



Deep  
In Our  
Hearts

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

**F**or Children: We have trained nursery staff (a 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 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, 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 to 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.

Plates for offering are placed at the doors as you exit the sanctuary, or donate online at [www.erucc.org/give](http://www.erucc.org/give) or by scanning this code:



**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.

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

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

**Ministers and Staff of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ**

The Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan ~ *Intentional Interim Senior Pastor* ~ [mmorgan@erucc.org](mailto:mmorgan@erucc.org)  
The Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads ~ *Associate Pastor for Faith Formation & Parish Life* ~ [ksrhoads@erucc.org](mailto:ksrhoads@erucc.org)  
Alison E. Shafer ~ *Director of Music* | Tyler L. York ~ *Office Administrator* ~ [tyork@erucc.org](mailto:tyork@erucc.org)  
Jaci Clayton ~ *Facilities Manager* ~ [jclayton@erucc.org](mailto:jclayton@erucc.org)  
Tricia Coffey ~ *Head Chimer & Children & Youth Choir Director*  
Kelly Esslinger ~ *Assistant Director for Bell Choirs & Children's Music*  
Jenna Duranko ~ *Social Media Assistant* | Ashley Murphy ~ *Nursery Attendant*

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The Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel ~ *Pastor Emerita*

The Rev. Fred Wenner ~ *Pastor Emeritus*

**Elders of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ**

Marc Kline | Peter Brehm | Robin Cooney | Eric Weakly | Ave Barr | Matt Hueting



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



March 17, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Lent

10:30 AM



The numbered hymns are from  
The New Century Hymnal

\*All who are able may stand

**GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**PRELUDE**

*Old Rugged Cross*

Cambridge Handbell Choir  
– G. Bennard, arr. A. Sherman

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from *Teach Me* by Rev. Sarah Speed)

Teach me about the ways of the wind, about the ways of the world,  
about the ways of the heart.

**Teach me about the soft crook of my lover's arm,  
and the way two souls can hold each other close.**

Teach me about forgiveness, about the language of I'm sorry  
and the softness of sincerity.

**Teach me about abundance, about seventy-times-seven  
and all the days of my life.**

Teach me about joy, about its contagious weaving and its soul-healing.

**Teach me about mercy, about open hands and deep breaths.**

Teach me about the dawn of time and the stars in the sky.

**Teach me what matters most. Teach me what is mine to do.**

Teach this achingly curious heart until I run out of questions  
or I run out of days.

**Teach me some melodious sonnet, and I will have a life well-lived.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**Teaching God,**

**We want to learn your ways. We want to learn the ways of forgiveness,  
the ways of grace, and your ways of love.**

**That is part of why we return to your text week after week, because we are hungry to be more like you.**

**So, as we prepare to listen to your good Word, calm the noise in our minds. Center our spirits to focus on you so we might learn and hear what we have missed in this story before.**

**God, we want to learn your ways. Meet us here. Speak your truth and help us to listen. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way*

#465

**Teach me, O Lord, your holy way,  
and give me an obedient mind,  
That in your service I may find  
my heart's delight from day to day.**

**Help me, O Savior, here to trace  
the sacred footsteps you have trod;  
and fully trusting in my God,  
to grow in goodness, truth, and grace.**

**Guide me, O Christ, that I may ne'er  
forsake the right, or do the wrong;  
Against temptation make me strong,  
and keep me in your sheltering care.**

**Bless me in every task I face,  
begun, continued, done for you:  
Fulfill your will in all I do,  
and grant me your abundant grace.**

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

Friends, when you study Peter's story in scripture it's almost impossible to ignore how much he loved to ask questions. He asks Jesus:

*"What does the parable mean?"*

*"Where are you going?"*

*"How many times should we forgive?"*

Like a tenacious toddler, Peter was full of questions, because Peter was eager to learn. I wish I was more like that. I still have so much to learn.

