



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Earth Sunday

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 28, 2019

10:45 a.m.

*Welcome to Faith Church; we are glad you are here.
Childcare for infants and preschoolers is provided all morning in the nursery,
the second room on the right through the door by the pulpit.*

*Children attending Church School will be escorted
by teachers to class following "Time with Faith Kids."*

Faith Presbyterian Church
5400 Loch Raven Blvd.
faithchurchbalt@gmail.com
410-435-4330

THE CHURCH GATHERS

The candle is lighted as a prayer for peace.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Mary Barrett Speers

Prelude For the Beauty of the Earth

Emma Lou Diemer
(b. 1927)

**Please rise in body or in spirit; unison parts are in bold.*

*Call to Worship

Neil Nemser

One: Jesus said, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what should I compare it? It is like a mustard seed planted in the earth;

All: It grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches."

*Hymn 22 God of the Sparrow

ROEDER

Prayer of the Day *a prayer of St Basil the Great (AD 330-379)*

O God, enlarge within us the sense of fellowship with all living things: our brothers and sisters the animals, to whom you gave the earth as their home in common with us. We remember with shame that in the past we have exercised the high dominion of humans with ruthless cruelty, so that the voice of the earth, which should have gone up to you in song, has been a groan of travail. May we realize that they live not for us, but for themselves and for you; and that they, too, love the sweetness of life...

Sung Response 336



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Assurance of Pardon

One: ...Friends, believe in the good news of the Gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*The Peace of Christ

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

All: And also with you.

TO PROCLAIM AND EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

Family Time with Faith Kids

...In Baptism you were clothed in Christ and received into the Church Universal. You have served as members of this body, you have been nourished at this table, and now you are called to show the love of Christ in the world. God has blessed you and made you a blessing to us in our life together.

You have deepened our joy and lightened our sorrow. We shall miss you, yet we rejoice that now you will bless others as you have blessed us.

Let us pray:

Faithful God, keep, preserve, and protect Katherine & Scott, Cora and Eden, all their days. By the power of your Holy Spirit, encourage them on the Way of Christ. Lead them to new ministries, secure in the faith that we all share in the Body of Christ.

Go in the peace of Christ. And come back and see us whenever you can! **Amen.**

Sung Prayer for Illumination

Hymn 817 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

DUNLAP'S CREEK

**We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:
"My peace be with you here."**

Lesson Ezekiel 17: 22-24

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One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sermon

"Tree Huggers"

Rev. Speers

***Hymn 249** Because You Live, O Christ

VRUECHTEN

Prayers of the People

A litany prayer with the response:

O God of Love,

Raise us to new life in Christ.

The Lord's Prayer

for Earth Day, a version from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer

Eternal Spirit, Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name shall echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.

OFFERING

Offertory Anthem All Things Bright and Beautiful

John Rutter
(b. 1945)

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all. Each little flow'r that opens, each little bird that sings, he made their glowing colors, he made their tiny wings The purple headed mountain the river running by, the sunset and the morning, that brightens up the sky; the cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden, he made them ev'ry one. He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.

***Doxology 609**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high, and low.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

***Dedication of Self & Substance**

Creator God, we pray that your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. In that hope, all we do, all we say, all we think, we offer with these gifts to you; and pray your kingdom will take root, grow strong, and flourish among us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

***Hymn 14** For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

***Charge to the Congregation and Benediction**

Postlude Festal Finale

Henry Coleman
(1888-1965)

You are invited outdoors to continue worship with the dedication of a tree in memory of Elder Randal Woodfield.

Leading Worship Today

Rev. Mary Barrett Speers, Interim Pastor
Samuel Springer, Minister of Music and Organist
Neil Nemser, Liturgist
The Chancel Choir

FAITH FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Annual Block Party

The annual block party for our neighborhood is scheduled for Wednesday, May 29,

5:30-7:30 pm. We're looking for volunteers to help with this event. Please let Bill Millen, Paula Burger, Robin Nesbitt, or Judy Sperling know of your willingness to assist in making this community tradition at Faith a success

Adult Forum 9:15 a.m. Woodmont Room

Creation & Re-Creation During the month of May, Faith Church members will present a series on their leisure time activities and address the satisfactions, as well as frustrations, that they bring. On Sundays at 9:15am, you'll get to vicariously experience new hobbies!

