

Easter to Pentecost at Leesburg Presbyterian Church

WELCOME TO A SPECIAL FAMILY SUNDAY

May 5, 2024 207 W. MARKET ST. - WWW.LPCVA.COM

We Gather Together

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE

My Happy Tune

written by David G. Allen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

As we begin worship, we invite you to pause and say a prayer for our sister church, the Presbyterian Reformed Church in Guanabacoa, Cuba. As a sign of connection with our partner church, you may see LPC members and friends wave bulletins in lieu of clapping, as is the custom of our partner congregation.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Celebrating the grace we receive from God, let us "pass the peace" of Christ together greeting one another, saying: "Peace be with you!" "And also, with you."

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, beloved of God,

All: laying aside the harsh ways of the world.

One: Come, beloved of God,

All: to practice the patient and kind ways of love.

One: Come, beloved of God, to trust the love of God that holds fast in all things.

All: Hearts soft and minds open, we come to worship God!

*OPENING HYMN #621 I Will Call Upon You, Lord

We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

CALL TO CONFESSION

*Please stand as you are comfortable

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: You tell us that you still love us, no matter how hard we push, O God.

One: Forgive us, when we mess up and miss the mark!

All: Forgive our selfishness. Teach us to share and care about each other. Remind us that when we do not practice love, we miss the holy opportunity to practice the Way of Jesus:

One: the Way that leads to life, not just for us but for our neighbors.

All: May your forgiveness draw us into practice—because we all need practice to build up our ability to love, as you do. Hear our prayers in this silence...

God Blesses and Forgives Us

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

RESPONSE HYMN #701

01 Lord Prepare Me Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and

holy, tried and true. With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

We Hear God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

(NT pg.134)

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

Note for parents: Children are invited to join the Nursery today (for ages birth—4). All other children are invited to stay in worship today. Godly Play resumes next week.

SERMON

"What does love mean, really?" Rev. Katie Strednak Singer

*Please stand as you are comfortable

We Respond in Faith

*HYMN #293

Loving Spirit

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

My Lord, What a Morning arranged by Jay Althouse

*DOXOLOGY #606

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

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING DEDICATION

All: Thank you, God, for the chance to praise you in the way we share, the way we give, and the way we care for each other. Help us to use our time, our energy, our imaginations, our creativity, and our love to serve you. Help all who are hurt or sad, and teach us to be your helpers, too. Amen.

INVITATION

One: The Lord be with you. Many: And also with you. One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to the Lord. One: Let us give thanks to God.

Many: It is right to give God thanks and praise

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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, forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion Hymn:

#519 You Are My Strength When I Am Weak

#647 Give Thanks

We sing while seated as trays of gluten free bread and grape juice are passed down the aisles, pausing to serve one another. You are invited to hold your bread and juice until all are served, and partake together as one. **PRAYER**

*CLOSING HYMN #192

Shine, Jesus, Shine

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

by L.V. Beethoven, arranged by Lani Smith

*Please stand as you are comfortable

Parts of this morning's liturgy have been adapted from Teri Peterson, with permission.



THANK YOU! The Mission and Witness Committee thanks you for your book donations for Loudoun Homeless Services Center. We collected approximately 400 adult books and 600 children's books! Because we had such an overwhelming response and the shelter has limited space, some of the books will be donated to LAWS and to a local elementary school where books will be given to children who have few books in their homes. The Mission and Witness Committee has also agreed to purchase additional book shelves for the shelter. This is all possible through your generosity!

Thank you, Worship Leaders, for volunteering to lead us today!

Liturgist: Jim Barnes
Ushers: Judy Lucas

Live-streaming: Edward Jahn **Fellowship:** Laura Renauld

We welcome your interest in leading and serving, to the glory of God!

Sign up to serve through the weekly "LPC Connect" email to serve as liturgist, usher, acolyte, or to provide flowers for a worship service or coffee and cookies for the congregation following worship.

Reach out to the Christian Education Committee to be trained to **in assisting with Godly Play.** Doorkeepers for Godly Play require a background check and some light training, and you will get to experience a very special worship service filled with imagination and wonder, created just for kids age 4 through 4th grade.

Nursery care is available on the first floor of the education wing, and can be accessed through the preschool entrance door outside. Parents are welcome to come and go throughout worship as needed. God put the wiggle in children and we welcome little ones to worship with us throughout our time in the sanctuary too! Changing table available in the restroom at the top of the stairs just beyond the front of the sanctuary.

Not yet signed up for the LPC Connect weekly email? Reach out to clerk@lpcva.com or pastor@lpcva.com to sign up.