So friends, let's be like Peter. Let's return to Christ with the humility of a student as we pray together the prayer of confession. Let this be a moment of learning. Let us pray:

### **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy God,**

**We long to be lifelong learners. We long to approach you with curiosity and an open mind. Instead, we often live as if we know best. We forget that the disciples called you “Rabbi, Teacher.” Forgive us for the times when we fail to be curious. Forgive us for the times when we assume we know best. Forgive us for the moments when we imagine that our learning is done and that we have all the answers.**

**Like Peter—who was brave enough to ask, “How many times should we forgive?”—make us brave. Spark a desire in us to learn, and may our curiosity carry our faith into deeper waters.**

**With hope and humility, we pray, amen.**

### **\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Family of faith, when Peter asked Jesus, “How many times should I forgive?” Jesus responded with abundance. That abundance exists for you as well. No matter what you have done or left undone, no matter what lessons you have learned or are still learning, God's abundant grace exists for you. God's love will never run out.

So, hear and rest in this good news: You are forgiven. You are loved. You are invited to serve.

**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.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*Children ages 5 through 5th grade may be dismissed for Junior Church,  
located in the Thomas Room, during the singing of the reading of scripture.*

## THE SCRIPTURES

Peter Brehm

Psalm 119:9-16 OT page 566

Matthew 18:15-22 NT page 20

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan

## MORNING PRAYERS

### OFFERING OF TITHES, GIFTS AND LIVES TO CHRIST'S SERVICE

*If you wish to give, you can give online at [www.erucc.org](http://www.erucc.org), by placing your gift in the offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary before or after the service, or by scanning the QR code to give from your phone.*



### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Dear God, who causes our lives to rise, we lay down to you the abundance you have given us and allow it to fall so that you may multiply it to give life to your world. May it be so. amen.**

## – CANTATA –

### *Requiem*

– Gabriel Fauré  
(1845–1924)

#### I. Introit et Kyrie

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine: *Grant eternal rest to them, Lord,*  
et lux perpetua luceat eis. *and let perpetual light shine on them.*

Te decet hymnus Deus in Sion: *A hymn befits you, God in Zion,*  
et tibi reddetur votum in Ierusalem, *and a vow to you shall be fulfilled in Jerusalem.*  
exaudi orationem meam, *Hear my prayer,*  
ad te omnis caro veniet. *for unto you all flesh shall come.*

Kyrie, eleison.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Christe, eleison.

*Christ, have mercy upon us.*

Kyrie, eleison.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.*

## II. Offertoire

O Domine Jesu Christe,  
Rex gloriae,  
libera animas defunctorum  
de poenis inferni,  
et de profundo lacu:  
libera eas de ore leonis,  
ne absorbeat eas tartarus,  
ne cadant in obscurum.

Hostias / et / preces / tibi,  
Domine, laudis offerimus:  
tu suscipe pro animabus illis,  
quarum hodie memoriam facimus:  
fac eas, Domine,  
de morte transire ad vitam,  
Quam / olim Abrahae  
promisisti, et semini ejus.

*O Lord Jesus Christ, King of Glory,  
free the souls of the dead  
from infernal punishment,  
and from the deep abyss.  
Free them from the mouth  
of the lion, do not let Hell  
swallow them up,  
do not let them fall into the  
darkness.*

*Sacrifices and prayers of praise  
we offer to you, O Lord.  
Receive them for the souls of  
those whom we commemorate  
today.  
Lord, make them pass from death  
to life, as you once promised  
to Abraham, and to his seed.*

## III. Sanctus

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,  
Domine Deus Sabaoth,  
pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.  
Osanna in excelsis!  
et de profundo lacu:

*Holy, Holy, Holy,  
Lord God of Hosts,  
the heavens and earth are filled  
with your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest!*

## IV. Pie Jesu

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem,  
requiem sempiternam.

*Merciful Lord Jesus, grant them rest,  
eternal rest.*

## V. Agnus Dei et Lux Aeterna

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona eis requiem.

*Lamb of God, who takes away the  
sins of the world, grant them  
rest.*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona eis requiem sempiternam.

*Lamb of God, who removes the sins  
of the world, grant them eternal  
rest.*

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine,  
cum sanctis tuis in aeternum,  
quia pius es.

*May eternal light shine on them,  
Lord, with your saints, for  
eternity, for you are merciful.*

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine:  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

*Grant eternal rest to them, Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine on  
them.*

## **VI. Libera Me**

Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna,  
in die illa tremenda:

Quando caeli movendi sunt et terra:  
Dum veneris iudicare saeculum  
per ignem.

