

SOMETHING  
NEW

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. We extend a special welcome to our guests.

**F**or Children: We have trained nursery staff (paid nursery attendant as well as adult volunteers) for ages 0-4. The nursery is located on the first floor outside of the Community Room. (Accessible by the stairs from the Church Street Entrance or via the elevator). Children ages 5 and above are invited to stay and worship with their families. Children's programs, books, and crayons are located in the rear of the sanctuary near the welcome table.



**H**ymn selections can be found in the black hymnals in the pew racks or printed in the bulletin. If you are visiting and did not stop at the welcome desk in the downstairs lobby please stop by after the service they would love to meet you or, please feel free to reach out to someone sitting near you and ask them questions about the service or church. Many of our visitors ask us about the time of offering. This is a time in our service when we respond to God's gifts of love by offering the gifts of our lives. For many of us, this is when we make a financial gift towards the ministries and programs of our church. We also use this time to ask God how we might use the gifts of our hands and hearts in sharing God's love. If you are visiting, there is no obligation to give a financial gift. We are just glad you are worshipping with us. At this time, we are taking offering at the end of the service. Plates for offering will be placed at the doors as you exit the sanctuary. Thank you.

**W**e ask that you please silence your cell phones during our worship service. We also ask that you refrain from applause after our choirs sing and allow the music to resonate in the quiet of the sanctuary and in your hearts. Our musicians are playing and singing for the glory of God. They know you appreciate their efforts and their gift.

Rest rooms (equipped with changing stations) are located on the first floor of the church building and outside the Community Room and the Nursery.

**T**here is much information about the church in this bulletin and our website: [www.erucc.org](http://www.erucc.org).

Donate online by scanning this code:  
or download the **GivePlus Church** application and  
make your donation via the app. Thank you.



**Ministers - All the People of Evangelical Reformed Church**

Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel, Senior Pastor ([bkdaniel@erucc.org](mailto:bkdaniel@erucc.org))

Rev. Fred Wenner, Pastor Emeritus ([burschenherrlichkeit@gmail.com](mailto:burschenherrlichkeit@gmail.com))

Kim Sexton, Associate for Children's Ministry ([ksexton@erucc.org](mailto:ksexton@erucc.org))

Alison E. Shafer, Music Director • Tricia Coffey, Head Chimer & Children & Youth Choir Director

Sherry Murray, Nursery • Jaci Clayton, Facilities Mgr.

Tyler L. York, Office Administrator ([erucc@erucc.org](mailto:erucc@erucc.org)) • Jenna Duranko, Social Media Coordinator

*15 West Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701 • 301-662-2762 • [www.erucc.org](http://www.erucc.org)*

**EVANGELICAL REFORMED CHURCH**  
**United Church of Christ**  
- An Open and Affirming Congregation -

April 3, 2022

Fifth Sunday in Lent

10:30 am

\*All who are able may stand

**Filled to the Brim: Brazen Acts of Beauty**

**Chimes Concert** at 10:00 am from Trinity Chapel's steeple

**Greetings and Announcements**

**Sharing Our Stories**

*Jeanellen Kellevang*

**Prelude**

**Threshold Moment**

*Lessons from a Winter Rose*

I am dumbfounded by the sheer persistence of a winter rose  
that blooms on the coldest of days—  
when the rest of the world has turned dim and gray,  
when the rest of the world is sleeping.  
The audacity to stand so tall, to decorate the world with color,  
to be the only one brave enough to bloom.  
I wonder what that's like.  
Maybe it's similar to pouring perfume on the feet of Jesus—  
shocking and beautiful at the same time.  
On winter morning walks I pass a bed of roses.  
I dare not pick one.  
Instead I say thank you.  
Thank you for the beauty.  
Thank you for the reminder.  
Thank you for the bloom.  
And I walk home and pray— God, if you can, make me that brave.

**A Time of Silence**

## \*Call to Worship

May we find courage here—

**courage to follow our call, courage to live out our faith.**

May we find hope here—

**hope for a better world, hope that refuses to let us go.**

May we find truth here—

**truth that lives in sacred community, truth that lives in ancient stories.**

May we find all that we seek.