Announcements & Opportunities

April Session commendations:

Join the LPC Session in saying "thank you" to:

- John Niccolls for managing new lock procedures and being generally helpful
- Laura Renauld and the Earth Care Team for solving the compost conundrum
- Paul Ritsema for his thoughtful leadership of the Personnel Committee
- Every volunteer who has come in to help staff the LPC office!

LPC is hiring! You can help:

Do you know someone who is passionate about providing a nurturing environment for young ones? Leesburg Presbyterian Church seeks a caring individual to fill a childcare position during our Sunday worship service from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.

As a valued member of our team, you will have the opportunity to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere for children while their parents participate in worship. Responsibilities include engaging children in age-appropriate activities and ensuring their safety and well-being.

This is a paid position, and we are also looking to compile a list of substitutes who can step in as needed. If you have a heart for children and are interested in either the regular childcare position or serving as a substitute, we encourage you to apply.

To apply or for more information, please send an email to LPCVACareers@gmail.com to request a copy of the application. Thank you for considering joining our church community in this important role!

All Church Book Read - Inhabiting Eden: Christians, the Bible, and the Ecological Crisis by Patricia Tull

Group Conversations Continue This Week

The LPC Preschool and Earth Care Team's composting initiative has been featured on the PC(USA)'s national website through an article at Presbyterian Mission! Check out the link in this week's LPC Connect email, or visit our website at www.lpcva.com

Get Outside!

Submitted by Earth Care Team member Juli Barnes

Save the date for the Big Sit at Algonkian Regional Park on **May 11.** The Big Sit could be described as an all-day tailgate party for birders of all ages and skill levels. If you're new to birding, this is a great way to get started. Birders are friendly folks who are always glad to share their knowledge. So, bring your binoculars and drop by anytime between <u>6:00 am and 8:00 pm</u>. For more information, go to https://loudounwildlife.org/event/big-sit-algonkian/

MAY 5: Bring CANNED TUNA or CANNED CHICKEN & DEODERANT

On the first Sunday of each month, you are invited to bring a can of food or a toiletry item for our neighbors. The kids in the church spin the wheel each month to pick the next month's wishlist items. Each item is part of Loudoun Hunger Relief's "most needed" list.

First Sundays - Hunger Relief

Spinning Wheel



Your Offering Empowers Our Ministry Together

Thank you! Supported by your time, your talents, and your financial support, Leesburg Presbyterian Church continues its mission to gather, welcome, and nurture a spiritual community to love and serve the world in Christ's name.



You can give easily and securely through Realm, LPC's giving platform, by visiting our website:

https://www.lpcva.com/give

Thank you for your faithful support of God's work in and through Leesburg Presbyterian Church! Your support impacts and changes lives.



There will be a **VBS volunteer meeting on Sunday, May 19** after church in the Parlor. If you have signed up to volunteer or are thinking you might want to volunteer, grab a snack from Fellowship Hour and join us as we learn a little more about *Seekers in Sneakers: Discovering Jesus and how we can make VBS a great weekend for all!*



Join us in the Fellowship Hall immediately after worship today.





JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

~ALL ARE WELCOME~

<u>Sunday, May 19, 11:15AM</u>: Webinar showing in Fellowship Hall: Dr. Tull's presentation "Getting to Net Zero" about building a house that generates all of it's own electricity and creating gardens that provide fresh vegetables and fruit to her family in Indiana.

<u>Sunday, June 2, 11:30AM</u>: Meet Dr. Patricia Tull in a live Zoom Meeting – a chance to ask questions and learn more about her passion for creation-care practices and the eco-theology that encourages us to live joyfully in sync with our earth.

SMALL GROUPS DISCUSSIONS

Meet weekly, April 21-May 26



You do not need to have read the book to join!

- Sundays, 11:15-12:15,
 Mtg. Room, led by Eric
 Forsbergh
- Wednesdays, 10-11,
 Lounge, led by Laura
 Herring



Engage with Loudoun County - Visit the Energy and Environment Forum!

The Loudoun County Environmental Commission is hosting this event on **Tuesday, May 14 from 5:30-8:00PM at the Academies of Loudoun**, 42075 Loudoun
Academy Drive, Leesburg. This is your opportunity to see what local projects are ongoing and to provide your comments on multiple environmental and sustainable energy matters. Find detailed information here: Energy and Environment Forum

Submitted by Earth Care Team member Kathy Brown

LPC is an Earth Care Congregation. As a faith community, we are dedicated to integrating environmental practices and thinking into our worship, education, facilities, and outreach.

Earth Care Team co-chairs: Kathy Brown and Laura Renauld We meet 2nd Tuesdays, 7PM. Join us!