



In The Beginning – God

Genesis 1:1-2:4

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Homecoming Sunday

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 10, 2017

10:45 a.m.

WORDS OF WELCOME – Welcome to Faith Church; we are glad you are here.
Infant and childcare (through preschool) are provided all morning in the nursery, the second room on the right through the door by the pulpit. Children through the age of 4 may proceed to the childcare room following the “Moment with Faith Kids” for the remainder of the service.
Worship Bags are available in the back pews of the sanctuary.

THE CHURCH GATHERS

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Christa Fuller Burns

Prelude Down to the River to Pray

Phillip Anthony Lawson
(b. 1957)

*As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord, show me the way!*

O sisters, let's go down,
Let's go down, come on down
O sisters, let's go down
Down in the river to pray

Down in the river to pray

O mothers, let's go down
Let's go down; don't you want to go
down?

O brothers, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
Come on, brothers, let's go down
Down in the river to pray

Come on, mothers, let's go down
Down in the river to pray

O fathers, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O fathers, let's go down

O sinners, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O sinners, let's go down
Down in the river to pray

**Please, stand if you are able. (The congregation will read the words in bold.)*

*Call to Worship

Gabriella Anthony

One: Come with your questions, come with your awe!

All: For the God who broods over chaos meets us in this place.

One: Come with your energy, come with your weariness!

All: For the God who breathes new life into the dust meets us in this place.

One: Come with your sadness, come with your joy!

All: For the God who dared to become human meets us in this place.

*Hymn Somebody Touched Me

Leon Bowles and Tim Frye

While I was praying somebody touched me
While I was praying somebody touched me
While I was praying somebody touched me
Must've been the hand of the Lord

While I was kneeling somebody touched me
Must've been the hand of the Lord

(Break)

Chorus
*Glory, Glory, Glory somebody touched me
Glory, Glory, Glory somebody touched me
Glory, Glory, Glory somebody touched me
Must've been the hand of the Lord*

Chorus

While I was singing somebody touched me
While I was singing somebody touched me
While I was singing somebody touched me
Must've been the hand of the Lord

While I was kneeling somebody touched me
While I was kneeling somebody touched me

Chorus

Prayer of Confession

Gabriella Anthony

Incarnate God, for the times we've hurt you, forgive us. For the times we've hurt others, forgive us. For the times we've hurt ourselves, forgive us. For we are made in your image and it is very good.

Silence is observed.

Assurance of Pardon

Gabriella Anthony

One: In the beginning, God created all things,

All: And God saw that they were good.

One: At our beginning, God created us,

All: Unique and irreplaceable, loved by God and wanted by God, known to God and treasured by God, even before God created us.

One: In all our new beginnings, God is creating something new.

All: The past is finished and gone; everything has become fresh and new!

***Sung Response 582 Glory to God**

GLORY TO GOD

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
 2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

***The Peace of Christ**

Gabriella Anthony

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

TO PROCLAIM AND EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

Moment with Faith Kids

Rev. Burns

Prayer for Illumination

Gabriella Anthony

Prepare us, living God, for your word to us this morning. May we allow it to become part of who we are, may it challenge us to do a new thing, may it assure us that you are still creating and speaking. Amen.

Lesson Genesis 1:1-2:4

Gabriella Anthony

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sermon

"What Is God Doing in Texas?"

Rev. Burns

*Hymn The Garden Song

Dave Mallett

Inch by inch row by row gonna make this garden grow
All it takes is a rake and a hoe and a piece of fertile ground
Inch by inch row by row someone bless these seeds I sow
Someone warm them from below 'til the rain comes tumbling down

Pullin' weeds and pickin' stones man is made of dreams and bones
Feel the need to grow my own 'cause the time is close at hand
Grain for grain Sun and rain find my way in Nature's chain
Tune my body and my brain to the music of the land

Plant your rows straight and long temper them with prayer and song
Mother Earth will make you strong if you give her love and care
Old crow watchin' hungrily from his perch in yonder tree
In my garden I'm as free as that feathered thief up there

Inch by inch row by row gonna make this garden grow
All it takes is a rake and a hoe and a piece of fertile ground
Inch by inch row by row someone bless these seeds I sow
Someone warm them from below 'til the rain comes tumblin'...
The rain comes tumblin' the rain comes tumblin' down

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Burns

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.

