |
| 9:45am | Faith and Movie Class |
| 11:00am | Seeking to Understand the Parables |

Sunday Afternoon Church School Classes

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| 2:00pm | Parenting Class |
| 4:00pm | Women in the Biblical World |