

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

October 11, 2020

9:00 a.m.

**All who are able may stand.*

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING. . .



*Masks are to be worn throughout the service.
Please remain seated for the hymns.*



The Prelude

The Penitent Heart

Colin Curtis

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

The Call To Worship

(from *Psalms 106*)

Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, Who is good,
and Whose steadfast love endures forever.

**Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord,
or declare the praise God is due?**

Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.

**Remember me, O Lord, when You show favor to Your people;
help me when You deliver them.**

Let us worship God!

The Prayer of Praise

The Hymn 363

Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

*Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore:
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

*Our Savior, Jesus, reigns, the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

*Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come
and gather all the saints to their eternal home.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

*The Prayer of Confession

Jen Rowe, liturgist

Holy God, You are the Lord our God, who brought us out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. And yet our trust in You is fragile, easily crushed by our bent toward indifference – the dismissal of Your faithfulness as a result of forgetfulness. Our trust is fragile, easily broken by the slightest pause – an answer to prayer not instantly given, a request for peace not immediately felt. Our trust is fragile, easily displaced by gods of our own making – the god of self-sufficiency, chased at any cost, the god of illusion, pursued in any form. Lord, have mercy on us, through Christ, our Lord... (time for silent confession)...

*The Assurance of Pardon

Beloved, hear the Good News:

Jesus came to stand in the breach.

Jesus came to reconcile us to God.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and freed. 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

The Old Testament Lesson: *Exodus 32:1-14*

The Epistle Lesson: *Philippians 4:1-9*

A Moment With the Children

The Anthem

Rejoice!

Craig Courtney, arr.

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice in the Lord always; Again I say rejoice, again I say rejoice.

Rejoice, ye pure in heart, Rejoice, give thanks and sing;

Your festive banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

Be anxious for nothing; But in everything by prayer and supplication

with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say rejoice, again I say rejoice.

Go on through life's long path, Still chanting as ye go; From youth to age, by night and day, In gladness and in woe.

The Gospel Lesson: *Matthew 22:1-14*

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

The Sermon

Recognizing Grace

Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

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 435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea; There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.

There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind. And the heart of the Eternal

Is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word;

and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude

The Brightest Trumpet

Franklin Ritter

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 October 11-18

Seasons and Steadfastness

Something is dear to me about early autumn. The crispness of the air, the warmth of sunrise and sunset, the opportunity to sleep with windows open all remind me of why I enjoy these days. (To say nothing of harvest moon or multihued trees!) Have you been out in the fresh air of fall? Are you spending time watching the clear night skies?

Yes, winter will not be far off for us in the Northern hemisphere, but the glories of fall are a delight for our senses each day. Many people report feelings of depression and despair in this extraordinary year of 2020. It is easy to be caught up in the dreary reports of pandemic, hospitalizations, and virus outbreaks.

Take time this week to appreciate the beauty and grace of life around us. The goodness of creation reflects the steadfast love of God for us and our world. Don't overlook it.

*O God, from whose unfathomed Law the year in beauty flows,
Yourself the vision passing by in crystal and in rose,
Day unto day shall utter speech, and night to night proclaim,
In ever changing words of light, the wonder of your name.*

Over a century ago, Frances Whitmarsh Wile wrote those words in a place where winters are thick, dark and dreary. She echoes the refrain of the Psalmist (Psalm 19:1-4)

¹ *The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.*

² *Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.*

³ *There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;*

⁴ *yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.*

Thanks be to God for the faithfulness and steadfastness revealed to us in all the changing seasons of this world!

Warmly,
Allen

Reserve Your Seat for Sunday Worship by Friday Noon

If you would like to participate in Worship in the Sanctuary this Sunday, please make a reservation by calling the church office, 540-373-7057, Monday - Friday between 9:00 a.m. and Noon.

You may also make your reservation online by using ACSReservations by clicking on this link: https://secure.accessacs.com/access/login_guest.aspx?sn=90894. This is a new system so don't hesitate to call the church office if you have questions.

Birthdays this week October 11 - 18



11. Lucy Lang, Joyce Lloyd, Barbara Spangler
12. Sarah Fisher Cohen, Lenoir Garnett
13. Oliver Blashford
14. Will Rowe
16. Kin Glover
17. Richard Garnett, Gina Wright
18. Caroline Hamlett, Bern Mahon, Tim Tarzier

Church Family News:

Capsule of Concern:

Walker Broyles, Doris Glidden, Kaci LeFebre, Karla Lewis, Billie Plank, Larry Repanshek

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, October 18:

Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99;
I Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

