

Grace United Church of Christ 25 E. Second St. Frederick, MD

February 4, 2018

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Service of the Word and Sacrament
February 4, 2018
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome! It is a pleasure to have you with us this morning.

This morning we will use the *Worship & Song Hymnal*.
It is the green paperback hymnal found in the pew racks.

**Indicates when people are invited to stand.*

We Gather

Prelude: "In Quiet Praise"

- by Donald F. Callender

Greeting

Please sign the red Friendship Book in your pew

Call of the Engelbrecht Memorial Bell

Choral Introit: "Praise Him"

- words and music by Donnie Harper

**Call to Worship (Psalm 147):*

Leader: Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for God is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

People: The LORD builds up Jerusalem and gathers the outcasts of Israel. God heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.

Leader: God determines the number of the stars and gives to all of them their names.

People: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; God's understanding is beyond measure.

ALL: The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear God, in those who hope in his steadfast love. Praise the LORD!

**Opening Hymn: #3173 "Table of Plenty"*

*Opening Prayer

*Passing of the Peace

We Listen

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

- John Brehmer

Choral Anthem: "Fanfare of Praise" - words and music by Joseph M. Martin

*Gospel Reading: Mark 1:29-39

- Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor

Children's Message

- Pastor Rob

Following the Children's Message, children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to join us in the fellowship hall for Children's Church - a time of Bible lessons, crafts, songs and other fun activities. For children 5 years and younger, our Nursery is available during the worship service.

Sermon: "Where's Your Place??"

- Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor

We Respond

Pastoral Prayer

Call for Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

- words by George N. Allen, arr. Mark Hayes

*Doxology

#780, NCH

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

Communion Hymn: #3170 "What Feast of Love"

*The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: ...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: ...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

ALL: Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

Leader: ...Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

*The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

Please be seated

Sharing the Elements

As you are dismissed from your pew, come forward using the center aisle. This morning we offer bread and your choice of wine (in the silver chalice) or grape juice (in the pottery chalice). Please return to your seats using the side aisles.

Blessing after Communion

We invite all who would like a blessing, especially children and those who did not participate in communion of bread and cup, to come forward.

We are Sent

Announcements

*Closing Prayer

*Closing Hymn: #3148 “There’s a Spirit of Love in This Place”

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction: Excerpt from “Fanfare of Praise”

- words and music by Joseph M. Martin

Ringing of the Engelbrecht Memorial Bell

Postlude: “Trumpet Tune on ‘Salzburg’”

- by Jakob Hinze, arr. Grimoaldo Macchia

Serving this morning

Oi Kettavong served as this morning’s greeter.

Following worship, the Youth Group invites you to join them for a special Souper Bowl of Caring fellowship in the Good Shepherd Room.

Welcome to our Guests!

We are delighted that you joined us for worship this morning. Please be sure to sign the red Friendship Book in your pew.

If you have any difficulty hearing the service, one of our ushers can provide you with a hearing assistance device. We also have large print bulletins and hymnals available.

Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to join us for Children's Church - a time of Bible lessons, crafts, songs and other fun activities. We leave the Sanctuary following the Children's Message. For children 5 years and younger, our Nursery is available during the worship service.

Following worship, we invite you to join us for fellowship.

Welcome to Grace Church!



The yellow rose on the altar is presented by the Altar Guild in memory of deceased war veterans and in honor of those who have served our country, as well as those currently on active duty.

Lenten Group Study for Adults:

“What Makes a Hero?”

by Matt Rawle

The study begins on Thursday, February 15th with a morning session at Homewood at 10:30, and an evening session at the church (with pizza!) at 6:30. We'll meet every Thursday through March 22nd.

A few study books are still available. Please contact the office ASAP to reserve one.

Special Offering Update

THANK YOU!!!

Throughout the month of January, we collected a total of \$456.97 for the CWS Blankets Program. Thank you for your generosity!



The Youth Group invites you join them after worship this morning for a *Souper Bowl of Caring* fellowship during which time they'll be collecting non-perishable food items and monetary donations to support the Frederick Food Bank.

More than 28 years ago, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

"Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat."

Since that day, more than \$135 million has been raised for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that is transforming the time around the Big Game into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

Through this mission, young people learn what it's like to make a positive difference in the world - as they collect food, raise money and volunteer to work in charities that provide shelter to the homeless, food to the hungry and compassion to those in need.

