

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

World Communion

October 4, 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.
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The Prelude

Canzone
Tina Christie, flute

Samuel Barber

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

God, Reveal Your Presence

The Call to Worship

(from *Psalm 19*)

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;
The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;
The commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;
The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;
The ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
Let the words of our mouths and the songs of our hearts be acceptable to You,
O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer.

The Prayer of Adoration

As we look at the heavens, the stars shine forth to herald Your presence. The sun exudes the warmth of Your love. The vastness reminds us we cannot escape from Your presence. You are above and beyond us, yet You choose to dwell with us. In Christ You promise You'll be with us throughout whatever befalls us. You will strengthen us in whatever needs we may have. As Your voice goes out through all the earth and Your words to the ends of the world, may our voices resound now as we give You all thanks and praise. Glory to You, O God – Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of all. Amen.

The Hymn 463

How Firm a Foundation

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

*"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand*

*"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."*

The Prayer of Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

(from *Philippians 3:9*)

Righteousness does not come from our own doing or not doing.

Righteousness comes from God, by faith.

Through the faithfulness of Christ, our Lord, we are forgiven.

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!**

(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 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20*

The Epistle Lesson: *Philippians 3:4b-14*

The Anthem

Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether

Harold W. Friedell

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; For when humbly, in thy name,

Two or three are met together, Thou art in the midst of them: Alleluia, Alleluia! Touch we now thy garment's hem.

As the brethren used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,

Then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup, Alleluia, Alleluia! So knit thou our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of thee,

That by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be. Alleluia, Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully.

The Gospel Lesson: *Matthew 21:33-46*

p. 29 in the pew Bible

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

The Sermon

Amazing
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

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.

TO CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT. . .

The Presbyterian Church welcomes and invites everyone - children and adults - baptized in the name of Jesus Christ to come to The Table of the Lord and participate in The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

The Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise....

...singing the hymn of the whole creation:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

...Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

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.

The Communion

The Prayer After Communion

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD'S NAME. . .

The Hymn 318

In Christ There is No East or West
In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.
Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God are surely kin to me.
In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

*The Charge and Benediction

*The Postlude

Zinha

Pattapio Silva

● ● ●
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 4 - 11

Missing you still...

Of the many things we miss during the recent public health – driven restrictions, the sacrament of communion is high on the list. Throughout the history of our denomination various schedules have been used for the celebration of the sacrament. There were times of monthly celebration, quarterly and annual plans are also part of our heritage. (Would you be surprised to know that a few Presbyterian congregations have weekly communion services?) Presbyterians have a theology of the Lord's Supper that does not allow us to do drive-through, drive-by or 'take-out' communion.

October 4 is World Communion Sunday. We have a deep conviction that we need each other, worshiping together to have communion that is both meaningful and efficacious. Our Presbyterian view is that Christ is present with us, by the power of the Holy Spirit when we gather for the purpose of celebrating communion in the context of worship. The pandemic has stretched us to consider that God's omnipresence does indeed extend to virtual celebrations. So we have made plans for communion both for in-person and at-home worshippers to participate this week.

Shortly, you will receive a brief email describing how you can prepare to share communion from your home for this Sunday. We hope many of you will plan to join us as we celebrate in a fashion that no Presbyterian ever anticipated.

Grace and peace to you and yours!

Warmly,

Your pastors,

Brittany and Allen



Reserve Your Seat by Friday Noon for Sunday Worship

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 4 - 11

4. Daniel Hughes, Mike Ramsburg, Lydia Samson
5. Linda Catullo, Barbara Howe
7. Sean Liverman, Nancy Turnage, Sue Williams
8. Allen Fisher, Becky Talmadge
9. Bob Deaderick, Samuel Horn, Roy Jarnecke, Abby Matakoto, Sophia Pineda
10. John Burke, Kurt Chewning, John Statler, Ryan Thompson, Leonard Watson
11. Lucy Lang, Joyce Lloyd, Barbara Spangler



Church Family News:

Capsule of Concern:

Kaci LeFebre, Karla Lewis, Billie Plank, Larry Repanshek

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.

Weekly Meetings & Activities

- Wed. (9/30)— Meditation Group, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)
Contact Marsha Luckett (luckett@juno.com).
Deacon-Elect Training, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)
- Thurs. (10/1) — 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. (10/4) — *World Communion Sunday*
Worship, 9:00 a.m. (Sanctuary & Youtube)
Holy Disunity Book Study, 10:30 a.m. (Zoom)
Faith & Movie Class, 12:00 p.m. (Zoom)
Parables & Peanuts Class, 4:00 p.m. (Zoom)
Sacred Dance, 4:00 p.m. (Undercroft)
Middle School Fellowship, 5:00 p.m. (In-person)
High School Fellowship, 5:00 p.m. (Zoom)
- Tues. (10/6) — Men's Breakfast Group, 7:30 a.m. (FH & Zoom)
Contact John Howe (jhowe1969@cox.net).
- Wed. (10/7) — Meditation Group, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, October 11:

Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23;
Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

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>

A gift to the **Peace & Global Witness Offering** enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. You are encouraged to lend your prayerful support to this offering and to make a contribution. Special Offering envelopes are in your offering enveloped box.

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>.

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.

Youth Fellowship is an important part of faith development for the young people of our church. It is a time when they build lifetime friendships and share in their joys and struggles together.

This fall, we have been able to return to modified in-person gatherings, taking precautions to keep one another safe while still building each other up. The High School Fellowship played kickball at Hurkamp Park and looks forward to more activities outdoors as weather permits.