*Free me, Lord, from eternal death,  
on that day of dread, when the  
heavens and earth shall move,  
when you shall come to judge  
the world by fire.*

Tremens factus sum ego, et timeo,  
dum discussio venerit,  
atque ventura ira.

*I am made to tremble, and to fear,  
when destruction shall come,  
and also your coming wrath.*

Dies illa, dies irae,  
calamitatis et miseriae,  
dies magna et amara valde.

*O that day, that day of wrath,  
of calamity and misery, the  
great and exceedingly bitter day.*

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine:  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

*Grant eternal rest to them, Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine on  
them.*

## **VI. In Paradisum**

In Paradisum deducant te Angeli;  
in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres,  
et perducant te  
in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem,

*May angels lead you into Paradise.  
At your coming may martyrs receive  
you, and may they lead you  
into the Holy City, Jerusalem.*

Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat,  
et cum Lazaro quondam paupere  
aeternam habeas requiem.

*May the chorus of angels receive you,  
and with Lazarus, who once was a  
pauper, may you have eternal rest.*

## **\*BENEDICTION**

Children of God, go out and nurture the world so new life will rise. Let go of that which binds you to distraction and isolation. And look towards your days with the hope of a single grain multiplying into the abundance of God's joy and love. **Amen.**

## **POSTLUDE**

*Please be seated.*



**Worship Notes:** Today's liturgy was written by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | Graphic Design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org). The texts have been adapted for our use.

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## **FELLOWSHIP**

Please join us after worship in our Community Room for a time of fellowship with light refreshments. The Community Room is accessible by stairs or elevator on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

**The flowers on the altar** this morning are in loving memory of my husband, Bill Stahler, and our granddaughter, Liz Coffey, by Peg Stahler.

**The yellow rose** is presented by John Stush in memory of his uncle, Michael Gbur who perished in WWII.

*If you want to sponsor the yellow rose throughout the year, please contact the church office at (301) 662-2762 or [erucc@erucc.org](mailto:erucc@erucc.org).*

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**Attendance Last Sunday:** 12 at 8:30 AM, 153 at 10:30 AM, and 51 online.



**Watch worship live every Sunday at 10:30 AM or on-demand:**

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

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### **Serving Today: March 17**

Scripture Reader: Peter Brehm  
Deacons: Matt Davis, Harrison Fisher  
Elder: Eric Weakly  
Greeters: Tom and Rachel Ford  
Felecia Bishop  
Welcome: Holly Davis, Pat Condo  
Audio/Visual: Rodney Martin, Jeff Schaeberle  
Kelly Esslinger  
Nursery: Stephanie Fisher  
Fellowship: Starr Schaeberle, Mark Ulrich  
Darryl Glick, Julie Chappell  
Betsy Selby, Angela Brittain

### **Serving Next Week: March 24**

Linda Coyle  
Betsy Selby, Jim Brittain  
Starr Schaeberle  
Kathleen and Niel Jefferson  
Rob Smith  
Jeanellen Kallevang, Pat Condo  
Jeff Schaeberle, Larry Martin  
Jeff Baker  
Susan Kulp, David Howard  
Carolyn Roberts, Colin Neely  
Robert Morris

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### **Next Sunday: March 24 – Palm Sunday**

***“Songs of loudest praise”***

John 12:12-16

As Holy Week begins, Peter is no longer front and center, and so we imagine he is with the rest of the disciples when Jesus enters Jerusalem on a colt. As they witness crowds shouting hosannas, the disciples are confused. When they look back on this experience, perhaps they will remember the songs. The singing is surely etched in their memories. As we imagine ourselves in the crowd on this day, may we remember that they are supposed to be praising Caesar, but instead they are shouting for the one entering the city on a donkey. Their singing is subversive, courageous, and contagious. Their praise shows the ripple effect of public displays of faith.

*The Senior Choir will be singing.*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PASTORAL CARE

Evangelical Reformed UCC wants to be there for you when you're experiencing an illness, hospitalization, or other life event for which you, or someone you love, may need a visit.

ERUCC members who are in nursing homes and those who currently reside in their homes but are unable to come to regular Sunday morning services will continue to receive visits (and communion) from Rev. Bob Manthey.

If emergency pastoral care is needed in the case of crisis, death, or severe illness, please contact the church office at (301) 662-2762 or [erucc@erucc.org](mailto:erucc@erucc.org).

