

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

May 6, 2018

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Service of the Word
May 6, 2018
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Welcome! It is a pleasure to have you with us this morning.

This morning we will use both the black *New Century Hymnal* (NCH).
and the green *Worship & Song* hymnal (W&S).
**Indicates when people are invited to stand.*

We Gather

Prelude

"Blessed Assurance"
Phoebe P. Knapp, arr. Marianne Kim

Welcome

Please sign the red Friendship Book in your pew

Call of the Engelbrecht Memorial Bell

Choral Introit

"Rejoice, You Pure in Heart"
text by Edward H. Plumptre (1865), music by Richard Wayne Dirksen (1974)

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Grace, mercy and peace to you in the name of the Blessed and Holy Trinity,

People: One God in Glory. Amen!

Leader: Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all the generations. *(Psalm 90:1)*

People: You, O Lord, have been a dwelling place for us and our children.

Leader: Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God. *(Psalm 90:2)*

People: You, O Lord, have been with us for these 120 years!

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. *(Psalm 46:1)*

People: You, O Lord, have been our refuge and our strength!

Leader: The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. *(Psalm 46:7, 11)*

People: You, O Lord, are the eternal One and we have trusted you.

Leader: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for God's compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. *(Lamentations 3:22, 23)*

People: You, O Lord, have been our faithful One!

Leader: Jesus said, "I will build my church and the gates of Hell will not overcome it." *(Matthew 16:18)*

People: You, O Lord, have built your church in this place and we have been blessed.

*Opening Hymn "How Firm a Foundation" #407

*Opening Prayer

*Passing of the Peace

We Listen

First Reading Acts 10:44-48 Anna Winegar

Choral Anthem "Make My Life an Alleluia" Ruth Elaine Schram

Gospel Reading John 15:9-17 Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor

Children's Message Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor

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 "Spirit Driven Disruptions" Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor

We Respond

Pastoral Prayer

Call for Tithes and Offerings

*Offertory "A Song of Life" Lani Smith

*Prayer of Dedication

*Communion Hymn "Spirit of the Living God" #283

*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

"Spirit of Love"

#58

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction

"Benediction"
words and music by Jay Althouse

Ringing of the Engelbrecht Memorial Bell

Postlude

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
Stralsund Gesangbuch, arr. Mark Hayes



The flowers on the altar this morning are given by Rev. Galen Hahn in honor of our Lord's gift of grace to us, in appreciation for this congregation's support of me in my early years of decision-making and training, and in honor of 120 years of Grace's service to the Lord and to the community of Frederick.

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.



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 the worship service, we invite you to join us for fellowship.

Welcome to Grace Church!

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.

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

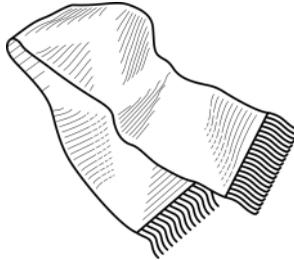
If you decide to participate in our electronic giving programs, you can pick up some "I give electronically" cards to place in the offering plate on Sunday mornings.

New Members Class

Our next membership class will be held on **Sunday, May 6th and Sunday, May 13th at 9:45 a.m., with a make-up class on Sunday, May 20th**. Those who wish to officially join the church after completing the class will be received into the congregation during worship on May 20th. Please speak to Pastor Rob if you have questions.

Youth Class--May 13th Substitute Teacher Needed

If you can help out by leading the Youth Sunday School class on May 13th, please speak to Pastor Rob or contact the church office. Thank you!



Do you get a little chilly in church? Please know that there are knitted 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!

The Emergency Family Shelter returns to Grace **May 12th*-19th**. New volunteers to the program are always welcome! Volunteers must be over the age of 18, and a background check is required. Please contact the church office or speak to Sarah Travis for an application. In addition to the vetted and trained volunteers who work directly with the shelter guests, we need folks to help us with set-up and clean-up - no experience or training necessary! If you are able, please join us after worship on Sunday, May 6th to move furniture in the basement; on Saturday morning, May 12th for setup; on Saturday morning, May 19th for clean-up. Thank you in advance!

**The Men's Breakfast originally scheduled for May 12th has been cancelled. We hope that all the men will consider coming in to help with the shelter setup!*

SAVE THE DATE!

*Veritas/Grace Outdoor
Worship Service and Picnic*

Sunday, May 20th -- 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Family Recreation Park,
21036 National Pike, Boonsboro



Veritas UCC and Grace UCC will be participating in a combined outdoor worship service at the Family Recreation Park in Boonsboro. It will be a time of fellowship and fun as we worship, eat, and play mini-golf. If anyone is interested after all of that fun, there are other activities available at Family Rec such as go-karts, ice-cream, paintball, and water wars for additional fees.

This service will take the place of Veritas' monthly Dinner Church service for the month of May, and will also be a send-off celebration for Pastor Rob's upcoming sabbatical to India.

Hope you can join us! Bring a dish and bring a friend!

Summer is coming...

