

*the*  
**PRESBYTERIAN**  
CHURCH



**April 12, 2026, 10:30 am**  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter*

Welcome to worship! Led by the Holy Spirit, we glorify God, nurture the faith with each other, and witness the fullness of Christ's love in the world. Beyond the pews, we hope you will grow in faith with us on Sunday mornings and throughout the week. Our weekly announcements are e-mailed each Wednesday and posted online. Printed copies are available at the entrance.



Children are welcome in the Sanctuary throughout the service and are encouraged to visit our Worship Corner in the front left of the Sanctuary for a variety of resources to help engage in worship. Childcare is available for infants through 4-year-olds in the nursery, which is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Education Building.

Assisted listening devices are available at the Princess Anne Street side entrance. Restrooms are located underneath the Sanctuary, accessed via the stairs off the porch on the Princess Anne Street side or elevator, or in the Education Building next to the offices or kitchen, both with elevator access. Our service is livestreamed via YouTube.

***We are glad you are here as we give glory to God together!***

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

✠We rise in body or spirit.  
**We say words in bold together.**

Prelude “*RHOSYMEDRE: My Song is Love Unknown*” Ralph Vaughan Williams

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Elizabeth Lovell Milford

Moment for Micah Jim Toler

Gathering Prayer

**God of signs and wonders, you have revealed to us that Jesus Christ is your son and our Savior. Strengthen our faith, that we may have life in Christ’s name and live into your resurrection good news. Amen.**

Introit *This Joyful Eastertide* (Hymn 244)

Call to Worship *based on 1 Corinthians 15* Liturgist: Harry Land

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

**Death has been swallowed up in victory through our Lord.**

Siblings in faith, be steadfast, rejoicing in the good news: Christ is risen!

**He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

✠Hymn 248 *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

*Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!*

*Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.*

*In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.*

*Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.*

*Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.*

*Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.*

*Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.*

*Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.*

*Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.*

*Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.*

*Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"  
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!*

✠Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, although Christ is among us as our peace, we confess that we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of the broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

✠Assurance of Pardon

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

✠Gloria (Hymn 582) *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

*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.*

*World without end, without end. Amen.*

*World without end, without end. Amen.*

*World without end, without end. Amen.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

✠Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings: *1 Peter 1:3-9*

*Psalms 111*

p. 281 in the pew Bible

p. 691 in the pew Bible

Moment with the Children

Natasha Taylor, Faith Formation Coordinator

Anthem

*I Am Sending You*

Mary McDonald

*"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with those words,  
He said to them, "Receive the Holy One;*

*Forgive them of their sins and lead them to the risen Son!"*

*"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."*

*How shall they believe in whom they've not heard?*

*How shall they call upon His name?*

*How shall they preach unless you go there and share in Jesus' Name?*

*"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."*

*Go ye therefore to the world and tell them of Good News!*

*Teach them to do as I command and know I'm there with you!*

*"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you. I am sending you!"*

Scripture Reading: *John 20:19-31*

p. 141 in the pew Bible

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Unlocking Hope

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

☒Hymn 817

*We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*

*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."*

*We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;  
but in your promise we rejoice and cry, "My Lord and God!"*

*Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound  
to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.*

*And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light  
may we behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.*

☒Affirmation of Faith from *The Confession of 1967* (inclusive language text)

**The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the**

**awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**. . . forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors . . .**

Moment for Mission

Youth Conference Shares

Jesse Chewning, Hailey Bothel

Presentation of Offerings

Gifts, tithes, and offerings may be placed in the plates at the Sanctuary entrance. We also give thanks to God for offerings given via mail and online at [fredericksburgpc.org/give](http://fredericksburgpc.org/give).

✠Doxology (Hymn 609) *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*  
***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.***

✠Prayer of Dedication

### SENDING

✠Hymn 772

*Live into Hope*

during the first verse, children are dismissed to the Ed Building for choir

*Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.*  
*The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!*

*Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity,*  
*removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.*

*Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,*  
*the right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.*

*Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.*  
*God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.*

## ✠Charge and Benediction

✠Postlude            *“PISGAH: When I Can Read My Title Clear”*            Dale Wood  
*Go in peace, holding quiet space for those who wish to reflect and pray.*



*The flowers on the pulpit are given to the glory of God  
for the life of John Lay Bailey by the Bailey family.*

### ***Serving in Worship Today:***

Choirmasters: Mary Ann & Larry Casey

Guest Organist: Brooks Kuykendall

Ushers: Tristin and Robert Fidler

Elevator Assistant: Bill Stewart

Sanctuary Guild: Mike and Michelle Gibson

Videographers: Ed Foresman, Vicky Wilder

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*Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*—Text: Brian Wren, 1984; Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1842; alt.;

Hope Publishing Company © 1986

*I Am Sending You*—Text: Mary McDonald; Lorenz Publishing; ©1998

*Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*—Text: Trad. Liturgical text; adapt. Paul M. Vasile, © 2008

*We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*—Text: Henry Alford, 1844, alt.; Music: Samuel McFarland, C. 1814, harm, Richard Proulx, 1986;

GIA Publications, Inc.; ©1986

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*—Text: Brian Wren, 1989; Music: Geistliche Kirchengesang, 1623; harm. Hal H. Hopson, 1998;

Hope Publishing Company; ©1989

*Live Into Hope*—Text: Jane Parker Huber, 1976; Music: Musica Sacra, c. 1778; Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster

John Knox Press) ©1980

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