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## PRAYER LIST

*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.*

### **Please remember the following people in your prayers:**

Charlotte Blue and Family  
(friends of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)  
Delano Slifer  
Virginia Gaul  
Mark Ulrich  
Emogene Wyand  
Richard Leslie  
Bob Pinner  
Betsy Fisher  
Caughy Family  
Delmar Speak  
Donna Hill (mother of Collen Baldree)  
Philip Hill (father of Colleen Baldree)  
Tanya Pearre (sister of Colleen Baldree)  
Jim Baldree (father of Chuck Baldree)  
Anne Gallagher (friend of Milt and Bettie Joe Crutchley)  
Lee Thomas  
Joan Thomas (mother of Dan Smith's friend)

Lucy Patterson Cox (friend of Kathleen Jefferson)  
Shannon Baxter (daughter of Kathy Gelles-Baxter)  
Milt Crutchley  
Sandra Trout  
Autumn Crutchley  
Christiane Armitage (sister-in-law of Linda Coyle)  
Jason Rhoads  
Nathan Cable  
Hillal Eastburn  
Barbara Rhoads  
Pat Condo  
Cathy Crome (sister of Nancy Jones)  
Greg Rhoads  
Holly Davis  
Marcia Eisenstein  
Derek C. Hupp (grandson of Beanie & Gaylon Cornell)  
Wayne Kolb (friend of Stefan and Judi Mach and Tony and Linda LaFianza)

Conway Barnes (brother-in-law of George & Linda Kline)  
Jeannette Johnson  
Jackie Keyser (sister-in-law of Betsy and Phil Selby)  
Barbara Lee Crutchley (sister of Milt Crutchley)  
Marcy Channell (daughter of JoAnn Fritz)  
Paige Coffey  
Jane Doll  
Fran Wenner  
Bonnie Devilbiss  
The McCarty family  
Tina Prescott (daughter-in-law of Barbara & Bill Prescott)  
Mary Remsberg  
Heleen (sister of Karin Mens)  
Kathy Blue Shores (friend of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)  
Gretchen Manuel (niece of Audrey Rayfield)

*Remember to notify the church office when you would like your request removed from the prayer list.*

## Today at ERUCC

**LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE with Revs. John and Rebecca Shillingburg**

**Sundays**

**North Room / Zoom**

**9:00 – 10:15 AM**

Zoom: [bit.ly/ERSunstudy](https://bit.ly/ERSunstudy)

Meeting ID: 893 8670 5888

Passcode: 327128

We are studying the foundational stories of the Old Testament, the big stories in the order they occurred. No prior experience needed; just bring your Bible.

In March we will be skipping lightly through 1 & 2 Kings, focusing the stories of the destruction of the Southern Kingdom. What happened to God's promise to maintain the throne of David forever?

*There will not be a class held on Easter Sunday.*

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**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

**9:30 – 10:10 AM**

We have two classrooms for **Children's Sunday School**. Our Pre-K – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade class meets in the Liz Coffey Room and our 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade class meets in the Thomas Room.

Our **Youth Sunday School** class for 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade meets in the Clapp Conference Room in the Parish House Church Offices from 9:30 – 10:20 AM.

*There will not be a classes held on Easter Sunday.*

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## **Ways to Give to Evangelical Reformed UCC**

### **WEBSITE**

[www.erucc.org/give](http://www.erucc.org/give)



*one time or recurring gifts*

### **GIVE THE NEW WAY**



*We're moving to a better way of giving. Scan to try it for yourself!*

### **CASH OR CHECK**

*made payable to  
Evangelical Reformed UCC  
15 W. Church St,  
Frederick MD 21701*



*offering plates  
are available in the  
rear of the sanctuary  
before and after worship*

## This Week at ERUCC

### **TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY with Rev. Rebecca Shillingburg**

**Tuesdays**

**North Room / Zoom**

**11:00 AM**

Zoom: [bit.ly/3TdUnOy](https://bit.ly/3TdUnOy)

Meeting ID: 875 1423 3398

Passcode: 973365

We will use *Walking a Sacred Path: Rediscovering the Labyrinth as a Spiritual Tool* by Lauren Artress for this series. 'Walking the Labyrinth' has reemerged as a metaphor for the spiritual journey and a tool for transformation. This walking meditation is an archetype, a mystical ritual found in all religious traditions. It quiets the mind and opens the soul.