**And in our seeking, may we know God. Amen.**

## \*Opening Prayer

**Holy God, sometimes my waking is a prayer.**

**Sometimes the song I have stuck in my head,  
rumbling around on repeat, is a prayer.**

**Sometimes the way I talk to the children  
and the way I hug the dog is a prayer.**

**Sometimes the way I take my phone out to get a picture of the sunset  
or of the people I love—that is a prayer.**

**Other times, prayer is moments like this—**

**heads bowed, eyes closed, hearts quiet for just a moment.**

**And in all of it, I trust you to hear me.**

**Help me to hear you in return.**

**Gratefully we pray, amen.**

## \*Opening Hymn *Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire*

#508

508

Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire

*Luke 11:1; Rom. 8:26–28*

*James Montgomery, 1818; alt.*

1 Prayer is the soul's sin-cere de-sire,  
ut-tered or un-ex-pressed;  
The mo-tion of a hid-den fire  
that trem-bles in the breast.

3 Prayer is the con-trite sin-ner's voice,  
turn-ing from thought-less ways,  
While an-gels in their songs re-joice  
and cry, "Be-hold, one prays!"

2 Prayer is the sim-plest form of speech  
that in-fant lips can try;  
Prayer, the sub-lim-est strains that reach  
the Maj-es-ty so nigh.

4 No prayers do hu-mans make a-lone;  
the Ho-ly Spir-it pleads,  
And Je-sus on the e-ter-nal throne  
for sin-ners in-ter-cedes.

5 O Christ, by whom we come to God,  
the Life, the Truth, the Way,  
The path of prayer you too have trod:  
Christ, teach us how to pray.

*This hymn by Moravian journalist and hymnwriter James Montgomery was written for Edward Bickersteth's Treatise on Prayer to answer the question, "What is prayer?" The hymn closes with the disciples' request of Jesus, "Teach us to pray."*

Tune: ST. AGNES C.M.  
*John B. Dykes, 1866*

### **\*Call to Confession**

There are very few things as powerful as a group of people that admits they are not perfect, and asks for grace as they grow. Imagine what our world might be like if every institution had such a weekly rhythm?

Friends, we can light the way. Let us be brave in our truth-telling and honest in our confession. For we will always be met by grace. Let us pray...

### **\*Prayer of Confession**

**Jesus of Nazareth, we admit that often we tuck our faith into our pockets, hiding in a place of comfort rather than proudly declaring: yes we are Christian, yes we believe, yes this faith has changed me. We are so afraid of offending others or embarrassing ourselves that we have established rules: no faith at the dinner table, no faith in politics, no faith with strangers. Forgive us for whispering when we could be singing. Forgive us for staying quiet when we could be part of rewriting the narrative. We want to be brave. We want to pour out perfume over your feet. These things we pray, amen.**

### **\*Assurance of Pardon**

Family of faith, hear this good news: Even in our silence, God loves us. Even in our fear or shame, God chooses us. Even when we sin, God wraps us in grace. You are free—to be bold, to be brazen, to be exactly who God called you to be.

**Thanks be to God, amen.**

### **Thought For the Day**

#### **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, for ever. Amen.**

# Hymn *Said Judas to Mary*

#210

Stanzas 1, 3: Women

Stanzas 2, 4: Men

Stanzas 5, 6: All

1 Said Ju - das to Mar - y, "Now  
2 "O Mar - y, O Mar - y, O  
3 "To - mor-row, to - mor-row, I'll  
4 Said Je - sus to Mar - y, "Your

what will you do with your oint-ment so rich and so rare?" "I'll  
think of the poor. This oint-ment, it could have been sold; And  
think of the poor; to - mor-row," she said, "not to - day; For  
love is so deep. to - day you may do as you will. To -

pour it all o - ver the feet of the Christ, and I'll wipe it a-way with my  
think of the blan-kets and think of the bread you could buy with the sil - ver and  
dear-er than all of the poor in the world is my love who is go - ing a -  
mor-row, you say, I am go - ing a - way, but my bod - y I leave with you

hair," she said, "I'll wipe it a-way with my hair." (2 "O  
gold," he said, "you could buy with the sil - ver and gold." (3 "To-  
way," she said, "my love who is go - ing a - way." (4 Said)  
still," he said, "my bo - dy I leave with you still." (5 "The  
(6 -way.)")

5 "The poor of the world are my bod-y,"  
he said,  
"to the end of the world they shall be.  
The bread and the blan-kets you give  
to the poor  
you will know you have giv-en to me,"  
he said,  
"you'll know you have giv-en to me."

