

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

Praise God, Ye Christians

Dietrich Buxtehude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

To God Be the Glory

The Call To Worship

(Psalm 66:8,9; Acts 17:24)

Bless the Lord, O people sing!

Let the sound of praise ring out.

Come and hear what the Lord has done,

the Lord Who has made everything!

The Opening Prayer

*The Hymn 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible, hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.*

*Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.*

*To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth Thee.*

*Thou reignest in glory, thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; oh, help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!*

The Prayer of Confession

O God, we confess that we have loved our own way more than we love You. The Spirit of truth does not abide in us, for our actions belie the words of praise we utter in worship. We neglect the spiritual disciplines that would draw us close to You. We faintly engage the caring outreach that would link us with sisters and brothers who need to know of Your love. We have not witnessed to our faith in ways powerful enough to evoke opposition or cause us to suffer. O God, it is hard to follow Jesus! Forgive us, teach us, help us. In his Name...(time for silent confession)...

The Assurance of Pardon

(from 1 Peter 3)

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is right?

Have no fear of them, nor be troubled.

For Christ also died for sins once and for all, that he might bring us to God.

Keep your conscience clear, so that those who revile
your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

For Christ also died for sins once and for all, that he might bring us to God.

Baptism now saves you, as an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

For Christ also died for sins once and for all, that he might bring us to God.

Christ has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God,
with angels, authorities, and powers subject to God.

For Christ also died for sins once and for all, that he might bring us to God.

Thanks be to God. 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 17:22-31*

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalms 66:8-20*

The Epistle Lesson: *1 Peter 3:13-22*

The Anthem

Come Flood This Heart of Mine

David Lantz III

Come flood this heart of mine with Your great love divine.

Come, Spirit, make Your home, my heart is Yours alone.

Come flood this heart of mine with Your pure joy divine.

My every sin forgive as one with You I live.

Come fill my heart, I am longing for your power.

Your presence and peace will be mine this very hour.

Come fill my heart with Your Spirit in this place.

Let my heart overflow with the fullness of Your Grace.

Make of this heart of mine a vessel wholly Thine.

Drive dark and doubt away, O fill me, Lord, I pray.

Come flood this heart of mine, come flood this heart of mine!

The Gospel Lesson: *John 14:15-21*

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

The Sermon

Finishing Together
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

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 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,

fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, Thou art all compassion; Pure unbounded love Thou art;

Visit us with Thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;

Let us all in Thee inherit; Let us find that promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;

end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver; let us all Thy life receive;

suddenly return, and never, never more Thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above,

pray and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

*Finish then Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee:
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before Thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise.*

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

arr. Richard Blake

Announcements for May 17 - 24

Changes Ahead

One of the many startling facets of the pandemic response here and around the world is the pace of change! Many public declarations are proclaimed and revised before a week has passed.

We are deeply grateful for the faithful support of our congregation. Thank you for your encouraging words, appreciative comments, and generous giving.

As our Governor has indicated, more changes are ahead. Soon Session will decide and announce directives to resume in-person worship in our Sanctuary. Those proposals and schedules, too, will likely evolve and adjust according to needs and conditions in our community and congregation.

We do not expect everyone to gather again for worship at first opportunity. Many people who are in high-risk groups will need and choose to wait months or longer before feeling safe and confident joining us in person.

Shortly, you will begin to hear plans that we can most confidently say will be adapted and refined as we move into a new way of being together for worship.

Watch for more details! And thank you for your prayerful support.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Your Session and Church Staff

Will you help us recognize High School graduates? We ask that you write signed messages of congratulations and send them to the church office through the month of May. 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.

Pitch, Hit & Run and Jr. Home Run Derby have been cancelled for this year. Thank you so much for volunteering! We'll try again next year.

New info regarding School Dressing Days from Becky Paul: the original dates (July 31 and August 1) are still on the calendar but could be adjusted depending on how things are going in the state of Virginia. We could modify or add to our plan but this is what we've come up with for right now. We are collecting these items to put in backpacks: soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, 1" binders, and athletic socks for boys/girls. You may bring donations to the Education Building Lobby during church hours, Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. You may place the items in the labeled bin.

All Adult Church School Classes and Youth Fellowship Meetings that have been convening through Zoom will be in Recess as of May 24. 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, Lou Silvey, John Walker, Don Wilson

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, May 24:

Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35;
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

Birthdays this week May 10-17

- 17. Carole Green
- 19. Mike Blashford, Rachel Horne, Courtney Nix
- 20. Mary MacNemar, Jay Miller, Ryan Sweet
- 22. Thomas Hughes, Roberta Karch, Joyce Nichols, Pat Parkinson
- 23. Diane Makovsky, Charles McDaniel, Tim Sullivan
- 24. Andy Cass, John Fartro, Jane Johnson, Becca Mahon

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

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

Meditation Group, Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - contact Marsha Luckett (luckett@juno.com) for the Zoom link.

Middle School Youth Fellowship, Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. - contact Pastor Tamminga (btamming@fredericksburgpc.org) for Zoom link.

High School Youth Fellowship, Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. - contact Pastor Tamminga (btamming@fredericksburgpc.org) for Zoom link.

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

College Age Fellowship, Thursday, 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. 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

- 8:30am *Color of Law* Book Study - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84247187892>
- 9:45am Faith and Movie Class - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84012359434>
- 11:00am Seeking to Understand the Parables - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86483611377>

Sunday Afternoon Church School Classes

- 2:00pm Parenting Class - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83113442148>
- 4:00pm Women in the Biblical World - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81616775810>