Be part of this movement that is sharing God's love with those in need. Every dollar and non-perishable food item donated here at Grace goes to the Frederick Food Bank at the Community Action Agency.



Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Saturday, February 10th

9:00 a.m.

at the Bob Evans on Route 40
(at the end of the Golden Mile)

All men are invited to join us!



Worship and Imposition of Ashes

Wednesday, February 14th

7:00 p.m.

The Emergency Family Shelter returns to Grace Church February 10th-17th. In addition to the trained volunteers who work with the shelter guests in the evenings, and stay at the church overnight, we welcome anyone who would like to help with the set-up before the shelter comes, and the clean-up after its departure. We will need assistance after worship today, on Saturday morning, February 10th, and on Saturday morning, February 17th. Please speak with Sarah Travis or Carol Garrison. Thank you in advance!

Offering Envelopes and Electronic Giving

Offering envelopes are available in the Narthex for anyone who would like to use envelopes for regular giving. Simply pick up a box and write your name on the sign-up sheet next to the number that you've chosen.

Please discard any remaining envelopes that you have from 2017!
Envelope numbers have been re-assigned for the new year, and if you use last year's envelope (unless you took the same number) then your offering will be credited to someone else!

If you prefer to give electronically, we offer 2 options:

(a) the *UCC e-Giving* program allows you to have a regular, recurring donation drafted out of your bank account, or charged to your credit card. *(To get started, simply pick up an authorization form in the Narthex, or contact the church office.)*

(b) make donations through our website using PayPal! Simply click the button at the bottom of the home page - www.grucc.com.

If you decide to participate in our electronic giving programs, you can pick up some "I give electronically" cards to place in the offering plate on Sunday mornings.

Upper Room Devotionals

Devotional booklets are available in the Narthex for anyone who would like a resource for daily prayer. There are regular and large-print versions, and there is no cost for the booklets, although donations are gladly accepted.

It's that time of year again...

Wondering if church events and activities are canceled due to the weather? There are several ways that you can find out:

CALL the church office (301-662-3312) and press 7 for the Inclement Weather Hotline. This voice mailbox will be updated as soon as a decision is made to cancel any services or activities.

CHECK your email. (Make sure we have your current email address!)

VISIT the church's website, www.grucc.com or our Facebook page.

We will make every effort to get these methods of communication updated as early as possible. Please be aware that power outages affect ALL of these methods of communication.

Volunteer Opportunities at Grace Church

Are you ready to get more involved in your church? We have plenty of opportunities for people of all ages, abilities, and interests:

Acolytes, Altar Guild, Children's Sermon volunteers, Lay Caring Ministry, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Scripture readers, Ushers, and Youth Ministry - *please speak to Pastor Rob*

Senior and Joyful Noise Choirs - *please speak to Jonas Dawson*

Fellowship Hosts and Greeters - *please speak to Rob Apgar*

Congregational Life activities - *please speak to Matt Bonin or Rob Apgar*

Children's Church leaders, **Nursery volunteers**, and Sunday School teachers - *please speak to Jean Barrick*

Offering Counters - *please speak to Lloyd Taylor*

Outreach and Missions - *please speak to Sarah Travis*

Do you get cold in this big drafty church? Please know that there are knit shawls available for you to use as you need. They are spread throughout the sanctuary. Please ask an usher if you don't see one near you. Many thanks to Pam Marshall for this idea and for making the shawls!

Daily Bible Readings for this Week

Two things stick out as we look at our readings list for this month. First, the predominant Gospel reading is from Mark's Gospel. That's not peculiar to this month, but rather indicative that we are in Year B of the lectionary cycle. Mark is focused on the cross. Everything in Mark's Gospel speaks of the urgency of the Cross in God's plan of salvation. For this reason, Mark records no birth stories and has a very brief resurrection narrative. The importance on Christ was his sacrificial death. And there is *urgency* to this message. The word "immediately" appears more in Mark's gospel than in any other. The second thing we notice this month is the appearance of the Genesis story, the covenant between God and Abraham. As we begin the Lenten Journey, the readings point us to the very foundation of our faith: Covenant. We are a covenant people. God is a God whose covenant will not be broken. Even when we rebel and turn away, God will remain faithful, even to the point of giving His Son.