6 "My bod-y will hang on the cross  
of the world  
to-mor-row," he said, "not to-day.  
And Mar-tha and Mar-y will find me  
a-gain  
and wash all my sor-row a-way,"  
he said,  
"and wash all my sor-row a-way."

## **The Scripture**

Isaiah 43:16-21

OT page 672

John 12:1-8

NT page 106

Reader: The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **Sermon**

## **Morning Prayers**

## **Offering of Tithes, Gifts and Lives to Christ's Service**

*Offertory I Will Make a Way*

*--T. Trenney*  
Senior Choir

## **\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Anoint these gifts, Generous God, that they may fulfill their purpose. Through the pouring out of our financial resources, unique passions and skills, and faithful companionship with our community, may we impart hope, render joy, and participate in your kingdom. Amen.**

## **– SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION –**

## **Invitation**

Jesus has always been one to invite.

He said, "Drop your nets and follow me."

He said, "Let the little children come."

He said, "Stand up from your mat, you are healed."

Jesus has always been one to invite, and that has not changed.

So friends, you are invited to this Table. Each and every one of us – with our doubts, our fears, our scars, our joy, our dreams, our hopes, our questions – we are invited to God's table.

And here we will be met. Here we will be fed. Here we are given a taste of an expansive life that is full to the brim with love, overflowing with joy.

So come.

Not because you must, but because you can.

Come. You are invited. This Table is for you.

## **Communion Prayer**

God who knows us, we are amazed by you.

Your love never runs out, your hope never runs dry, your joy never gives up.

We wish that we could be more like you in that way.

In a world that loves scarcity, your abundance is shocking.

In a world that knows fear, your joy is compelling.

In a world that knows anxiety, your peace is captivating.

We long for these things.

So today we ask you—be with us on the hamster wheel.

Be with us when compassion fatigue rears her head.

Be with us when stress makes it hard to breathe.

Be with us when self-doubt pushes in close.

Be with us when exhaustion becomes constant or when loneliness becomes our primary language.

Be with us, and show us the way to the life you long for us.

Show us a life of expansive faith.

Show us a life of overflowing joy.

Show us a life of absorbing beauty.

Show us a life of engrossing purpose.

Show us a life that is as honest, and rich, and meaningful as the one Jesus led.

And until that expansive and holy day, we will continue to gather at this Table.

Until that day we will continue to look for you in our midst.

So pour out a double portion of yourself onto this bread and cup so that we might catch a glimpse of your goodness.

God, we are amazed by you.

Your love never runs out, so bring that never-ending love here.

## **Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

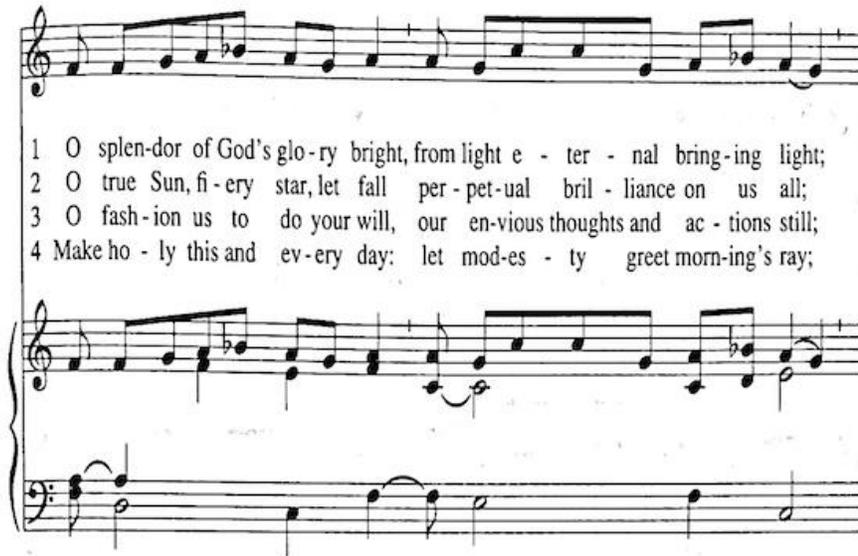
*(This morning we will bring communion to the congregation as you are seated in the pews. Please hold the bread until all have been served and the pastors extend the invitation for all to eat. Please hold the cup of grape juice until all have been served and the pastors extend the invitation for all to drink. In this way, we can commune together.)*

