



LENT

March 11, 2018

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Service of the Word
March 11, 2018
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Welcome! It is a pleasure to have you with us this morning.

This morning we will use the *New Century Hymnal* (NCH).
It is the black hymnal found in the pew racks.

**Indicates when people are invited to stand.*

We Gather

Prelude: "We Walk By Faith" - Samuel McFarland, arr. Gregory Hoepfner

Welcome

Please sign the red Friendship Book in your pew

Call of the Engelbrecht Memorial Bell

Choral Introit: "Awake, My Soul" - Thomas Ken (1695), arr. Roger Summers

**Call to Worship (based on Psalm 107):*

Leader: O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good; whose steadfast love endures forever.

People: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those who are redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Leader: Let them thank the LORD for God's steadfast love and wonderful works to humankind.

People: And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of God's deeds with songs of joy.

Leader: Come, let us worship the LORD!

**Opening Hymn: #198 "Lift High the Cross"*

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Pardon and Assurance

We Listen

First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

- Sarah Drenning

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

Choral Anthem: "There Is None Like My Lord"

- Craig Curry

*Gospel Reading: John 3:14-21

- Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor

Children's Message

- Earl Bartgis

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: "The Caduceus and the Christ"

- Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor

We Respond

Pastoral Prayer

Call for Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast"

- Martin Luther, arr. Benton Price

*Prayer of Dedication

*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.

We are Sent

Announcements

*Closing Prayer

*Closing Hymn: #197 “Jesus, Keep Me near the Cross”

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction: “Sevenfold Amen” - John Stainer (1901)

Ringling of the Engelbrecht Memorial Bell

Postlude: “Rondeau” from *Te Deum*

- Marc-Antoine Charpentier, arr. Michael Ryan

SERVING THIS MORNING

Patti Flanders-Lombardi served as your greeter this morning.

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.

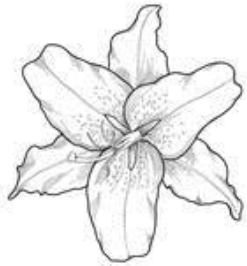
Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to join us for Children’s Church - a time of Bible lessons, crafts, songs and other fun activities. We leave the Sanctuary following the Children’s Message. For children 5 years and younger, our Nursery is available during the worship service.

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

Welcome to Grace Church!



Be sure to “Like” us on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/GraceUCCFrederick



Don't forget - today is the last day to order Easter lilies!

Special Offering for March: *One Great Hour of Sharing*

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners and other Christian denominations to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

On average, of every dollar given to One Great Hour of Sharing, 95 cents is used directly for mission programming, and the remaining 5 cents is used to create interpretation materials. Administrative costs are paid by gifts to Our Church's Wider Mission National Basic Support.

Almost 60 percent of the UCC's offering supports international development initiatives, including annual support for missionaries. The offering also funds disaster preparedness and response, and disaster-related volunteer initiatives in the U.S.

The United Church of Christ responds to development, disaster, and refugee needs in 138 countries, and provides disaster relief and immigration assistance in the United States. Nearly one-third of the UCC's offering is shared through Church World Service to support refugee, disaster, development, and advocacy programs.

Words cannot capture the anguish of people when they lose everything in a disaster or have to leave it behind while fleeing war or conflict. Through One Great Hour of Sharing, lives are literally changed daily. Your support provides clean water, food, medicines, shelter, healthcare, education and so much more. Please give generously during worship this morning, or online at any time at www.ucc.org/oghs. Thank you!

Daily Bible Readings for this Week

This month sees the Lenten Journey to its conclusion. The readings that stick out to me as particularly seasonal are the ones from Hebrews. Hebrews is an anonymous letter which focuses on the issue of salvation particularly with reference to the priesthood of Jesus. The priest in Jewish tradition is the one who enters the Holy of Holies in the temple and offers sacrifices to God on behalf of the people. The priest is the mediator between us and God. Christ, the letter argues, is the true high priest, the one who offered the only sacrifice that is necessary, the offering of the Cross. In that event, theologically speaking, Christ became both priest and victim. He offered his life...and his life was the offering. Christ became the one great High Priest who mediates between us and God, the One who bridges the gap between God and us.

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.

Fourth Week of Lent

Mar 11 *Fourth Sunday in Lent*
Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Ephesians 2:1-10
John 3:14-21

Mar 12 Psalm 107:1-16
Exodus 15:22-27
Hebrews 3:1-6

Mar 13 Psalm 107:1-16
Numbers 20:1-13
1 Corinthians 10:6-13

Mar 14 Psalm 107:1-16
Isaiah 60:15-22
John 8:12-20

Fifth Week of Lent

Mar 15 Psalm 51:1-12
Isaiah 30:15-18
Hebrews 4:1-13

Mar 16 Psalm 51:1-12
Exodus 30:1-10
Hebrews 4:14—5:4

Mar 17 Psalm 51:1-12
Habakkuk 3:2-13
John 12:1-11

Mar 18 *Fifth Sunday in Lent*
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12
 or Psalm 119:9-16
Hebrews 5:5-10
John 12:20-33

Worship Assistants

March 18th:

Greeter: Oi Kettavong

Scripture Reader: Earl Bartgis

Children's Message: Carol Garrison

Children's Church: Colleen Street

Fellowship Host: OPEN

March 25th:

Greeter: OPEN

Scripture Reader: Vonnie Crum

Children's Message: Trish Abell

Children's Church: Rob Apgar

Fellowship: March birthday party

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

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UPCOMING EVENTS AT GRACE CHURCH

Sunday, March 11 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

Special Offering: One Great Hour of Sharing

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, March 12

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

Tuesday, March 13

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

Wednesday, March 14

12:00 p.m. - Catoctin Ministerium (Good Shepherd Room)

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

Thursday, March 15

10:30 a.m. - Lenten Group Study (Homewood)

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

6:00 p.m. - Frederick Co. Health Dept. support group (Basement)

6:30 p.m. - Lenten Group Study (Room 13)

Friday, March 16

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

Sunday, March 18 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

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, March 19

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

Tuesday, March 20

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