



August 23, 2026, 10:30 am
13th Sunday after Pentecost

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.

Children are welcome in the Sanctuary throughout the service and are encouraged to visit our worship corner in the front left of the Sanctuary and borrow a variety of resources. This summer, toddlers and preschoolers are invited to join us in the pews for the beginning of worship. After the moment with the children, they may leave with staff and volunteers to play on the playground or in the nursery on the first 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. If you need access to the Ed. Building during worship, please speak to an usher. 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.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *Meditation on "O How I Love Jesus"* John Rasley
Silent prayer of preparation based on Isaiah 51:1-16

We trust, O God, in your power to return and restore us, to enliven and empower us, to soothe and save us. You can turn a desert into Eden, sorrow into joy, and silence into singing. We wait for you, attentive and hopeful, for with you, deliverance is always possible. Amen.

Call to Worship *based on Romans 12:1-8* Liturgist: Matt Milford

Come, take your everyday, ordinary lives – your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around lives – and place them before God as an offering.

We hope to be transformed, changed from the inside out, looking and listening for the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Come in humility and faith, each with the faith God has given you.

We are the body of Christ, individually gifted yet called together.

Come, let us worship God!

✠Hymn 330 *Our Help Is in the Name of God (Psalm 124)*

*Our help is in the name of God the Lord,
the One who made the heavens with a word,
creator of the world, each living thing.
Come, bless the Lord, lift up your hearts and sing:
"Our help is in the name of God the Lord."*

*When evil seems to have the upper hand,
call on God's name: the Lord, the great "I AM."
When troubles rise and all around gives way,
remember God stays with us night and day.
Our help is in the name of God the Lord.*

*Praise God the Lord who hears the captives' prayer.
Like birds escaping from the fowler's snare
we are set free; our praises now ascend:
"Blessed be the Lord: Creator, Savior, Friend.
Our help is in the name of God the Lord."*

✠Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, we confess that we are conformed to this world. We conform to this world's frantic pace, too hectic to notice all the blessings you provide. We conform to this world's reckless waste, exploiting what you entrust to our care. We conform to this world's shallow values, oblivious to the giftedness of people different from us. We conform to this world's impatient attitudes, preferring the latest instead of the lasting. Forgive our conformity and transform us, O God, in Jesus' name. Amen.

✠Assurance of Pardon

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

✠Joyful Response (Hymn 591 refrain)

***Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lujah! Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lujah!
Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!***

✠Peace and Greeting

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

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: *Exodus 1:8-2:10*

p. 60 in the pew Bible

Moment with the Children

Natasha Taylor, Faith Formation Coordinator

Anthem

On Eagles Wings

Michael Joncas

Scripture Reading: *Matthew 16:13-20*

p. 22 in the pew Bible

This is the word of faith that we proclaim. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Keys to Success

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

✠Hymn 307

God of Grace, and God of Glory

*God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
Crown thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.*

*Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.*

*Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.*

*Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore, serving thee we adore.*

✠Affirmation of Faith from the Confession of Belhar

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells; that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

Recognition of Worship Volunteers (included below) Elder Heather Eland
Worship and Music Committee Chair

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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

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.

✠Doxology (Hymn 606)

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

✠Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

✠Hymn 700

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

I'm gonna live so (live so) God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! (anytime!)

I'm gonna live so (live so) God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! (anytime!)

I'm gonna work so (work so) God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! anytime!)

I'm gonna work so (work so) God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! (anytime!)

I'm gonna pray so (pray so) God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! (anytime!)

I'm gonna pray so (pray so) God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! (anytime!)

I'm gonna sing so (sing so) God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! (anytime!)

I'm gonna sing so (sing so) God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! (anytime!)

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Postlude

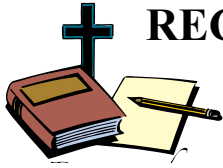
Praise Him! Praise Him!

arr. Humphrey Turner

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 Catherine Paige Wilson by the Wilson family.*



RECOGNITION OF WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

(AUGUST 2025 – AUGUST 2026)

Thank you to the following people who have assisted with worship this past year.

Banners: Jim and Patty Toler, Kim Baker, Elizabeth Saunders Morris

Communion Prep: Laura and Kurt Chewning, Ed and Piper Foresman, Sharon and Pete Humes, Linda and Steve Spratt

Flowers and Chancel Decor: Sharon Humes

Sanctuary Guild: Connie Barnes, Gaye and John Copley, Mary Lou Cramer, Joan Darby, Piper and Ed Foresman, Mike and Michelle Gibson, Karen Johnson, Debbie and Paul Leimer, Maryann Piersall, Lynn and Preston Simms, Linda and Steve Spratt, Doreen and Gary Vaughn, Vicky and Marty Wilder

Funerals and Memorial Services: Susie Davis, Lynn Simms, Patty Toler

Pew Upkeep—Bulletin Prep—Office Help: Kim Baker, Susie Davis, Eleanor McCord, Elizabeth Saunders Morris

Worship Volunteer Coordinator: Joan Darby

Ushers and Elevator Assistants

Coordinators: First Sunday-Kaden Yealy; Second Sunday-Bill Stewart;

