

*the*  
**PREBYTERIAN**  
CHURCH

GENESIS.

# Back to the Beginning

*Summer Sermon Series*

**June 14, 2026, 10:30 am**

*3<sup>rd</sup> 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 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

*The Little Shepherd*

Claude Debussy

Tina Christie, flute

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Elizabeth Lovell Milford

Gathering Prayer

**God of wonder, you come to us in the mystery of strangers and the fullness of your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit fills your people with hope and gives us courage. Gather us as faithful disciples and empower us with good news as we worship you this day. Amen.**

Introit

*In Christ There is No East or West* (Hymn 317)

Call to Worship *based on Psalm 116*

Liturgist: Brian Raska

Come, worship the Lord!

**Our God is merciful, righteous, and gracious.**

What can we give back to God for the blessings we have received?

**We will give a toast to God and call on the name of the Lord.**

Gathered together, we offer ourselves to God in prayer.

**Praise the Lord! Hallelujah!**

✠Hymn 49

*The God of Abraham Praise*

*The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above,  
the ancient of Eternal Days, The God of love!*

*The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed,  
we bow before your holy name, forever blest.*

*Your spirit still flows free, high surging where it will.  
In prophet's word you spoke of old and you speak still.  
Established is your law, and changeless it shall stand,  
deep writ upon the human heart, by your strong hand.*

*Your goodly land we seek, with peace and plenty blest,  
a land of sacred liberty and Sabbath rest.*

*There milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound,*

*and trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.*

*You have eternal life implanted in the soul;  
your love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.  
We praise you, living God! We praise your holy name;  
the first, the last, beyond all thought, and still the same!*

✠Prayer of Confession

**God, we confess that we do not know how to look for you. We do not sense your nearness, and if there are angels among us, we are unaware. We do not show hospitality to strangers or trust that our hardships can be transformed by your Spirit. O Covenant-keeper, forgive us. Let us laugh with joy because your grace has made peace among us. Send us out with this good news so that others will also receive your blessing; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

✠Assurance of Pardon

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

✠Gloria Patri (Hymn 581)

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.***

✠Peace and Greeting

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

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: *Matthew 9:35-10:14*

p. 11 in the pew Bible

Moment with the Children

Natasha Taylor, Faith Formation Coordinator

Anthem

*You Are Mine*  
Tina Christie, flute

Haas/ Hayes, arr.

Scripture Reading: *Genesis 12:1-9, 15:1-6, 18:1-15, 21:1-7* p. 12 in the pew Bible

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

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

✠Hymn 157

*I Danced in the Morning*

*I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.*

*REFRAIN Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

*I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
but they would not dance and they would not follow me.  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John.  
They came with me and the dance went on. [Refrain]*

*I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame.  
The holy people said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,  
and left me there on a cross to die. [Refrain]*

*I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black.  
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.  
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,  
but I am the dance and I still go on. [Refrain]*

*They cut me down and I leapt up high.  
I am the life that will never, never die.  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. [Refrain]*

✠Affirmation of Faith from *A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

**God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

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](http://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 305

*Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

*Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!*

*For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!*

*In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!*

*Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,  
empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!*

*In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!*

*Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,  
as we in mission magnify the Crucified!*

*In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!*

*Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!*

*For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long!*

*In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!*

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Postlude

*Gavotte*

F. J. Gossec

*Go in peace, holding quiet space for those who wish to reflect and pray.*



*The flowers on the pulpit are given by Nancy Raines to the glory of God  
in honor of Mary Ann and Larry Casey for their contributions to the  
music programs at The Presbyterian Church.*

***Serving in Worship Today:***

Choirmasters: Mary Ann & Larry Casey

Organist: Amy Shirk

Ushers: Mike Gibson, Tom Theado

Elevator Assistant: Bill Stewart

Sanctuary Guild: Debbie and Paul Leimer

Videographer: Kristen Betsill, Ed Foresman

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*The God of Abraham Praise* – Text: Moses Maimonides, 12th Cent.; vers. Daniel ben Judah Dayan, 1404; stanza 1, trans. Thomas Olivers,

c. 1770 alt.; stanzas 2,4, trns. Max Landsberg, Newton M. Mann, and William C. Gannett, 1884, 1910, alt.; Public Domain

*Glory Be to the Father*—Text: Trad. liturgical text; Music: Henry W. Greatrex; ©1851; Public Domain

*I Danced in the Morning*—Text: Sydney Carter; Music: American Shaker melody; adapt. Sydney Carter, 1963; ©1963: Stainer & Bell, Ltd.

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

*Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!* – Text: Brian Dill, 1988; Music: John Darwall, 1770; ©1989; Brian Dill  
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