#### **Reading Schedule:**

March 19 Chapter 8: The Birth of a Vision

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Beginning March 26, we will begin a study using *Living the Questions: The Wisdom of Progressive Christianity*. Revs. David Felten and Jeff Procter-Murphy, along with an all-star cast of Bible scholars and top church teachers, provide a primer to a church movement that encourages every Christian to "live the questions" instead of "forcing the answers." We will supplement our reading with the DVD course of the same name, *Living the Questions: The Wisdom of Progressive Christianity*, which includes commentary from such bestselling authors as Diana Butler Bass, John Shelby Spong, Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, Brian McLaren, and others.

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### **TUESDAY EVENING YOGA**

**Tuesdays**

**Community Room**

**7:00 PM**

Join our drop-in Tuesday night yoga class! The first class of 2024 is January 16. You will need to bring yoga mat, blocks if used, and a water bottle. Each class is \$10. Questions? Contact Renae, [rdkline15@gmail.com](mailto:rdkline15@gmail.com).

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### **WEDNESDAY EVENING LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE with Rev. John Shillingburg**

**Wednesdays**

**North Room / Zoom**

**7:00 PM**

Zoom: [bit.ly/ERwedstudy](https://bit.ly/ERwedstudy)

Meeting ID: 892 1764 4500

Passcode: 848933

Like the Sunday morning class, this evening class offers an opportunity to read and discuss the scriptures, looking at them in their original context, considering when and by whom they were written, and how they have been interpreted through the centuries. All you need is a Bible; no prior knowledge is necessary.

We are studying the stories of the matriarchs and patriarchs in Genesis: Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob and Rachel, and Joseph. Just how exemplary were these heroes and heroines of the Hebrew Scriptures? Do they provide good models for us today?

## Upcoming at ERUCC

### **MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE AND SOUP LUNCH**

**Wednesdays, through March 27      Community Room**

**12:00 PM**

We will have a brief service at 12:00 PM each Wednesday during Lent, followed by a soup lunch and time for reflection in the Community Room.

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### **ERUCC BOOK GROUP**

**Tuesday, March 26**

**North Room / Zoom**

**7:00 PM**

Zoom: [bit.ly/ERUCCbooks](https://bit.ly/ERUCCbooks)

Meeting ID: 848 7056 7574

Passcode: 226669

*The Sounds of Life: How Digital Technology is Bringing Us Closer to the Worlds of Animals and Plants* by Karen Bakker. The natural world teems with remarkable conversations, many beyond human hearing range. Scientists are using groundbreaking digital technologies to uncover these astonishing sounds, revealing vibrant communication among our fellow creatures across the Tree of Life.

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### **EASTER CROSS DECORATING: CALLING ALL FLOWERS!**

As we journey through Lent toward the promise of Easter, you are invited to bring fresh flowers with you to the cross on Easter morning, Sunday, March 31. Flowers may come from your gardens or florist.

When you come to worship on Easter Sunday, you may add your flowers to the cross in the sanctuary to help celebrate Christ's joyous resurrection. The cross is then carried out onto the portico at the end of the 10:30 AM service to proclaim life made new and beautiful through Christ to our Frederick community.

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## LET'S TALK: BOOK STUDY OF *CASTE*

led by The Rev. Richard Leslie and Peter Brehm

Sundays, April 7, 14, 21, 28

Community Room

9:30 – 10:15 AM

Richard Leslie and Peter Brehm will co-lead a study of the book *Caste* by Isabelle Wilkerson for four Sundays in April. Participating in this class will offer many “ah-ha moments,” maybe some discomfort and lots of opportunity for discussion and reflection.

*In Caste, Isabel Wilkerson gives us a masterful portrait of an unseen phenomenon in America as she explores, through an immersive, deeply researched, and beautifully written narrative and stories about real people, how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system, a rigid hierarchy of human rankings.*

Mark your calendar and plan to attend *Let's Talk* in April to be part of this important conversation. If you would like to participate but need a book (\$17), contact the church office at [erucc@erucc.org](mailto:erucc@erucc.org) or (301) 662-2762.