# \*Closing Hymn *O Splendor of God's Glory Bright*

#87

tune – PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*Ambrose of Milan (c. 340–c. 397)*  
*Transl. composite The New Century Hymnal, 1993*



1 O splen-dor of God's glo-ry bright, from light e - ter - nal bring-ing light;  
2 O true Sun, fi - ery star, let fall per - pet-ual bril - liance on us all;  
3 O fash - ion us to do your will, our en - vious thoughts and ac - tions still;  
4 Make ho - ly this and ev - ery day: let mod - es - ty greet morn - ing's ray;



O light of light, light's liv - ing spring, O day of days, il - lu - min - ing.  
The Ho - ly Spir - it's ra - diant beam up - on our earth - ly sens - es stream.  
In ev - ery chal - lenge may we find the grace which guides both heart and mind.  
And faith - ful love, the noon - day light; and hope, the sun - set calm and bright.

## \*Blessing

As you leave this place, may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world. May you laugh, and may it be contagious. May you overflow with love for those around you. May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy. And in all of your living, and breathing, and being, may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit, and may it change your life. In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself – go in peace, full to the brim. Amen.

**Postlude** *(please be seated)*

Today’s liturgy was written by: rev. sarah speed | sanctifiedart.org | The prayer of dedication is from UC Worship Ways for April 3, 2022 written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ.

**The flowers on the altar** this morning are in memory of our parents Ed and Jane Rossig, by Bud, Jennifer, and Ellen.

**The yellow rose bud** is presented by Sandra Trout in honor of all of those who serve in our military.

**Attendance Last Sunday:** 14 at 8:30 am, 153 at 10:30 am, and 92 online.

Watch  
Worship  
Live



**Watch worship live every Sunday at 10:30**

<https://sundaystreams.com/go/ERUCC>



Want to listen to the sermon again?

Visit our YouTube channel: [bit.ly/erucc\\_youtube](https://bit.ly/erucc_youtube)

**Today: April 3, 2022**

Liturgist: Rev. Shelley Weakly  
 Poetry Reader: Ron Terbush  
 Deacons: Mark Ulrich, Darryl Glick  
 Elder: Laura Rhoderick  
 Greeters: Sandy Gray, Danielle Carbone  
 Anne Hoffman  
 Welcome: Jeanellen Kallevang  
 Sound: Jeff Schaeberle, Ethan Kline  
 Tadd Clarkson, Jack Day  
 Fellowship: Linda Coyle, Green Team  
 Chimers: *Saturday:* Suzanne Morris  
*Sunday:* Tricia Coffey

**April 10, 2022**

Peter Brehm  
 Pam Shepp  
 Chuck Baldree, Matt Pomeroy  
 Starr Schaeberle  
 Jo Ann Fritz, Julie Clark  
 Sue Pinner  
 Jeanellen Kallevang  
 Kelly Esslinger, Jeff Baker,  
 Jeff Schaeberle  
 Starr Schaeberle,  
 Nguyen-Powell Family  
 Dick Williams  
 Kelly Esslinger



**FELLOWSHIP** Please join us for fellowship in the Community Room after worship to chat with friends, welcome our visitors, and enjoy a time of refreshment.

Sign up to share your gifts of hospitality at [bit.ly/ERUCC\\_fellowship](https://bit.ly/ERUCC_fellowship) or contact Starr Schaeberle or Laura Rhoderick.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Worship Next Week: Palm Sunday – Even the Stones Cry Out**

On Palm Sunday, we shout our praises before quieting our voices to enter into the passion of our God. We will hear of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem as we read from Luke 19: 28-40 and then of his passion in Luke 22: 14 – 23: 56.

As Jesus enters Jerusalem, the multitude of disciples begins to joyfully shout with praise. The Pharisees try to silence them, but Jesus responds: "I tell you, even if these were silent, the stones would shout out" (Luke 19:40). All of creation cries out with praise—that message rises above the noise, even if the oppressive powers want to silence it. As we begin our walk through Holy Week, let us ask: What can't be silenced? What must be said? What things can we not stay quiet about? What is bubbling up that we need to give voice to—faith questions, apologies, issues of justice, truth-telling? As we go deeper into the story, the truth will soon be set free.