OFFERING

Offertory Before You Call Me Home

Irene Kelley

I've been counting up my blessings and it's filling up my heart
As I'm driving past the mountains, farms, and trees
The beauty of a sunny day draws me close to You and to my knees

*Dear Lord before You call me home
I need to let You know I'm grateful for the Love I've known
Lord this life's a precious gift can't ask for more than this
Too many things to list before You call me home*

When I think about my children and the miracle they are
I'm reminded every blessing comes from You
The devil waits for idle hands
But as for me I've got so much to do it's true

*Dear Lord before You call me home
I need to let You know I'm grateful for the Love I've known
Lord I'm wealthy and I'm rich
Too many things to list - before You call me home, before you call me home*

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Christ, all peo - ple
here be - low; Praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;
Praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

Offering Prayer

TO GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE IN CHRIST'S NAME

***Hymn I Love Everybody**

TRADITIONAL SPIRITUAL

I love everybody in my heart
I love everybody in my heart
I love everybody, I love everybody
I love everybody in my heart

There's no two ways about him in my heart
There's no two ways about him in my heart
There's no two ways about him, There's no two ways about him
There's no two ways about him in my heart

You can't make me doubt it in my heart
You can't make me doubt it
You can't make me doubt it in my heart

Feel the spirit burning in my heart
Feel the spirit burning in my heart
Feel the spirit burning in my heart
Feel the spirit burning in my heart

I love everybody in my heart
I love everybody in my heart
I love everybody, I love everybody
I love everybody in my heart

***Benediction**

Rev. Burns

One: On our hearts and our houses,

All: The blessing of God.

One: In our coming and goings,

All: The peace of God.

One: In our life and believing,

All: The love of God.

One: At our end and new beginning,

All: The arms of God to welcome us and bring us home. Amen.

*The service concludes with the following postlude.
Please maintain a worshipful silence.*

Postlude Pilgrim Highway

Mark Erelli
(b. 1974)

I'm going down that pilgrim highway
Though none can say for certain where it leads
I believe someday I'll reach a place
Where all my burdens shall be released

So often tested by toil and trial
Onward from the moment we are born

We must be steadfast through every darkened mile
Travelin' toward that everlasting morn

(break)

Though some we love may by the wayside fall
We must never feel abandoned or alone
There'll be a glorious reunion with them all
Just beyond that last bend in the road

*So take my hand brother take my hand sister
In each other we must confide
Many miles to cover before we are delivered
Down that pilgrim highway side by side
Down that pilgrim highway side by side*

Please join us for a picnic lunch immediately following worship. Everyone is invited.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Christa Fuller Burns, Pastor
Dr. Samuel Springer, Minister of Music and Organist.
Gabriella Anthony, Liturgist

Ararat Mountain Boys
Paul Botzler, banjo and vocals
Wes Burton, bass and vocals
Mike Rodbell, mandolin and guitar
Mike Shirey, guitar and vocals

FAITH FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Adult Forum 9:15 a.m. – Woodmont Room

Rev. Christa Fuller Burns will lead

September 17 Bring your favorite text

September 24 Bring your least favorite text

Wednesday Bible Study: 11:00 a.m. – Woodbourne Room, all are welcome. Join us for lively discussion on the upcoming Sunday lesson. No preparation is required.

September 13 Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14

September 20 Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 4:10-17

Marcus Edwards Vigil and Procession *September 19, 5:30 p.m.*

Faith Church, St. Matthew's Church and the Loch Raven community will meet on the medium across from Faith for a vigil and process two block to honor and remember Marcus. Please join us.

Choir Potluck *Thursday, September 14, 6:00 p.m.*

The choirs will celebrate the new program year beginning with a potluck supper; please bring a dish to share. Not a member in the choir but curious, please join us and learn more.

Ad Hoc Website Group *Wednesday, September 13, 5:00 p.m.*

The group will meet to discuss the new website.

GEDCO's CARES Pantry

The Pantry is running low on the following items: spaghetti sauce, canned salmon, canned meat, and pasta. Your donation, large or small, of any non-perishable food will make a difference.

Annual Health Fair *Saturday, October 8, 10:00 – 1:00*

The Loch Raven Churches, in conjunction with MedStar Good Samaritan Hospital, are hosting their annual health fair at Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Free flu shots and screenings, health & wellness information, healthy snacks and giveaways.

Habitat Work Days

Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity has scheduled two dates for volunteers to work at the McCabe housing site where we have been involved in the past. The dates are Saturdays September 23 and October 28.

If you are interested in volunteering for a little home construction (deconstruction?) on either of these dates, please contact **Susan Minor**. Please consider lending your sweat, muscle, and love in an extremely worthwhile and satisfying project.

Book Club Alert

We will be meeting Monday Sept. 25th at the home of the Nesbitts. Our theme for this year is "Flight." At our September meeting, we will be discussing Barbara Kingsolver's book *Flight Behavior*. Our discussions are fun and thought provoking. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Pat Nesbitt.

Joys and Concerns may be written before the service in a special book in the narthex. The book will be brought to the minister before the prayer.

Please pray for our homebound members:

Christian Dunyoh

Esmie & Leon Stirling

Nancy Stutzer

Betty Lou Tampieri

Dot Weller

Faith Presbyterian Church's Ministry

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FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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