

the
PREBYTERIAN
CHURCH

GENESIS.

Back to the Beginning

Summer Sermon Series

June 28, 2026, 10:30 am

5th 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 *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* Gordon Young

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Elizabeth Lovell Milford

Gathering Prayer

Steadfast God, walk with us on our journeys. Teach us how to live with integrity of body, mind, and spirit in obedience to your love, in the name of Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory now and forever. Amen.

Introit *All Things Bright and Beautiful* John Rutter

Call to Worship *based on Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18* Liturgist: Porter Blakemore

God's love is our song, let us sing it!

We proclaim God's faithfulness to all generations.

God's love is established forever, as firm as the heavens.

The people who know this are truly happy.

Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

We will rejoice in God's name all day long.

God is the glory of our strength.

All we are and have we owe to God!

✠Hymn 299 *Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim*

*You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad Christ's wonderful name.*

*The name all victorious of Jesus extol,
whose kingdom is glorious, who rules over all.*

*Ascended on high, almighty to save,
he still remains nigh; his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.*

*"Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!"
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.*

*Then let us adore and give him his right:
all glory and power, all wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!*

✠Prayer of Confession

Holy One, our lives are full of difficult choices. You have given us your laws and commandments and lessons in love as a guide, but we confess that we often fail to rise to the challenge. We have allowed sin to run our lives, to shape how we act toward others, and to diminish our relationship with you. In your great mercy, forgive us. Shape us to be your faithful people, abiding in your presence and trusting in your love. 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: *Romans 6:12-23*

p. 190 in the pew Bible

Moment with the Children

Natasha Taylor, Faith Formation Coordinator

Anthem

For the Beauty of the Earth

Scripture Reading: *Genesis 22:1-14*

p. 21 in the pew Bible

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

Sermon

Difficult Choices

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

✠Hymn 661 *Why Should I Feel Discouraged? (His Eye Is on the Sparrow)*

*Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?
Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home,
when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is he:
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.*

*REFRAIN I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.*

*"Let not your heart be troubled," his tender word I hear,
and resting on his goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;
though by the path he leadeth but one step I may see:
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me. [Refrain]*

*Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
when song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to him; from care he sets me free:
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me. [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.

Litany of Thanksgiving for our Choirmasters

Mary Ann and Larry, we give thanks to God for your 35 years of ministry:

**For melodies and harmonies, voices and instruments, drama and dance,
For anthems and introits, hymns and refrains, descants and drumbeats,
For your passion, creativity, dedication, leadership, friendship and care.**

**We praise God for your faithful service to Christ's church,
and we rejoice at the work of the Holy Spirit in you both.**

With love and care, we celebrate your retirement and pray that this time will bring refreshment and rest, reflection and rejoicing, and the knowledge of our appreciation of your many and wonderful gifts.

**May God continue to bring joy and peace to your lives,
and may you be blessed just as much as you have blessed this
congregation through the years. Thanks be to God!**

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 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

*Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.*

*REFRAIN Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

*Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. [Refrain]*

*Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]*

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Choral Benediction

A Parting Blessing

Jerome Williams

✠Postlude

Fanfare Postlude on "St. Thomas"

Douglas Wagner

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



Serving in Worship Today:

Choirmasters: Mary Ann & Larry Casey

Organist: Mary Ann Casey

Ushers:

Elevator Assistant:

Sanctuary Guild: Debbie and Paul Leimer

Videographer: Kristen Betsill, Ed Foresman

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You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim—Text: Charles Wesley, 1744, alt; Music: Anon: *A Supplement to the New Version of the Psalms*,

1708; Public Domain

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

Why Should I Feel Discouraged?—Text: Civilla Durfee Martin, 1905; Music: Charles H. Gabriel, 1905; Public Domain

All Things Bright and Beautiful—Text: John Rutter; Hinshaw Music ©1983

For the Beauty of the Earth—Text: John Rutter; Hinshaw Music ©1980

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

God of Great and God of Small—Text and Music: Natalie Sleeth; , 1973; Music:; arr. Beverly A. Howard, 2012; Carl Fischer, Inc, © 1973

Great Is Thy Faithfulness – Text: Thomas O. Chisholm; Music: William Marion Runyan, 1923; Hope Publishing Company © 1923,

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