*The Senior Choir will be singing.*

**Hospital and Prayer List** – Your pastor wants to be available when members of ERUCC are in the hospital. Please let us know so that we can visit with you and your family and provide support. We always ask permission before adding a name to be included in the prayer list or in the verbal announcements on a Sunday morning. There are many for whom we pray and visit whose names are not listed in the bulletin by their request.

**Prayer List** - Please remember the following people in your prayers: Ken Hoffman, Patti Patterson, Michael Rebo (brother-in-law of Jack Day), Jerry Cassell (brother of Ave Barr), Katharine Alley, Barbara Lee Crutchley (sister of Milt Crutchley), Marcy Channell (daughter of JoAnn Fritz), Mack Johnson, David Howard, Paige Coffey, Al Peden, Jane Doll, Michael Rhoads (son of Barbara Rhoads), Westin (great nephew of Sandy Gray & Danielle Carbone, Peggy Githerman, Jeannette Johnson, Emogene Wyand, Fran Wenner, Neremiah Castillo (niece of Andrew Beadle) Bonnie Devilbiss, Maria Csiba (mother of Tamara Tamas), Betsy Fisher, James "Jimmy" Sutphin (friend of Dan Smith), The McCarty family, Nikki Keller, Tina Prescott (daughter in law of Barbara and Bill Prescott), Mary Remsberg, Heleen (sister of Karin Mens), Kathy Blue Shores (friend of Jean Fish and Barb Biser), Gretchen Manuel (niece of Audrey Rayfield), Ann and Cal Theiss (parents of Katharine Alley), Debra Reedy (friend of Jean Fish and Barb Biser).

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### **Sunday Education Opportunities for Adults**

**BIBLE STUDY CLASS**

**Online**

**9:00 – 10:20 am**

“The Book that Breathes New Life” with Reverends John & Rebecca Shillingburg.

To join via Zoom: [bit.ly/3GEIvhJ](https://bit.ly/3GEIvhJ) Meeting ID: 893 8670 5888 Passcode: 327128

A six-week study of the Prologue in Genesis (chapters 1-11) began on March 6. In these texts, a small, unimportant wandering people of the Ancient Near East made an astounding claim: their God, who had no visible image to be worshipped, created the entire world ... simply by speaking. Join us for a look at how that claim has shaped us today.

## **LET'S TALK**

**Community Room**

**9:30 – 10:15 am**

**Today's Topic: End of Life Planning.** We will review information from The Conversation Project website about starting the conversation to help people share their wishes for end-of-life care and developing a plan with loved ones.

**On April 10: End of Life Planning.** During this session we will review forms including an Advanced Directive (Living Will, Health Care Proxy) and Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (MOLST). We will also discuss Hospice Care and the stages of grief from the perspective of the person who is ill.

## **This Week at ERUCC**

### **SPECIAL GIVING OPPORTUNITY TODAY**

On the first Sunday of each month, we have a special opportunity for giving towards Mortgage Assistance. Donations fund ERUCC's mortgages with the Fisher Fund and FCB Bank, a division of ACNB Bank, payments on which are about \$153,000 per year.

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## **WE SAY GAY RALLY**

**Sunday, April 3**

**Foyer / Sanctuary Steps**

**5:00 / 6:00 pm**



Join members of the LGBTQ+ community as we speak loud and with one voice that there is no room for hate in Frederick County. We stand with the queer people of Florida and want to send a message around our community that legislation that seeks to discriminate has no home here. Rain or shine. Organized by The Frederick Center: poster making at 5:00 pm in our lobby; The Rally begins on our steps at 6:00 pm.

## **Upcoming at ERUCC**

### **COMMUNITY VACCINE CLINICS**

**Wednesdays through April 27**

**Community Room**

**2:00 – 4:00 pm**



The Community Vaccine Coalition is extending its clinics at ERUCC through the end of April to help more people get vaccinated against COVID-19. It's free, safe, and no ID or insurance is required. Pre-registration at <https://www.frederickhealth.org> is strongly recommended.

Contact the church office if you can volunteer as a greeter.

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## **SPIRITUAL WALK**

**2250 Bear Den Rd** (condo parking lot)

**Sunday, April 10**

**2:00 – 3:30 pm**

Join us for a walk in the Wormans Mill community. Marj Berkheimer helped us plan a beautiful route along Tuscarora Creek and through wetlands and woods. Many birds and other wild creatures create a joyful spiritual atmosphere here. In addition, we will walk past the ruins of the Mill Pond House. The trail is paved and accessible. All are welcome!

