

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

9:00 a.m.

**All who are able may stand.*

Bold type spoken by the congregation

Self-service assistive listening devices are located on top of the bookcase at the rear of the Sanctuary on the Princess Anne St. side.

GATHERING. . .

***MASKS ARE TO BE WORN THROUGHOUT THE SERVICE.
PLEASE REMAIN SEATED FOR THE HYMNS.***

The Prelude

Adagio, Sonata in A Minor
Tina Christie, flute

G.F. Handel

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

The Call To Worship

In the wilderness, water brings life.
Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.
In the Word of God, the Good News gives light.
Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.
In the bread and the wine, the body of our Savior nourishes everyone.
Seek us out, O God, and give us Yourself.
Here is the water of life, the word that feeds, the food of eternity.
We come to praise the Vine that gives all goodness.

The Prayer of Adoration

Ruler of nations, You have dominion over all the earth. We praise Your Name and bow down before You. You bring pride to the humble, and cause the boastful to be brought low. The afflicted find hope through Your mercy; the comfortable You challenge and chasten. As Your wisdom led our fathers and mothers throughout the ages, make us receptive to the testimony of Your love, for we pray in the Name of Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh. 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 gloom 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 Prayer of Confession

Scott Fischer, liturgist

O Christ, You are the true vine, and You have made us Your branches. In Your grace, we find strength, and in Your love, we are set free. Forgive us, O God, when we do not live as people who have been freed, when we act as if the Easter story did not turn the world upside down. Forgive us, O God, when we do not live as people who are Your branches, when we forget that we are rooted in You and bound to one another by Your Spirit ...(time for silent confession)... . Forgive us, O Christ, our one true vine, and teach us to abide in You. Amen.

*The Assurance of Pardon

We have already been cleansed by the word that God has spoken to us.
In baptism God claimed us and joined us to Christ, as branches to a vine.
Believe the promise given to us:
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!**

(Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ. 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

**Almighty God, through Your only Son You overcame death and opened to us the light of eternity.
Enlighten our minds and kindle our hearts with the presence of Your Spirit, that we may hear Your
words of comfort and challenge in the reading of the scriptures, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The New Testament Lesson: *Acts 8:26-40*

The Anthem

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Mozart/Stanton

Tina Christie, Mary Ann Casey, Roy Jarnecke, Larry Casey
*Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down.
Fix in us thy humble dwelling all thy faithful mercies crown.
Breathe, O breathe thy loving spirit into every troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit, let us find thy promised rest.
Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all thy grace receive.
Suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing. Serve thee as thy hosts above.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee.
Changed from glory into glory, pure and spotless let us be.
Love divine, all loves excelling, pure unbounded love thou art,
O love divine; enter every willing heart.*

The Epistle Lesson: *1 John 4:7-21*

A Moment With the Children

The Gospel Lesson: *John 15:1-8*

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

The Sermon

Work Overheard?
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

*The Affirmation of Faith

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 God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church.
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life
in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the water of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.**

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

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 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 610

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

*O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!*

*The name of Jesus charms our fears, and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.*

*Christ speaks, and listening to his voice new life the dead receive;
the mournful waken to rejoice; the poor in heart believe.*

*My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.*

*To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given by saints below
and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.*

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude

Allegro, Sonata in F Major

G.F. Handel

**KINDLY REMAIN SEATED DURING THE POSTLUDE. YOU WILL BE DISMISSED
BY OUR SAFETY USHERS FROM THE BACK TO THE FRONT OF THE SANCTUARY.
WE APPRECIATE YOUR COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING.**

Announcements for April 28-May 5

THANKS and GODSPEED

Rev. Lindsey Williams has served as our Interim Educator for the last 16 months, coming to us from a parish pastor position in our Presbytery. She has helped us navigate the incredibly challenging straits of a pandemic while keeping the energy, enthusiasm, leadership and grace flowing in all her work. Lindsey and her family are now moving to the Valdosta, Georgia area where her husband, Roy has secured employment. This will give Eleanor and Hazel ready access to grandparents in that area. This has been a goal for Lindsey and her family for some years, but the pieces fell quickly into place in recent weeks.

Thanks to Lindsey for all her contributions to the life and ministry of our congregation.

We bid them Godspeed in their new locale and the adventures of life and ministry ahead.

With every best wish for future success and fruitful ministry, we are grateful for your service.

Sincerely,

Session, Staff and Congregation



Adult Ministry and Education (Youth participation is welcomed and encouraged)

Faith and Movie Class

Sunday, 10:30 am, led by Marty and Vicky Wilder; Kathy and Eric Rocholl

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86223901848?pwd=S1MyYVpaK0xtVVZrcHQwSnZ0QUkzdz09>

Discovering the Psalms

Sunday, 12:00 pm, led by Brittany Tamminga & Lindsey Williams

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89898477424?pwd=RVF5VDVqWVZyYXpVTGIySGNLSndFOT09>

Weekly Meetings & Activities

Wed. (4/28) — Meditation Group, 5:30pm (Zoom)

Contact Marsha Luckett (marshajluckett@gmail.com)

Thurs. (4/29) — Women's Bible Study, 9:30am (FH)

Jubilate Ringers, 6pm (Sanct. Balcony)

