

Labor Day Weekend
I've Been Meaning to Ask...
Sunday, September 3, 2023



FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich

Joys and Concerns

Prelude *Andante Tranquillo*

Percy Whitlock
(1903-1946)

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

***Call to Worship**

Krista Wallace

***Hymn 515** *I Come with Joy*

DOVE OF PEACE

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of grace, you call us to be good, there are so many ways we have fallen short. You call us to be kind, but there are so many times when we have been less than. You call us to act with love, but there are so many times when instead we have acted out of selfishness, greed, jealousy, and fear. Look on us with mercy, and forgive our many faults and human frailties! Help us be our best selves, so that your love and justice will begin with us. We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...

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

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Gospel Reading John 15:9-17 *in the style of lectio divina...*

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the word of God, for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Conversation

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn 699** *Fill My Cup*

FILL MY CUP

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 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

James L. Boeringer
(1930-2014)

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

Invitation to The Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

The prayer continues, concluding with...

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.

Words of Institution

Sharing of Communion

If you are in the sanctuary, please come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread and cup, and return by the outside aisle. Gluten free, dairy free bread is available in a dish on each plate.

If you are at home, when the bread is broken, please break the bread. When the cup is poured, please pour it or touch the cup if you've already filled it. We give thanks that the Spirit is present wherever we are, knitting us together as the body of Christ in the world.

Prayer after Communion

God of the feast, we thank you for feeding us this holy meal. May the fellowship and food we have shared at this table enable us to grow in faith and make us strong to love and serve you in our neighbors. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

***Hymn 529** *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*

TEMPLE OF PEACE

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude *Preludium, Fuge and Ciacona in C*

Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

Leading Worship Today

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich, *Pastor*
Samuel Springer, *Minister of Music and Organist*
Krista Wallace, *Liturgist*
Patrick Baker, *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

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.faihpcbalt.org, and speak with our pastor, Rev. Cat Goodrich, cgoodrich@faihpcbalt.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 Wednesday - Join Cat every Wednesday to reflect on the coming Sunday's lectionary passage. All are welcome!

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.

Home coming

**FAITH CHURCH
ANNUAL SEPTEMBER GATHERING**

09.10.2023 - 10:45 Faith Church Courtyard
Worship & Potluck Picnic
Music by Mike Shirey
Bring a chair and a dish to share
RSVP faithchurchbal@gmail.com