May 5: Trains and Planes (the woodworking kind) with Ron Sperling and Jack Nesbitt

May 19: Outdoor Pursuits (Horseback riding, running, and baseball) with Marilyn Valentine, Kristin Herber, and James Herber

May 26: Gardening with Pat Nesbitt and Karen Meyers

Concert Sunday, May 12 at 4:00 p.m.

The Negro Speaks of Rivers, a recital of Negro Spiritual and Art Songs. **Dr. Leah Brown**, mezzo soprano and **Dr. Samuel Springer**, piano. A freewill offering will be collected.

Habitat Workdays

Habitat Workdays are **May 4, 11, 24**, with more dates in June. There is a maximum of 5 people per day. Contact **Natalie Wallace** if you can work any of the dates. Nrew62@msn.com or 410-207-7190. *Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.*

Yoga at Faith Wednesdays 2:00-3:15 The Chapel

Gentle Yoga class is led by certified instructor, **Leanora Eubanks**. All are welcome, experienced or new to yoga. \$40/4 sessions or \$12.50/drop in. For more information call the church office 410-435-4330.

Book Club Monday April 29 7:00 p.m.

Please note that this is the 5th Monday of the month instead of our usual 4th which is Easter Monday. We will be reading *The Winter Soldier* by **Daniel Mason**. "A sweeping unforgettable love story of a young doctor and nurse at a remote field hospital in the First World War." This book comes highly recommended by several Faith Church folk. We will meet at the Nesbitts' at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

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:

Betty Bunce

Nan Pohl

Nancy Stutzer

Faith Presbyterian Church's Ministry

Interim Pastor: Rev. Mary B. Speers – 443-893-3717, maryfaithchurchbalt@gmail.com

Parish Associate: The Rev. Doris Cowan - 410-444-4731, dw.cowan@verizon.net

Parish Associate: The Rev. William R. Millen - 443-632-6047, bill.millen@comcast.net

Minister of Music: Dr. Samuel Springer - 410-483-0808, widor1@yahoo.com

Tips for being a FAITHful Steward of our Earth



- ✿ Make sure the washer or dishwasher is full before you run it. Do a cold water wash when you can and air dry dishes when you can.
- ✿ Take showers instead of baths and limit your time in the shower.
- ✿ Consolidate and plan errands to minimize the distance you drive. Ask neighbors if you can pick up items for them or if they'd like to ride with you to the store.
- ✿ Consider gas mileage when you purchase a new car.
- ✿ When remodeling, consider using recycled and eco-friendly materials.
- ✿ Get reusable containers and buy foods like grains, nuts, candy, etc., in bulk.
- ✿ Take reusable bags to stores. When you do get plastic bags, find a second use for them or recycle them (Giant and Mom's recycle plastic bags and Meals on Wheels needs them, too.)
- ✿ Put leftovers in reusable containers to minimize the use of food wraps.
- ✿ Do NOT buy water in plastic bottles. It is no purer than Baltimore City water and, in some cases, is less so. The manufacture of plastic bottles, the bottling and transport, and the disposal of the bottles all have a *major* impact on the environment. Get a reusable water bottle and carry it with you.
- ✿ Stop using straws and order drinks without straws at bars or restaurants.
- ✿ Compost your food wastes in a compost pile or a worm box.
- ✿ Put on an extra layer and turn down the heat in cold weather; take off a layer and turn up the air conditioning in hot weather.
- ✿ Know what you can recycle and recycle everything you can. (Look at the FAQ on the public works section of the Baltimore City website.)
- ✿ Consider getting solar panels. There is no up-front cost if you rent them and they will reduce your electric bill significantly.
- ✿ Plug TV's and computers into surge strips and turn off the strips when you're not using them.
- ✿ Replace your light bulbs with LED's which cost more initially but are much more efficient than other light bulbs and will save you money on your electric bill. If you replace compact fluorescent bulbs (CFL's), make sure you recycle them because they contain small amounts of mercury. See the EPA website to find out where they can be recycled.
- ✿ Eat less meat. Cut down on the portions and frequency of meat meals. Chicken is the meat with the least environmental impact.
- ✿ Choose sustainable seafood. Search "seafood watch.org" to find what to eat and what not to.
- ✿ Buy from local food sources when possible.
- ✿ Do your best to avoid wasting food. Don't buy more produce than you can eat. Consider buying frozen vegetables instead of fresh.
- ✿ Subscribe to Today We Will which offers daily tips on ways to protect the environment and/or check out the archived tips on their website:
<http://www.todaywewillnewsletter.com/>