Adult Choir, 7:30p.m. (Zoom)

Sun. (5/2) — Worship, 9am (Sanct. & Youtube)

Children's Church School, 10am

New Member Class, 10am (Undercroft)

Adult Church School Classes - Schedule on page 2

Sacred Dance, 3:30pm (Undercroft)

Youth Fellowship, 5pm (Patio)

Tues. (5/4) — Men's Breakfast Group, 7:30am (FH & Zoom)

Contact John Howe (jhowe1969@cox.net)

Wed. (5/5) — Meditation Group, 5:30pm (Zoom)

PW Faith Circle will meet on Monday, May 10, at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, May 2:

Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31;

1 John 4:76-21; John 15:1-8

Church Family News:

Capsule of Concern: Doris Glidden, Doris Gulatsi, Bill Holliseter, Karla Lewis, Debra Myers, Billie Plank, Larry Repanshek, Opal Ritchie, Pam Werner

Lynn & Ian Norfleet have much to celebrate - the birth of 3 grandchildren over the past 4 month. Talk to the proud grandparents about the recent additions to their family. Congratulations!

A Memorial service for the Rev. Donn K. Langfitt will be held this Friday, April 30, at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Family members, close friends, and colleagues may worship in-person with social distancing in effect. All other friends and acquaintances are invited to participate through the livestream of the service available at <https://youtu.be/Sck2QGhIFXM>

Birthdays this week May 2-9

2. Dee Kindred, Gina Whitticar, Rod Hughes, Chuck Penick
3. Bill Crawley, Samuel Rembisz, Josh Noxon
4. Sarah Hancock
5. Sean McPherson
6. Shirley Kutz, Elizabeth Turner, Bera Matakoto
7. Allison Wimberly
8. Lee Gibbons, Ian Norfleet, Jacob Poudrier
9. Mary Lou Cramer





Rocky Railroad - Climb aboard for mountains of fun at Rocky Railway! On this faith-filled adventure, kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs. Join us July 12-16, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Registration has begun, use the link below to sign up both participants and to volunteer. Any questions please contact Robin Joel.
<https://vbspro.events/p/events/7710ec>

In the coming months, we will be congratulating and celebrating **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 or someone you know is graduating. Thank you!

Youth Fellowship will meet twice in May. On May 2, we will walk to Carl's, picking up trash along the way. Gloves, trash bags, and sanitizer will be provided. Please bring money for ice cream! May 16 will be our year-end meeting. Rising 9th graders and rising 6th graders are welcome and invited to join our combined group for games and fellowship.

Churchwide "BYOP" Picnic - All are invited to join for a time of Fellowship at a churchwide "Bring Your Own Picnic" Picnicing on the church grounds on Saturday, May 22, at 12:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and along with your picnic. We can't wait to see you!



Summer registration for Camp Hanover is open!! Studies have shown that outdoor camps help support whole-child health, social emotional learning, academic performance, as well as college & career readiness. Come to camp and 'Bond over s'mores, not screens!' The camp staff is focusing on health, safety, and risk management and is using the American Camp Association Field Guide and guidance from the local health department. The staff is also implementing strategies (testing, cohorting, masking, distancing, etc.) that mitigate the spread of COVID-19. For more information or to register, please use this link: <https://www.camphanover.org>

Calling all High School Youth and College Freshman! We are excited to announce that we will be returning again this year to the Montreat Valley for the **2021 Montreat Youth Conference**, July 25-31. Youth who plan to attend this conference should reserve a space as soon as possible, no later than Sunday, May 2, using this link:
<https://forms.gle/SckNAQTZHwWdinT6A>

Volunteers Needed for Refugee Feeding Ministry - Since the beginning of the pandemic, our congregation has provided several thousand pounds of food for local refugees and other at-risk individuals in our community. We are looking to expand this ministry, but we need volunteers! If you are interested in helping to sort and/or deliver food to these families, please be in touch with Marsha Luckett (marshajluckett@gmail.com) or Betsy Mathias (bcmathias@aol.com)

Katie Fidler and the Mary Washington Healthcare Hospice, Palliative, and Grief Support Services have organized a "**Summer Cheer**" project that will take place throughout the month of July. We will be collecting donations that will be put in gift bags and given to hospice care patients to brighten their day! During July we will have a collection bin in the Education Building Lobby for your donations.

Items needed for the gift bags:

Personal hygiene products including: washcloths, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, shaving cream, manicure kits, toothbrush, toothpaste, mouth wash, chapstick

Large print books including crossword puzzles, word searches, etc.

Soaps and lotions – A&D cream, hand lotion, cuticle cream

Blankets, throws, shawls, or anything to keep them warm!

Diabetic socks, Fuzzy socks, Slippers

Denture adhesive, cleanser

Band-Aids

Flashlight

Games/puzzles/playing cards

Instant coffee

Stationary

Air freshener

Pens, markers, highlighters

Tissues, baby wipes

Stuffed animals

This project is facilitated on behalf of James Monroe High School's Ceili Leahy Service Initiative in partnership with Mary Washington Healthcare Hospice, Palliative, and Grief Support Services. For more information, contact Katie Fidler 540-656-0057 (katie@fidlernet.com).