The daily Bible readings are clustered into weeks with Sunday being the center of each week. The lessons come from the Revised Common Lectionary. The readings for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of each week orient our prayer and preparation for the Sunday lessons. The readings for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday reflect on Sunday's lessons. In the worship of Grace Church we normally read only two lessons. However, many Sundays the Psalm for the day is also incorporated into the service as a Call to Worship or prayer.

Fifth Week after Epiphany

Feb 4 *5th Sunday after Epiphany*
Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Mark 1:29-39

Feb 5 Psalm 102:12-28
2 Kings 4:8-17, 32-37
Acts 14:1-7

Feb 6 Psalm 102:12-28
2 Kings 8:1-6
Acts 15:36-41

Feb 7 Psalm 102:12-28
Job 6:1-13
Mark 3:7-12

The Transfiguration

Feb 8 Psalm 50:1-6
1 Kings 11:26-40
2 Corinthians 2:12-17

Feb 9 Psalm 50:1-6
1 Kings 14:1-18
1 Timothy 1:12-20

Feb 10 Psalm 50:1-6
1 Kings 16:1-7
Luke 19:41-44

Feb 11 *Transfiguration of the Lord*
2 Kings 2:1-12
Psalm 50:1-6
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Mark 9:2-9

Worship Assistants

February 11th:

Greeter: OPEN

Scripture Reader: Teddi Garrison

Children's Message: Earl Bartgis

Children's Church: Rob Apgar

February 18th:

Greeter: OPEN

Scripture Reader: Carol Garrison

Children's Message: Carol Garrison

Children's Church: Oi Kettavong

Fellowship Host: Jean Barrick

If you would like to serve as a greeter, or host the fellowship time after worship, please sign up in the Good Shepherd Room.

Caring and Sharing

The following are members and friends of our church family who are currently ill, hospitalized, or home-bound. Please keep them in your prayers and perhaps send a note or a card. Addresses can be obtained from the church office, or you can pick up a church directory from one of the ushers. If you know of anyone who should be added to this list, please call the church office.

Millie Davis, Joe Free, Jean Gaver, Paul and Miriam Himes, Karlene Kaufmann, Pam Kehne, and Betty Linton.

Please note that hospitals are no longer permitted to contact churches on behalf of their patients. If you know of a church member who is hospitalized, please inform the church office. If you or a family member is hospitalized in an emergency situation, please call Pastor Rob at 240-217-2767.

GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

An Open and Affirming Congregation

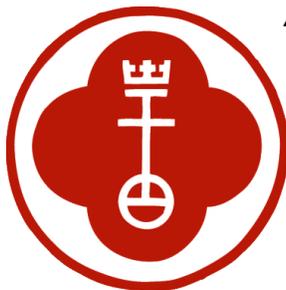
25 East 2nd Street

Frederick, Maryland, 21701

301-662-3312

admin@grucc.com

www.grucc.com



Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor, Pastor
Jonas Dawson, Director of Music

pastorrob@grucc.com
music@grucc.com

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GRACE CHURCH

Sunday, February 4 - Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes for adults and youth

11:00 a.m. - Worship (Sanctuary)

5:00 p.m. - Redemption City Church worship (Sanctuary)

Monday, February 5

6:30 p.m. - The Frederick Center young adult group (2nd floor)

Tuesday, February 6

6:30 p.m. - ManKind Project (Basement)

Wednesday, February 7

6:30 p.m. - The Frederick Center youth group (Basement)

Thursday, February 8

6:00 p.m. - FREE drop-in Zumba class (Good Shepherd Room)

6:00 p.m. - The Frederick Center youth committee (Room 3)

7:00 p.m. - The Frederick Center board meeting (Room 3)

Friday, February 9

8:30 p.m. - N. A. meeting (Good Shepherd Room)

Saturday, February 10

8:00 a.m. - Set up for Family Shelter (Basement)

9:00 a.m. - Men's Fellowship Breakfast (Bob Evans)

Sunday, February 11 - Transfiguration

9:45 a.m. - Christian Education classes for adults and youth

11:00 a.m. - Worship (Sanctuary)

5:00 p.m. - Redemption City Church worship (Sanctuary)

Monday, February 12

7:00 p.m. - Finance and Property Commission meeting (Room 3)

Tuesday, February 13

6:30 p.m. - ManKind Project (Basement)