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## **HOW TO BE ANTI-RACIST**

***Moonlight* Movie Discussion**

**Sunday, April 10**

**7:00 pm**

Watch the movie, *Moonlight*, at home and then engage in the conversation on Zoom. If you do not have access to streaming services, call the church office to arrange to see the film.

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## **TUESDAY'S WITH TED**

**Tuesday, April 12**

**6:00 – 7:00 pm**

Join a group on Zoom hosted by Pastor Daniel to listen to and discuss the TED Talk by **Daniel Pink: What regret can teach you about living a good life.**

Regret is one of our most powerful emotions – and also one of the most misunderstood. Over the past two years, author Daniel H. Pink has collected a trove of more than 16,000 regrets from people in 105 countries in an effort to better understand this mysterious emotion. He shares the key patterns that emerged (it all boils down to the same four core regrets, he says) and explains how to transform your own regrets in order to create the life you've always wanted to live.

To join via Zoom: [https://bit.ly/\\_3erWnj1](https://bit.ly/_3erWnj1) Meeting ID: 923 9891 8264 Passcode: 313735

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## **CHIMES GROUP**

**Thursday, April 14**

**11:00 am**

Guest speaker Jennie Russell to speak of The Friends Group at Mount Olivet Cemetery and the cleaning of gravestones. All are welcome April 14, 11:00 am in the Community Room.

## **SPRING CLEANUP WORK WEEK**

**April 18 – 22**

The Property Committee is grateful for the time and energy people have given over the years during our ERUCC stay-at-home work weeks. We have accomplished all kinds of things that have saved the church money, utilized members' skills, and created new bonds of friendship.

The Property Committee and our Facilities Manager are identifying projects that we can do to make our buildings safer, cleaner, and more welcoming.

Contact Owen York, Keith Stickley, or Jaci Clayton if you are interested in helping.



## YOUTH GROUP

April 8 – 9

Overnight

The Youth Group Overnight at the church, Youth Sunday planning, and bread baking.

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### STAY INFORMED

Read our Trinity Chimes monthly newsletter for more information about ERUCC activities, opportunities, and updates. You can find the latest Trinity Chimes in the back of the sanctuary and online at [bit.ly/AprilChimes](http://bit.ly/AprilChimes).

Please send announcements for the bulletin, Thursday Thoughts, and Trinity Chimes, to [erucc@erucc.org](mailto:erucc@erucc.org)

### Opportunities to Lead and Serve at ERUCC

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – LIVE STREAM LYRICS



The AV Team has added a new feature to the Live Stream. We are now displaying hymn lyrics and scriptures on screen. To provide this service, we need to add an additional person to the team each Sunday. We are asking for volunteers to assist with changing the slides as the hymn or scripture progresses. No technical skills are required.

If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact Jeff Schaeberle, [jeff@erucc.org](mailto:jeff@erucc.org) or 301.639.6197.

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#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – EVENT HOSPITALITY AND SUPPORT

Join our hospitality crew! It's a fantastic way to meet and greet the community of people using our spaces, which supports our mission to do good work in Frederick and beyond. Contact Nancy Jones, [events@erucc.org](mailto:events@erucc.org) or the Church Office, 301.662.2762.

Sign up to help at upcoming events: [bit.ly/ERUCC\\_event\\_help](http://bit.ly/ERUCC_event_help)

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – NURSERY

Please consider helping in the nursery on Sundays from 10:15 – 11:30 am.

Sign up to help in the nursery: [bit.ly/ERUCC\\_nursery\\_help](http://bit.ly/ERUCC_nursery_help)

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#### MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY – KITCHEN TEAM

Prior to the pandemic, we were having difficulty getting people to agree to serve as chairs of committees and projects. Pastor Daniel is grateful that we have people willing to work but those workers need someone to organize and direct; she became the de-facto chair of too many groups which is not healthy for the church.

We want to maintain our commercial kitchen license as well as care for the beautiful space we created with the building project. Consistory developed a job description for a Kitchen Team. The Kitchen Team is responsible for overseeing the kitchen equipment, storage, and supplies.

If you feel called to lead this ministry or want to help with it, please speak with Peter Brehm or Pastor Daniel.

