

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 4, 2024



Grasshopper, oil on canvas  
Peter Winfried Koenig (b. 1939) England

**Faith Presbyterian Church  
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

**PRELUDE** *A Little More Faith in Jesus*

arr. John W. Work III  
(1901-1967)

\*Please rise in body or in spirit

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Chandra Jackson**

Settle in, and breathe deep. Surely God is in this place!  
**The goodness of God is the ground of our being.**  
When we are tired and weary, we can lay our burdens down here.  
**Our sanctuary is a place of refuge. God restores our souls.**  
With thanksgiving for the love and grace that sustains us,  
**We worship God together.**

**\*HYMN 796** *We Come to You for Healing, Lord*

LAND OF REST

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Those who trust in God shall find their strength renewed, the prophet says. But we find it hard to trust that which we cannot see. We prize self-reliance, self-sufficiency, and independence. We forget that our salvation lies in the intricate web of relationships that holds us; we ignore our interdependence, neglecting to show compassion for others and care for the common good. Forgive our foolishness, God, and lead us back into right relationship once more. We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...**

**KYRIE 466** *Come and Fill Our Hearts*

CONFITEMINI DOMINO

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone, O Lord, are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
Alleluia!**

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

**\*GLORIA 582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

GLORY TO GOD

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you...  
... and also with you.

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**A MOMENT WITH FAITH KIDS**

**Robin Nemser**

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
Has it not been told you from the beginning?  
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?  
Yahweh who sits above the roof of the world,  
and its inhabitants look like grasshoppers;  
God stretches out the heavens like a curtain,  
and spreads them like a tent to live in;  
God brings princes to naught,  
and throws the rulers of the earth into chaos.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,  
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,  
then God blows on them, and they wither,  
and the tempest carries them off like chaff.

To whom then will you compare me,  
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.  
Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
Who created the stars; if not the one,  
who brings out their host and numbers them,  
calling them all by name;  
because God is great in strength,  
mighty in power,  
not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and speak, O Israel,  
'My way is hidden from the Lord,  
and my right is disregarded by my God?'  
Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
The Lord is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
God does not faint or grow weary;  
God's understanding is unsearchable.  
Yahweh gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.  
Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;  
but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.

**GOSPEL READING** Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

For the wisdom we find in this ancient story,  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Let's Go On...*

**Rev. Goodrich**

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

\***HYMN 834** *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

PRECIOUS LORD

**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** *There Is Balm in Gilead*

M. Roger Holland II

Monea Brown, *mezzo soprano*

**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

**Holy God, through this meal, may our bodies and spirits be nourished. May this lifegiving bread remind us that we are loved, even when we feel a bit broken. May the cup we have shared open our eyes to the grace that flows when we share with one another. We give thanks for the Mystery that holds and sustains us as we go forth. Amen.**

## SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

\***HYMN 523** *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

BICENTENNIAL

## CHARGE & BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** *Hold On!*

Calvin Taylor  
(b. 1948)

## Leading Worship Today

**Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich**, *Pastor*  
**Dr. Samuel Springer**, *Minister of Music and Organist*  
**The Chancel Choir**  
**Chandra Jackson**, *Liturgist*  
**John Colmers**, *Elder of the Day*  
**Delevena Brown**, *Usher*  
**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](mailto: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, Israel, Palestine, Sudan,  
and all those who suffer from war and disaster.

**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](http://www.faithpcbalt.org), and speak with our pastor, Rev. Cat Goodrich, [cgoodrich@faithpcbalt.org](mailto:cgoodrich@faithpcbalt.org).

**Welcome to Faith gathering:** If you are new to Faith, **plan to stay after worship Today** for lunch and a time of learning about our congregation. Pastor Cat will give an overview of our church's structure, mission, and ministry, and we'll explore what it means to be Presbyterian here at Faith.

**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.

Sign up for our weekly **News & Notes** email by completing the visitor card or go to the website: [faithpcbalt.org](http://faithpcbalt.org) and navigate to "Contact Us."

**Wednesday Bible Study 11:00 a.m. on Zoom** Wednesdays - Join Cat most Wednesdays to reflect on the coming Sunday's lectionary passage. All are welcome! Meeting ID: 818 8551 6595; passcode: 716331



**The Forum:** Faith formation gathering for youth and adults, *Sundays, 9:15 in the Woodmont Room and on Zoom.*

### **February Forum Schedule**

Living the Questions is an open-minded alternative to studies that attempt to give participants all the answers. Here we'll look at essential questions in the Christian faith and explore what's next for Christianity. The class will be facilitated by Rev. Dr. Jerrett L. Hansen, a retired pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

2/11 - Thinking Theologically

2/18 - The Myth of Redemptive Violence

2/25 - Stories of Creation

**Children's Sunday School** On Sunday mornings, after the Moment with Faith Kids, kids ages 4 and up are invited to explore the passage of the day with games, crafts, and other activities. They will return at the end of worship to the sanctuary.

**ROPAGOFA Youth Group meets every third Sunday at 5:30!** Join young people from Faith, Govans, and Roland Park churches to build a durable faith through fun, games, and encountering God together. The next gathering will be February 18 at Govans.

**Book Club:** Our February book to read and discuss will be *His Excellency: George Washington* by Joseph J. Ellis. His Excellency is a magnificent work, indispensable to an understanding not only of its subject but also of the nation he brought into being. We will meet at Paula & Peter Burger's home (36 Whitfield Road, 21210) on Tuesday February 27<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.

**JOIN US FOR Mardi Gras!** Ash Wednesday falls on February 14 this year, Valentine's Day. Let's prepare for the season of Lent with a **pancake supper on Fat Tuesday, February 13** in Hyde Hall. You'll have a chance to choose a Lenten calendar or devotional, learn about the spiritual journey of Lent, and receive the imposition of ashes as you leave, a blessing to prepare you for the days to come.

The chapel will be open on **Ash Wednesday** for personal prayer, candle lighting, and reflection. If you'd like to receive a blessing and the imposition of ashes, come at lunchtime - between 12-1.

**From the Deacons: "Cookies for CARES"** boxes are available outside both doors of the chancel. Every Valentine's Day, Faith Church donates boxes of cookies to the CARES pantry for the clients. They can be store bought or homemade cookies, anything goes. Please take a box or two, fill them with cookies, and return them to church by Sunday, February 11th. Thank you!