Third Sunday-Marjolijn Bijlefeld; Fourth Sunday-Sherman Brown; Fifth Sunday-Joan Darby

Volunteers: Linda Benn, Porter Blakemore, Laura Chewning, Jesse Chewning, Michele Coffman, George Cralle, Ellie Crane, Steve Davis, Bryan Eland, Shirley Eye, Tristin and Robert Fidler, Erik Fino, Scott Fisher, Piper Foresman, Mike Gibson, Barry Hall, Bruce and Bridget Harvey, John Howe, Karen Johnson, Paul Kukla, Patricia Langfitt, Paul Leimer, Betsy and Ralph Lewis, Adam Nelen, Dylan Nelen, Bill Nix, Chuck Penick, Diane Peterson, Elizabeth and Bruce Smith, Linda and Steve Spratt, Bill Stewart, Tom Theado, Joe, Beth, Sam, and Jack Valasko, Gary Vaughn, Stephanie Yealy, Jerry Zekert

Videographers: Brett Betsill, Kristen Betsill, Corey Chewning, Ed Foresman, Piper Foresman, Les Johnson, Trey Talmadge, Vicky Wilder, Jerry Zekert

Liturgist Coordinator: Eleanor McCord

Liturgists: Connie Barnes, Rev. Mary Bielen, Marjolijn Bijlefeld, Porter Blakemore, Sherman Brown, Jesse Chewning, Julie Chewning, Laura Chewning, Michele Coffman, Susie Davis, Heather Eland, Erik Fino, Kimberly Fischer, Rev. Coy Franklin, Debe Garrison, Michelle Gibson, Mike Gibson, Mary Katherine Greenlaw, Bridget Harvey, Bryan Harvey, Rev. Shannon Hendricks, Will Hendricks, John Howe, Barry Jones, Bobbie Kerns, Paul Kukla, Chelsea Land, Harry Land, Barb LeRoy, Betsy Lewis, Rev. Dr. Tom Lovell, Lewis Lowery, Betsy Mathias, Matt Milford, Adam Nelen, Kathy Pecka, Michelle Porter, Ashley Raska, Brian Raska, Elizabeth Rehm, Rev. Bruce Smith, Elizabeth Smith, Tim Tarzier, Tom Theado, Patty Toler, Marty Wilder, Kaden Yealy

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Communion Servers: Connie Barnes, Marjolijn Bijlefeld, Linda Benn, Porter Blakemore, Sherman Brown, Ellie Crane, Susie Davis, Bryan Eland, Robert Fidler, Tristin Fidler, Erik Fino, Piper Foresman, Debe Garrison, John Garrison, Joan Gaston, Mike Gibson, Bridget Harvey, Bruce Harvey, John Howe, Betsy Lewis, Barb LeRoy, Betsy Mathias, Matt Milford, Adam Nelen, Kathy Pecka, Elizabeth Rehm, Steve Spratt, Amy Talmadge, Tom Theado, Jim Toler, Patty Toler, Gary Vaughn, Jerry Zekert

Advent Candle Lighters: Ladies' Thursday Morning Bible Study, Micah Grab and Go Lunches, The Valasko Family, Youth Group, The Bothel Family,

Christmas Eve Service Greeters and Candle Lighters: Lynn and Preston Simms, Nancy Raines, Sherman Brown, Mike Gibson, Kathy Pecka, Jerry Zekert

Advent Morning Prayer Reflection Leaders: Mary Lou Cramer, David Johnson, Elizabeth Smith, Jerry Zekert

Nursery Staff and Volunteers: Autumn Bartels, Linda Benn, Anders Bothel, Hailey Bothel, Laura Chewning, Sophie Early, Margaret Langan, Michelle Porter, Bridget, Wagner, Cole Young

Worship and Music Committee:

2025-2026 elders: Heather Eland (chair), Barb LeRoy

2026-2027 elders: Heather Eland (chair), Susie Davis, Joan Darby

at-large members: Sherman Brown, Gaye Copley, Joan Darby, Ed Foresman, Sharon Humes, Eleanor McCord, Mike Gibson, Linda Spratt, Doreen Vaughn

Serving in Worship Today:

Organist: Amy Shirk

Director of Music: Mike McCarthy

Ushers: Sherman Brown, Dylan Nelen

Elevator Assistant: Bill Stewart

Sanctuary Guild: Doreen Vaughn

Videographers: Kristen Betsill, Les Johnson

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(540) 373-7057 | www.fredericksburgpc.org

Our Help Is in the Name of God (Psalm 124)—Text: Martin Tel, 2011; Martin Tel (admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources) © 2011

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!—Text: Ref., trad, liturgical text; stanzas, Marty Haugen; Music: Caribbean melody; arr. John L. Bell, 1990;

stanzas, Mary Haugen, 1990; Text and Music: Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) ©1990

On Eagles Wings—Text and music: Michael Joncas; arr. Mark Hayes; Alfred Publishing com., inc.; ©1991

God of Grace and Glory—Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, alt.; Music: John Hughes, 1907; Public Domain

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow—Text: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709; Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551; Public Domain

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me—Text: African American spiritual; Music: African American spiritual; arr. Wendell P. Whalum; Public Domain

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