Weekly Meetings & Activities

- Wed. (10/7) — Meditation Group, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)
Contact Marsha Luckett (luckett@juno.com).
- Thurs. (10/8) — Women's Bible Study, 9:30 a.m. (Zoom)
Contact Marsha Luckett (luckett@juno.com).
- Handbells, 6:00 p.m. (Sanct. Balcony)
Adult Choir, 7:30 p.m. (Zoom)
- Sun. (10/11) — Worship, 9:00 a.m. (Sanctuary & Youtube)
Holy Disunity Book Study, 10:30 a.m. (Zoom)
Faith & Movie Class, 12:00 p.m. (Zoom)
Deacons, 12:15 p.m. (Zoom)
Parables & Peanuts Class, 4:00 p.m. (Zoom)
Sacred Dance, 3:30 p.m. (Undercroft)
Middle School Fellowship, 5:00 p.m. (Zoom)
High School Fellowship, 5:00 p.m. (In-person)
Session, 7:00 p.m. (Zoom)
- Tues. (10/13) — Men's Breakfast Group, 7:30 a.m. (FH & Zoom)
Contact John Howe (jhowe1969@cox.net).
- Stewardship, 7:00 p.m. (Zoom)
- Wed. (10/14) — Meditation Group, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)

World Communion Sunday at Home; how was it? - This was our first time to celebrate communion combining both at-home and in-person participation. If you had the at-home experience, the worship committee would like to know how you experienced it. Please email the church office: cjforsing@fredericksburgpc.org with your impressions, thoughts and observations.



Thank 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.

Christian Education for the Fall Semester

Children's and Family Ministry and Education - We will be providing families with weekly at-home education resources.

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

Holy Disunity: How What Separates Us Can Save Us ~ Sunday – 10:30 a.m. Coordinators: Jim and Patty Toler

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83350523383?pwd=bmdyTTFkZkgyNTh4ZlJzWXR2bm95dz09>

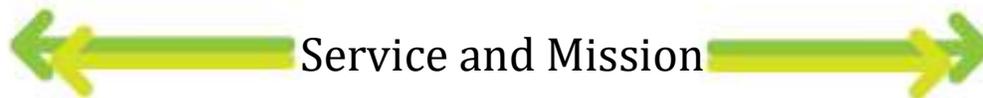
Faith and Movie Class ~ Sunday – 12:00 p.m. Coordinators: Eric and Kathy Rocholl; Marty and Vicky Wilder
Movie for Sunday, **On the Basis of Sex** (2019), about Ruth Bader Ginsberg's life.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88328822463?pwd=aldXZVRxZ3MvaktkN2ZsUVR3bUOyOT09>

Parables and Peanuts ~ Sunday – 4:00 p.m. Coordinator: Bill Nix

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82114607291?pwd=dkZEU2R6eVYrOUVUeHIWYVQ5WWUydz09>

These Days devotional booklets for Oct-Dec are available in the Education Building Lobby and Sanctuary.



We continue to combine our **Food Pantry's** relief efforts with Fredericksburg United Methodist Church, whose pantry is open Monday through Friday, 1:00-3:00 pm. Volunteers are needed Monday—Thursday or Saturday, and There are lot's of ways to serve: hand out bags of groceries, check-in clients, pack bags or receive deliveries. If you are interested in joining these efforts, please be in touch with Sherman Brown at (540) 226-3295 or sign up online: <https://tinyurl.com/PantryHelp>.



It is time to sign up for **bell-ringing to support the Salvation Army**. Mark December 5 and December 12 on your calendars. It's one hour between 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. at Wal-Mart in Central Park. A minimum of 2 people are needed for each hour. You may sign up to volunteer online at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0444ada622a4ff2-salvation>. If you have questions, contact Wayne Hibbeler, 220-7542, hibbelerw@gmail.com.

Refugee Feeding Ministry — During the first week in October, we will begin a monthly **Flash Food Drive**, of non-perishable food items to address the emergent need among Fredericksburg's Refugee community. These families lack basic necessities and the means to get to our area food banks and charitable pantries. Many are immigrants/refugees who arrived in our area shortly before the COVID shutdown and are learning to adjust to our area, our culture, and our society. These families have been identified through the Fredericksburg School System as particularly in need of help. How you can help:

- Prepare a food box/bag for a family (recommended contents are below). Don't worry about the amount of food. More is better; some is better than none. You may decorate the box and you may include a note if you feel moved to do so.
- Drop off your box in the lobby of the Education Building the first Monday of each month between 9 and noon.
- If you would like make a financial gift, checks can be made out to *The Presbyterian Church* with the designation "Refugee Feeding Program" in the memo line.
- *If you are interested in serving as a volunteer for the Refugee Feeding Ministry, please be in touch with Andrea Ilardia: (540) 395-9768.*

RECOMMENDED CONTENTS (Non-perishable only, please):

- *Pasta, *Tomato sauce, *Rice, *Sugar, *Oil, *Flour, *Canned Fruits and Vegetables, *Cereal, *Beans, *Tea/Coffee, *Soups, *Peanut Butter, *Jelly/Fruit Preserves, *Instant Potatoes.