

the
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



May 17, 2026, 10:30 am
7th 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.

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 1st 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

Down By the Riverside
The Jubilate Ringers

Stephenson, arr.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Elizabeth Lovell Milford

Gathering Prayer

Almighty God, stretch our imaginations to sense the majesty and mystery of your presence. Lift our hearts to give us confidence in our praying and hope for the future. Through Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Introit

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine! (Hymn 839)

Call to Worship based on Psalm 47

Liturgist: Ashley Raska

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with shouts of joy.

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

God is ruler over all the earth; the Lord reigns on a holy throne.

God put this power to work in Christ, raising him from the dead.

God has highly exalted him, giving him the name above all names.

Jesus Christ is Lord! Glory to God in the highest.

✠Hymn 263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;

bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,

hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball

to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!

We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!

We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all!

✠Prayer of Confession

Living God, we confess that our faith is sometimes weak, our love for others can be faint, our prayers are often timid, and our gratitude is frequently unconvincing. We stand looking toward heaven, yet feel far from you. Draw near us in mercy to forgive us, and fill us with your power, through the grace of Jesus, our resurrected Savior. 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: *John 17:1-11*

p. 136 in the pew Bible

Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35

p. 651 in the pew Bible

Moment with the Children

Natasha Taylor, Faith Formation Coordinator

Anthem

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise!

Dan Forrest, arr.

Scripture Reading: *Acts 1:6-14*

p. 143 in the pew Bible

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Looking toward Heaven

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

✠Hymn 662

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies; Christ, the true, the only light;
Sun of Righteousness, arise; triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.*

*Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return till thy mercy's beams I see;
till they inward light impart, cheer my eyes, and warm my heart.*

*Visit then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine; scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.*

✠Affirmation of Faith from *The Scots Confession*

The same self body which was born of the virgin, was crucified, dead, and buried, and which did rise again, did ascend into the heavens, for the accomplishment of all things, where our name and for our comfort he has received all power in heaven and earth, where he sits at the right hand of the Father, having received his kingdom, the only advocate and mediator for us. . . . We believe that the same Lord Jesus shall visibly return for this Last Judgment as he was seen to ascend. And then, we firmly believe, the time for refreshing and restitution of all things shall come, so that those who from the beginning have suffered violence, injury, and wrong, for righteousness' sake, shall inherit that blessed immortality promised them from the beginning.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

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 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 265 *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*
*Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.*

*To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head;
his name, like sweet perfume, shall rise with every morning sacrifice.*

*People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.*

*Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to loose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.*

*Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud Amen!*

✠Charge and Benediction

✠Postlude *Fugue in E Major, BWV 566* Johann Sebastian Bach
*Go in peace, holding quiet space for those who wish to reflect and pray.
Join us for the Church Picnic following worship!*



Serving in Worship Today:

Choirmasters: Mary Ann & Larry Casey
Guest Organist: Brooks Kuykendall
Ushers: Linda Benn, Marjolijn Bijlefeld
Elevator Assistant: Barry Hall
Sanctuary Guild: Vicky & Marty Wilder
Videographer: Trey Talmadge

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All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name—Text: stanzas 1-3, Edward Perronet, 1779, 1780; stanzas 2-3 alt. John Rippon, 1787, stanza 4,

John Rippon 1787; Music: Oliver Holden, 1793; desc. Michael E. Young, 1979; GIA Publications; ©1979; Public Domain

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

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise! —Text: Dan Forrest; Beckenhorst Press © 2014

Christ, Whose Glory Fill the Skies—Text: Charles Wesley, 1740; Public Domain

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

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