

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, July 16, 2023



Esua and Jacob, oil on canvas
Andrei Mironov (b. 1975) Russian

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Christa Fuller Burns

Joys and Concerns

Prelude *Be Thou My Vision*

Dale Wood
(1934-2003)

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

***Call to Worship**

Jack Nesbitt

On this summer's day, we gather as God's people
to hear stories of people just like us – people who make mistakes, choose favorites, and judge others.

On this summer's day, we worship as God's people
grateful that God chooses us and works through even us.

***Hymn 39** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

FAITHFULNESS

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, we confess that we often do not trust your promises to us. We take matters in our own hands thinking we can secure what we think should belong to us and we forget your assurance that you will provide for us a future and an inheritance.

Forgive us. Like Isaac and Rebekah, we are heirs of your trust. Like Jacob, we receive your grace even when we don't deserve it. Like Esau, we share in your promises. May the seeds of faithfulness and hope be sown in our hearts.

Kyrie 423 *Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God*

SARADAY



1 Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God; cre -
ate in me a clean heart, O God; cre -
ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me.

Assurance of Grace

*Gloria 645 *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

MIT FREUDEN ZART

Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled,
and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Moment with Faith Kids

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Bible Reading Genesis 25:19-34

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?' So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her,

'Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
one shall be stronger than the other,
the elder shall serve the younger.'

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!' (Therefore, he was called Edom.) Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.' Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?' Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Our Place at the Table

Rev. Burns

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn 661 *Why Should I Feel Discouraged?*

SPARROW

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 *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

setting Pepper Choplin
(b. 1957)

Prayer of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*Hymn 838 *Standing on the Promises*

PROMISES

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Variations on Madrid*

Denis Bedard
(b. 1950)

Leading Worship Today

Rev. Christa Fuller Burns, *Pastor Emerita*
Dr. Samuel Springer, *Minister of Music and Organist*
Jack Nesbitt, *Liturgist*
Dawn Shirey, *Zoom Moderator & PowerPoint*
Andy Fuller, *Audio/Camera*

****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:

Faith's homebound members and
those receiving long-term care
Our partners in Cuba

Victims of gun violence
The people of Ukraine

We need your help! Join BUILD & hundreds of leaders across Baltimore TONIGHT, Sunday, July 16th from 6-7:30pm, at Memorial Baptist Church. We will provide a public update on our work to address the crisis of vacant and abandoned homes in Baltimore, including the need for billions of dollars in investment. We expect to be joined by Mayor Brandon Scott and the new CEO of the Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) Mark Anthony Thomas.

WELCOME to Faith Presbyterian Church! If you are visiting with us this morning, we hope you find 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.faithpcbalt.org, and speak with our pastor, Rev. Cat Goodrich, cgoodrich@faithpcbalt.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.

Restroom – the closest restroom is outside the door at the front of the sanctuary (by the pulpit), just turn right.

Sign up for our weekly **News & Notes** by completing the visitor card or go to the website: faithpcbalt.org and navigate to “Contact Us.”

The Forum: Faith formation gathering for youth and adults, *Sundays, 9:15 in the Woodmont Room and on Zoom.* **The Forum is taking a break for the summer.** It will return in September. In the meantime, if you have ideas about a series or class you'd like to see, please email Cat, cgoodrich@faithpcbalt.org!

Wednesday Bible Study 11:00 a.m. on Zoom Bible Study is on break until August 23.

We have a new logo! Pick up a magnet for your car or refrigerator, a t-shirt (suggested donation \$10), or a sticker in the narthex.

Summer Sermon Series



All courageous conversations begin with simple questions and the curiosity to truly listen. Over the next six weeks, we will ask questions and listen, deepening our connections to one another and to God as we seek to strengthen our beloved community of Faith.

July 23 - Genesis 2:4b-15
Where Are You From?

July 30 - Mark 5:21-43
Where Does It Hurt?

August 13 - Mark 8:27-38
What Keeps You Up at Night?

August 20 - Job 2:11-13
What Do You Need?

August 27 - Acts 10:30-48
Where Do We Go from Here?

September 3 - *Conversation Church*