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## SPRING WORK DAY

Saturday, April 13

ERUCC

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Spring is coming! It's time for some spring cleanup at ERUCC. We are looking for volunteers to share their time and talent cleaning up and completing some small maintenance on our spaces. Tasks include painting (as always), cleaning windows, cleaning chairs in the Community Room, organizing, and other odds and ends. We are also looking for some volunteers to help provide lunch for the group.

If you have time we'd love your help! Please RSVP to the Property Chair, Owen York, in person, via email at [property@erucc.org](mailto:property@erucc.org), or phone/text (301) 401-4947.

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# PASTORAL TRANSITION

Heritage - Mission - Leadership - Connections - Future

Learn more about our interim journey at [www.erucc.org/transition](http://www.erucc.org/transition)

## **Children and Youth Ministry**

### **JUNIOR CHURCH**

Junior Church, a space to join in creative spiritual formation activities, meets most Sundays, except the first Sunday of each month when we observe Communion. Children aged 5 – 5th grade may go to Junior Church in the Thomas Room after the Thought for the Day in the worship service. Parents should pick up children from Junior Church following service.

*There will not be Junior Church on Easter Sunday.*

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### **EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA AS GOD’S KIDS CLUB**

**Friday, March 22**

**Community Room**

**9:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

In the morning, we will be painting Easter eggs! Families with tots are also invited to join the God’s Kids Club crew with egg painting. Please have an adult stay with your **Tiny Tot** child. We will begin the morning at 9:30 AM and likely paint until 11:30 AM.

In the afternoon, we will play with baby chicks, learn about and practice for Palm Sunday, and more! Bring a packed lunch and water bottle. Wear clothes that can get paint on them and send an extra set of clothes just in case. Sign up in the upper lobby or email Pastor Kirstin.

**We are looking for help to make sure we have all the supplies to make and dye eggs!**

All items can be brought to the church office or Community Room kitchen by Wednesday, March 20. Eggs can also be delivered on Friday morning at 9:00 AM. Let Pastor Kirstin know if they are coming on that day instead of by Wednesday.

**Hop on over to the list of things we need if you can help: [bit.ly/eggs2erucc](http://bit.ly/eggs2erucc).**

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### **YOUTH GROUP**

**Sunday, March 24**

**Youth Room, Parish House**

**12:00 – 2:00 PM**

German culture and Youth Sunday planning.

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### **GOOD FRIDAY GOD’S KIDS CLUB**

**Friday, March 29**

**Community Room**

**9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

Like last year, we will host a half day of educational fun for our youngest group. We will interact with the symbols of Holy Week in some creative ways, and have some chick time. No need to pack lunch. Snacks will be provided; please send a water bottle. Sign up in the upper lobby or email Pastor Kirstin.

## **OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **THE FREDERICK SCHOOL OF RELIGION**

*The Frederick School of Religion* convenes for its 40<sup>th</sup> year April 8. The School is an ecumenical teaching organization that provides a ‘*Learning for Life*’ experience. This year’s school consists of 9 courses (8 six-week courses and 1 single afternoon course), which cover a broad range of topics appealing to diverse faith groups.

The location is Brook Hill United Methodist Church, 8946 Indian Springs Road, Frederick, MD 21702. These courses will be offered on consecutive Monday and Tuesday afternoons and in the evenings from April 8<sup>th</sup> through May 15<sup>th</sup>. Each 6-week long course is eligible for up to 1.2 Continuing Education Units. For more information and registration forms, you may visit our website [www.frederickschoolofreligion.org](http://www.frederickschoolofreligion.org) or call 240-651-1865 or 240-490-5657.

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### **ERUCC SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**

ERUCC is fortunate to have several scholarship programs available to our members as they seek educational opportunities to develop knowledge and skill in realization of their full potential. The McCardell Scholarship Fund was established by Mr. Robert McCardell in honor and memory of members of the McCardell family. The Kieffer Scholarship Fund was established in honor of Henri L.G. Kieffer, pastor of this church from 1910-1946. The Liz Coffey Scholarship Fund was established in memory and honor of our beloved youth Liz Coffey. Also included are funds given in memory of Tina Baker, a long-time educator and member of the ERUCC Scholarship Committee.

Contributions to these Scholarship Funds by members and friends of the church are always welcomed.