### **Lent 2022 at ERUCC**



Full to the Brim is an invitation—into a radically different Lent, into a full life. It's an invitation to be authentically who you are, to counter scarcity and injustice at every turn, to pour out even more grace wherever it is needed. Lenten devotionals are available at the back of the sanctuary.

### **MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES**

*Theme: For the Beauty of the Earth*

**Wednesdays through April 13**

**Noon – 1:00 pm**

Service of Prayer in Trinity Chapel, followed by a soup and bread lunch, and reflection.

### **Holy Week Services**

**PALM SUNDAY**

**Sunday, April 10**

**8:30 am Worship in Trinity Chapel**

**10:30 am Worship in Main Sanctuary** including special music with brass

On Palm Sunday, we shout our praises before quieting our voices to enter into the passion of our God. We will hear of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem as we read from Luke 19: 28-40 and then of his passion in Luke 22: 14 to Luke 23: 56. When Jesus' critics urge him to silence his exuberant followers, Jesus says that if they were silent even the stones would shout forth his praise.

**HOLY THURSDAY**

**Thursday, April 14**

**7:30 pm Holy Communion and Tenebrae Service in Main Sanctuary and Livestream**

Maundy Thursday is an alternate name for Holy Thursday, the first of the three days of solemn remembrance of the events leading up to and immediately following the crucifixion of Jesus. The English word "Maundy" comes from the Latin *mandatum*, which means "commandment." As recorded in John's gospel, on his last night before his betrayal and arrest, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and then gave them a new commandment to love one another as he had loved them (John 13:34).

This service has three main parts:

- A Service of Light based on the traditional Vespers service in which we recognize Christ our Light
- A Service of Holy Communion in which we are invited to participate as one of The Twelve at the Last Supper
- A Service of Shadows: Tenebrae, in which we meditate on the Passion of Christ and experience in dramatic form the extinguishing of the Light

If you are participating in worship online, please have a plate with a piece of bread or cracker and a cup with grape juice, wine, or water. You may also consider adding a small bowl with water and a hand towel. During the service, you will be invited to lift the bread or cracker and the cup for a blessing.

**GOOD FRIDAY**

**Friday, April 15**

**Noon in Main Sanctuary**

**7:30 pm in Main Sanctuary and Livestream**

Our services this day focus on the painful journey through Jesus' arrest, trials, crucifixion, and death on the cross. We will read scripture describing the events of this day accompanied by periods of reflection.

If you are participating online for the 7:30 pm service, please consider having a thorn, piece of rope, some fragrant spices, and vinegar available as we will use those objects during the time of scripture readings and reflection.

## Something New *Ramadan begins*

On this day, the prophet Isaiah boldly declares God's plan to do a new thing. It is one of the blessings of the scheduled lectionary readings that this is also the first day of Ramadan for our Muslim brothers and sisters. This month of fasting marks the month that the words of the Qur'an were revealed to the prophet Muhammad and is a time of growing closer to the Holy One.

As people of the Word, we are siblings with our Muslim neighbors. Yet, historically, the relationship between Christians and Muslims has been fraught with misunderstanding and even violence.

How might your church or conference be part of a new thing done in God's name, as we begin to rewrite that history by building bridges where traditionally there have been walls?

The New York Conference of the United Church of Christ has built a bridge by providing resources for education and inspiration. The conference has added a web page about supporting Muslim neighbors to their website. Besides personal narratives, it provides quotes and helpful resources for those wanting to learn and read more. You can read them here:

<http://uccny.org/resources/resources-to-support-muslim-neighbors/>

Some churches have taken the next step, from education to action. The United Church of Christ Pacific Northwest Conference encourages churches to do a new thing by honoring their Muslim neighbors very tangibly during Ramadan. These churches were invited to do one or more of these actions:

- 1) *Hang a banner or change their message boards in a way that honors our Muslim neighbors.*
- 2) *Take time to make an appointment to visit a local mosque or Islamic center to bring greetings from their local congregation.*
- 3) *Consider hosting an event to learn more about Islam and make a special effort to speak up against anti-Muslim rhetoric.*

You can read more about the Pacific Northwest Conference's outreach to the Muslim community during Ramadan here:

[https://www.ucc.org/honoring\\_sacred\\_time\\_uniting\\_ucc\\_muslim\\_faith\\_community\\_in\\_pacific\\_northwest/](https://www.ucc.org/honoring_sacred_time_uniting_ucc_muslim_faith_community_in_pacific_northwest/)

