

Stewardship Sunday
Sunday, November 20, 2022



Updated Freedom from Want, photo, 2018
Hank Willis Thomas and Emily Shur, courtesy of Four Freedoms

Faith Presbyterian Church
ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome to worship at Faith Presbyterian Church! We are glad you are joining us this morning. Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, whatever your faith or your doubt, we welcome all whom God welcomes, and that means you. As we begin our time together, take a few deep breaths and settle in, to make the transition from getting here to being here, and to prepare your mind and body for worship.

Welcome

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich

Joys and Concerns

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude *Simple Gifts*

arr. Daniel Burton

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

***Call to Worship**

Krista Wallace

Make a joyful noise, all the earth!

Let the trees of the field clap their hands; let the mountains and fields break forth into song!

The faithful are like trees, planted by streams of water.

Nourished by the Spirit, we flourish and yield good fruit.

Rooted and grounded in Faith, we gather to praise the source of all life.

Let us worship God together!

***Hymn 37** *Let All Things Now Living*

ASH GROVE

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of great and small, every good gift comes from you. Yet, too often, we fail to live our lives with gratitude. Focused on what we don't have, we take for granted what we do. Open our eyes, holy one, that we might notice and appreciate the gifts we have from your hand: the goodness of creation, your gracious love, and a community in which to share it. By the power of your grace, forgive our faults and failures, and free us to live with generosity. Hear now our silent prayers of confession...

Kyrie 418 *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me.
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.

"Come home, come home!
You who are weary, come home."
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, "O sinner, come home!"

Assurance of Grace

***Gloria 544** *Bless the Lord*

BLESS THE LORD

Bless the Lord, my soul,
and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul,
who leads me into life.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Robert Jonathan Nemser and Josephine Kate Nemser

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Creator almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ God's only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
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;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Baptisms

*Hymn 488 *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*

WATERLIFE

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Reading Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.
God shall help the city at the break of day.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;

God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.
The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the Lord;
see what desolations God has brought on the earth.

It is God who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire.

'Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.'

The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge

Old Testament Reading Deuteronomy 26:1-11

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When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.' When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

This is the word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Responding in Gratitude

Rev. Goodrich

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn 654** *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL

sung three times

Minute for Stewardship

Sondra Watkins

Invitation to the Offering *If you wish to contribute online, please scan the QR code with your mobile device to be directed to Faith's online giving site.*



Offertory *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

Joel Raney
(b. 1956)

***Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit one. Amen.

***Litany of Dedication**

God of creation, you gave us life:

And so we give our thanks to you.

You created the earth, rich and teeming with life,

so we offer you, our Maker, the bounty from our fields.

You gifted us with time to be,

we invest our time and service as gifts again to you.

You gave us skills to work and create:

we bring you the fruits of our life and labor.

From you, we have gifts and skills, some talents known, and others hidden;

we give back with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.

Show us more clearly what our gifts may be.

Your gifts redeem and sustain us.

In gratitude, we bring to you the gift of our lives. Gift to gift, grace to grace, our lives are simply your life within us. Receive, we pray, our offerings and pledges for 2023, that we might continue to be rooted and grounded in Faith, and flourish as Faith Church for generations to come. Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

***Hymn 643** *Now Thank We All Our God*

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude *Now Thank We All Our God*

J.S. Bach, arr. Virgil Fox
(1912-1980)

Today we celebrate the baptisms of **Robert Jonathan Nemser** and **Josephine Kate Nemser**,
the children of Sarah and Zachary Nemser.

Leading Worship Today

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich, *Pastor*

Dr. Samuel Springer, *Minister of Music and Organist*

Krista Wallace, *Liturgist*

Elder of the Day

Dawn Shirey, *Zoom Moderator & PowerPoint*

Andy Fuller, *Audio/Camera*

Please plan on staying after worship for a celebration luncheon in Fellowship Hall.

****Joys and Concerns:** We are a community who prays with and for each other. There is a book in the narthex where you may write your joys and concerns, to be included in the Prayers of the People and shared in our weekly prayer chain email. If you would like to be added to the prayer chain email: faithchurchbalt@gmail.com.

This week we pray for:

Ann Scheck

Faith's homebound members

The people of Ukraine

Victims of gun violence

WELCOME to Faith Presbyterian Church! If you are visiting with us this morning, we hope you found our worship to be meaningful - your presence enriches our community. If you are seeking a church home, we hope you will return soon so that we might get to know you better. To learn about ways to get engaged in the life of Faith, check out our website, www.faiithpcbalt.org, and speak with our pastor, Rev. Cat Goodrich, cgoodrich@faiithpcbalt.org.

KIDS are welcome at Faith! Our PRAYGROUND at the front of the sanctuary is for children 6 and younger during worship. There are books and quiet activities to keep hands busy so ears can listen, and it's close to the action so that our youngest members can experience the beauty of worship in a space that's just for them.

This fall, **kids will meet for Sunday School** during worship. Pre-k through 1st graders will meet in the classroom just outside of the sanctuary; 2nd-6th graders will go upstairs to the second classroom. Together they will engage the scripture for the day with crafts, games and activities, using Sparkhouse lectionary curriculum. Then, they will return to worship at the conclusion of the service. On communion Sundays, the kids will stay for the entire service.

The Forum *Sundays at 9:15 in Woodbourne Room*

The Forum will reflect on gratitude on November 27 and will begin an Advent study on December 11, looking at the birth of Christ through the lens of each Gospel.

Advent Festival *Sunday, December 4 following worship*

Celebrate Advent starting with a festive luncheon served in the Fellowship Hall. Shop for friends and family at the alternative gift table; the proceeds go to the Deacon's Hands of Faith fund, there are activities for children and adults.

Calling all crafters, bakers, knitters, and creative souls

The Deacons once again will have the Hands of Faith alternative gift table at the **Advent Festival** on December 4th to raise funds for the mission work of the church. We are asking for donations of your amazing creations for the table. Please see Dawn Shirey for details. Thank you in advance for generously giving of your handiwork.