And that means that we are preparing for **Pastor Rob's Sabbatical**. We have pastors who are going to be with us on Sundays, and for emergencies, but we are also looking to put together a team of lay people who will be willing to visit people in the hospital and nursing homes as we have the need. Gary Johnson has agreed to coordinate this and be the contact person for this ministry while Pastor Rob is away. Before the summer, we will have a time to get together to learn about how to visit people in health care settings, i.e. praying with people, hospital visitation guidelines, etc.

If this is something that would interest you, please let Pastor Rob or Gary Johnson know. Thanks!

Daily Bible Readings for May

The readings this month have no really strong focus on one book or another. They continue the accounts of the post resurrection community in Acts as well as the teachings of Jesus about the everyday life of a follower. What is a bit interesting are the readings from I Timothy and Titus, which together with II Timothy comprise what are commonly referred to as The Pastoral Epistles. They are attributed to the Apostle Paul, but modern scholars are fairly unanimous in their feeling that these are attributed to Paul, in the Pauline tradition, but perhaps not written by Paul himself. The pastoral epistles deal with very practical matters from a mentor to a young pastoral student. Paul was a mentor to Timothy and in this letter, Timothy is instructed in the ways of a young pastor. Written to Saint Titus, the book of the same name is instructive on the office of Bishop and Elder in the new church community.

Our readings list comes from the Revised Common Lectionary recommended for use by the United Church of Christ and by many other Christian denominations in North America. The daily Bible readings are clustered into weeks with Sunday being the center of each week. 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.

May 6 Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

May 7

Psalm 93

Deuteronomy 7:1-11

1 Timothy 6:11-12

May 8

Psalm 93

Deuteronomy 11:1-17

1 Timothy 6:13-16

May 9

Psalm 93

Deuteronomy 11:18-21

Mark 16:19-20

Seventh Week of Easter

May 10 Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47 or Psalm 93

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

May 11

Psalm 47

Exodus 24:15-18

Revelation 1:9-18

May 12

Psalm 47

Deuteronomy 34:1-7

John 16:4-11

May 13 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalm 1

1 John 5:9-13

John 17:6-19

CPR - First Aid - AED

We have had interest from the congregation for a FIRST AID/CPR/AED class. After significant research, we found the most convenient one is at Frederick Community College. It is their HEARTSAVER CPR/FIRST AID class, and is offered multiple times throughout the year. The class is 8 hours, and options exist for full day Saturday, full day weekday, and a two-day weeknight course. The course description is:

Course SAF156

This Heartsaver® CPR/First Aid/AED teaches students critical skills needed to respond to and manage an emergency until emergency medical services arrives. Skills covered in this course include first aid; choking relief in adults, children, and infants; and what to do for sudden cardiac arrest in adults, children, and infants.

These classes are open to the public, but we are suggesting **Friday, May 18th** as a time for members of our congregation to attend, in the hopes that you will attend with others that you know. We will also monitor their website for the next weekend class, and notify in the newsletters and church bulletin when those are posted. Fees are \$45 and \$50 for out of state residents. Certification and a textbook are included. If you want to see the course materials a sample will be provided at church; please see Mark Edwards or Gwen McGee.

Treasurer's Report



<u>March 2018</u>		<u>2018 Year-to-Date</u>	
Income:	\$12,916.72	Income:	\$38,296.72
Expenses:	<u>\$18,455.60</u>	Expenses:	<u>\$60,205.92</u>
Difference:	-\$5,538.88	Difference:	-\$21,909.20

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GRACE CHURCH

Sunday, May 6 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 9:45 a.m. Christian Education classes for adults and youth
- 9:45 a.m. New Members Class
- 11:00 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
- 5:00 p.m. Redemption City Church worship and dinner (Sanctuary, Basement)

Tuesday, May 8

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

Wednesday, May 9

- 12:00 p.m. Catoctin Ministerium (GSR)
- 6:30 p.m. TFC Youth Group (DR)

Thursday, May 10 - Ascension Day

- 6:00 p.m. FREE Zumba Class (GSR)
- 6:00 p.m. TFC Youth Comm. And Board Mtg. (13)

Friday, May 11

- 8:30 p.m. N.A. Meeting (GSR)

Saturday, May 12

- 8:00 a.m. Emergency Family Shelter Set-Up (DR)
- 6:00 p.m. Family Shelter Arrives (DR) (in place May 12 - May19)

Sunday, May 13 - Seventh Sunday of Easter/Mother's Day

- 9:45 a.m. Christian Education classes for adults and youth
- 9:45 a.m. New Members Class
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 5:00 p.m. Redemption City Church worship and dinner (Sanctuary, Basement)

Monday, May 14

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

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**





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

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.

Worship Assistants

May 6th

Greeter: Anna & Lucien Winegar
Scripture Reader: Anna Winegar
Children's Message: Pastor Rob
Children's Church: Rob Apgar
Fellowship: Anna & Lucien Winegar

May 13th

Greeter: OPEN
Scripture Reader: Patti Flanders-Lombardi
Children's Message: Carol Garrison
Children's Church: Carol Garrison
Fellowship Host: OPEN

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