These scholarships are gifts to church members for post-secondary undergraduate education and are awarded by the Scholarship Committee. The awards are based on the quality of the candidate's plan for use of the funds, the ability and promise of the applicant, and the need for financial assistance. The aid may continue for subsequent years after an interview with the Scholarship Committee, submission of intent to reapply, and a transcript of grades for the current year.

Scholarship applications are available through the Church Office for new applicants: (301) 662-2762 or [erucc@erucc.org](mailto:erucc@erucc.org).

Students wishing to renew scholarships must also contact the Church Office providing the information requested. All application materials must be submitted to the Scholarship Committee through the Church Office by the April 30 deadline.

Any further questions can be directed to Sandra Trout, Chairman of Scholarship Committee at [troutsandra@aol.com](mailto:troutsandra@aol.com).

## **HOLY WEEK AT ERUCC**

### **PALM SUNDAY**

**Sunday, March 24**

**8:30 AM Worship with Holy Communion in Sanctuary**

**10:30 AM Worship in Sanctuary and Livestream**

We shout our praises before quieting our voices to enter into the passion of our God.

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### **MAUNDY THURSDAY: HOLY COMMUNION AND TENEBRAE SERVICE**

**Thursday, March 28**

**Sanctuary**

**7:30 PM**

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
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### **GOOD FRIDAY**

**Friday, March 28**

**Sanctuary and Livestreamed (evening)**

**12:00 and 7:30 PM**

On this Holy Day, we are paying close attention to how Peter acts in Jesus' final hours. So much happens in a short amount of time: Jesus predicts Peter's denial, soldiers come and Peter draws his sword, Jesus is arrested and Peter denies him, Peter denies Jesus again and again and the cock crows, then Jesus is crucified and dies. Peter is prone to mess up, to fight, to deny, to leave, to seek safety for himself. But aren't we all? May we lament all the ways we are prone to leave the God we love.

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### **EASTER SUNDAY**

**Sunday, March 31**

**8:30 AM Worship with Holy Communion in Sanctuary**

**10:30 AM Worship with Holy Communion in Sanctuary and Livestream**

We might expect that, after denying Christ, Peter would cower in shame—or perhaps even run away in an attempt to leave his past behind him. Instead, when he hears the news from the women, he doesn't dismiss them like the other disciples. He gets up and runs to the tomb. When he peers into the empty tomb and sees the linen cloth, he is filled with awe. Even after the biggest failures, even after the worst-case scenario has happened, can we run toward hope? Like Peter, will we keep going? Will we keep looking for God in our midst?

*The Senior Choir will sing. We will enjoy special music from Market Street Brass.*

## **Sunday Morning Schedule**

*subject to change*

8:30 – 9:15 AM	<b>Early Worship Service</b> , Sanctuary
9:00 AM	<b>Coffee and Conversation</b> , Kieffer Lobby, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
9:00 – 10:15 AM	<b>Let's Study the Bible</b> , North Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
9:30 – 10:15 AM	<b>Let's Talk</b> , Community Room, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Nursery Care</b> , 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor
9:30 – 10:10 AM	<b>Sunday School</b> <i>Pre-K – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade</i> , Liz Coffey Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor <i>3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade</i> , Thomas Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor <i>Youth (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade)</i> , Clapp Conference Room, Church Office
10:10 – 10:25 AM	<b>Children's Music and Movement</b> , Liz Coffey Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
10:30 – 11:30 AM	<b>Worship</b> , Sanctuary and Online at <a href="http://www.erucc.org">www.erucc.org</a> <b>Junior Church</b> , Thomas Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor <i>Children are dismissed from the sanctuary after Thought for the Day during Worship</i>
11:30 AM	<b>Fellowship</b> , Community Room, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor

## **Stay Informed**

### **TRINITY CHIMES**

Read the ERUCC monthly newsletter, *Trinity Chimes*! Find printed copies in the back of the sanctuary or read online at <https://erucc.org/category/news/monthly-newsletter/>.

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### **WEEKLY THURSDAY THOUGHTS EMAIL**

Subscribe to receive our weekly email newsletter at <http://eepurl.com/gDNCu5> or by scanning the QR code!



## **Mission Statement of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ**

We, the members of this congregation, seek to celebrate in word and deed the gospel of Jesus Christ, by nurturing spiritual growth through worship, study and prayer; by caring for one another as God cares for us; and by proclaiming God's love for all people as we work to help our neighbors near and far. We commit ourselves to develop and implement specific programs to fulfill our mission.

Worship services and events at Evangelical Reformed UCC are sometimes photographed and videotaped to document the vibrant life of our church. If you do not wish to be included in these recordings, please notify a deacon or the church office. Always obtain permission prior to sharing images and videos that include minors on your personal social media.



THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

## Wandering Heart: "Teach me"



## Seventy-seven Times

by Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Matthew 18:15-22

*Digital painting*

When I'm creating a mandala inspired by a text, I'm able to zoom out and see the bigger picture, and the image itself ends up looking like a bird's eye view, which I think is a helpful perspective sometimes. In this mandala, I wanted to follow a person through the process of reproof, forgiveness, reconciliation, and restoration as Jesus describes in Matthew 18. In the center, a person is standing alone, isolated, with their arms crossed in a closed-off posture. If you're sinned against, Jesus says to go and "point out the fault when the two

of you are alone" (Matthew 18:15). When you move to the second ring of the mandala, there are pairs of people shaking hands, finding common ground, or at least attempting to. If this doesn't work, then you are to bring more people (one or two more) together to provide counsel and witness. In the third ring of the mandala, two people are engaging with the closed-off person, sharing a way forward. In the next ring hyacinth flowers—which represent sorrow, regret, and forgiveness—stretch, bloom, and grow, bringing beauty into the now open arms of the people in the last ring of the mandala, who are embraced and woven into the community. The person from the center goes from being alone and closed-off to embraced and open.

When I was drawing the figures from the center out, it began to look like a dance. Is this the picture that grace paints? Forgiveness cannot happen in isolation and certainly neither can reconciliation nor restoration. The movement toward wholeness is the movement toward one another.

Perhaps craving more tangibility and practicality, Peter asks how many times he should forgive someone who has wronged him, and Jesus says, "Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy-seven times" (Matthew 18:22). This piece contains seventy-seven people and flowers to represent the abundance of grace that Jesus calls us into. The gold represents the divine presence of empathy, compassion, grace, and love throughout this dance from isolation toward community, from brokenness toward wholeness, and from guilt and shame toward freedom.

—Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 17, 2024

Jeremiah 31:31-34

### “Deep In Our Hearts”

*The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. Jeremiah 31:32*

One of the distinct features of many United Church of Christ conferences, associations and congregations compared to other faith communities is their commitment to become Open and Affirming (O&A). O&A is a stance of radical welcome to LGBTQIA+ people. Because church communities have historically been places of hurt and exclusion, it is even more imperative that churches who are Open and Affirming take a strong and public stance.

A little over a year ago, the ONA Coalition welcomed a new executive director, The Rev. Katrina Roseboro-Marsh. According to a UCC news story that came out at the time,\* She is the first Black woman to head the coalition. “I am honored and excited for this opportunity,” she said. “I realize how important my selection is, and I recognize the magnitude of what this opportunity will mean for the LGBTQIA+ community. I accept this challenge because the coalition has laid the sturdy groundwork to make its next steps forward in reimaging and revisioning, with regeneration as a goal.”

Roseboro-Marsh has more than 16 years of experience as a clinician. Her particular focus has been working with clients who identify as LGBTQIA+, as well as those who also identify as African American with an active religious and/or spiritual practice.

“We are excited to welcome Dr. Katrina to our team because of her unique voice, energy and experience,” said search committee chair and Coalition Leadership Team member the Rev. Derek Terry. “With the current attack on queerness in schools and communities across the country, we feel an obligation to protect and ensure the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community.

Terry added that “while some work to erase the experiences of BIPOC people from the pages of history books,” Roseboro-Marsh will “increase our advocacy work through an intentionally more intersectional approach.”

Roseboro-Marsh is ordained clergy and holds ministerial standing with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the Fellowship of Affirming Ministries. She is married to the Rev. Tana Roseboro-Marsh; they reside on the east coast with their Morkie, Xola Darling Roseboro-Marsh.

\*<https://www.ucc.org/new-ona-director-global-ministries-exec-among-recent-hires/>



8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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