

Waiting for Redemption

Each year a Christmas tree is placed in the upper lake of Hagerstown City Park. Seeing it light up the ominous dark water is a favorite Christmas memory. But that tree and its lights were even more striking when I learned about the beginnings of the park. Not only was it once a swamp, the park was also an industrial dump site. So, in origin, it was the worst of the worst. However, in the 1920s, Hagerstown leaders decided to redeem it, turning the swamp-dump into what many now consider one of the most beautiful parks in the country.

As our light and salvation, the Lord achieves similar redemption. God's light shines out of the darkness, empowering us to lift our heads high above the enemies encamped around us, amid false witnesses who breathe out violence (Psalm 27: 6, 12).

And so what adversity encroaches on us this Lent? Is it a menacing foe, a problematic medical diagnosis, a deliberating depression? Pope Francis, in *The Name of God Is Mercy*, wisely observes: "The fragility of our era is . . . [that] we don't believe that there is a chance for redemption; for a hand to raise you up; for an embrace to save you, forgive you, pick you up, flood you with infinite, patient, indulgent love; to put you back on your feet." The Lord, however, provides such compassion. As the psalmist sings: "For [the Lord] will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock" (v. 5).

I find God's rock real, especially when I know nothing is ever wasted. And so, gratitude wells up as I affirm: "I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living" (v. 13). For our God does repurpose the worst—turning swamps into salvation, dumps into deliverance. Thus, I will "wait for the Lord; [I will] be strong, and [I will] let [my] heart take courage" (v. 14).

—Paul Munday
Frederick, Maryland

Text for today: "The Lord is *my light and my salvation*; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? . . . Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident" (Psalm 27:1, 3, NRSV). **Bible readings for today:** Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27 (1); Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36, (37-43e).

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MY LIGHT AND
MY SALVATION

BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
at Worship March 17, 2019 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

*A lively understandable spirit
Once entertained you.
It will come again.
Be still.
Wait.*

~Theodore Roethke, *The Lost Son*

GATHERING

PRELUDE (11:00) “Mankind bewail thy grievous fall” *J.S. Bach*

CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER Jeff Carr
Please sign and pass the *Friendship Register* pad located at the inside aisle of the pew. Signing helps us learn the names of those worshipping near us. After all have signed, the pad can be passed back to the inside aisle.

ANTHEM (11:00) Cross of Christ, O Sacred Tree *Lloyd Larson*
Alyson Lyttle, horn

CALL TO WORSHIP ~Feasting on the Word, *Worship Companion*

***HYMN # 4** *Unto thy temple, Lord, we come* ROCKINGHAM OLD

PROCLAIMING

CHILDREN’S TIME (11:00) Mark Dowdy & the Puppets
Lilly Day-Miller, Eliana & Sofia Teshome, and Shylah Zepp, Puppeteers
Children of ALL ages are invited to the front of the sanctuary for a time of building upon and connecting to faith through stories and interactions.

OFFERING

Invitation ~Homiletics Online

Offertory

(8:30) We bring our tithes and offerings to the worship center.

(11:00) Ushers receive our tithes and offerings.

Tierce en Taille *Gaspard Corrett*

Prayer of Dedication ~Feasting on the Word, *Worship Companion*, adapted

***HYMN # 387** *Lord, thou dost love* PLEADING SAVIOR
(11:00) Accompanied by the YOrff Ensemble

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 27 *NRSV*

HOMILY “Thin Places of Waiting” Chris Zepp

RESPONDING

REFLECTIONS (8:30) ...a time for conversation.

LENTEN LITURGY

Call to Prayer in Song and Sign “Rescue” by Lauren Daigle
Kathy Guisewite, sign language

Silence

Invitation to Anointing

Anointing, Meditation, and Personal Prayers

Come Sunday *Duke Ellington*
Lord, dear Lord above, God Almighty, God of love,
please look down and see my people through.

Pastoral Prayers of Supplication

... concluding with *The Lord’s Prayer*

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come; thy will be done in 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.

***HYMN # 631** *Anoint us, Lord* ANOINT US, LORD

***SENDING BLESSING**

POSTLUDE (11:00) “Jesus, my joy” *J.S. Bach*

* Rise as able in body and spirit.

MEETINGS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & NURTURE

March 17-23, 2019 (All events are p.m. unless noted)

This is a church events calendar and does not include all building events use.
Please be sure to schedule ALL EVENTS through the church office.

Sun.	9 a.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
	9:30 & 10:30 a.m.	Blood Pressure Clinic	Lounge
	3:00	Memorial Service for Walt Daggett	Sanctuary
Tues.	7:00	Food Pantry	Social Hall
Wed.	2:00	Pastor's Book Study	Lounge
	5:15	Cherub Choir Rehearsal	Agape Room
	5:30	Wednesday Night Meal	Social Hall
		<i>Catered by Panera Bread</i>	
		<i>Menu: Sandwiches, Salads, Chips, Cookies</i>	
		<i>Suggested Donation: \$10 adults / \$5 kids</i>	
	5:45	Carol Choir Rehearsal	Agape Room
	6:30	Yorffs Rehearsal	Room # 35
	7:00	Board of Administration	Seekers Room
Thurs.	6:30	Puppets Rehearsal	Agape Room
	7:30	Sanctus Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
Fri.	6:00	Brethren Student Movement – Youth Room / Social Hall	
Sat.-Sun.		Senior High Youth Lock-In – Youth Room / Social Hall	

NEXT SUNDAY– March 24, 2019 – Third Sunday in Lent

Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary

Preaching: Pastor Jeff Carr

Sermon: “All Around”

Scripture: Psalm 63:1-8

Children's Worship during Worship at 11

Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m. – Choir Room

Sunday School – 9:45 a.m. – Classrooms

JMU Graduate Brass Quintet Concert – 1 p.m. – Sanctuary

BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

*An inclusive family of faith seeking to follow Jesus
and live the love of God.*

Our Mission...

As an inclusive community of faith, we commit ourselves to embody the love of God and to share our diverse lives and gifts with each other and the world. Through faith formation, worship, mission, and fellowship we boldly proclaim the peace and love of Christ. Together we work for justice, extend grace, and partner with God to offer abundant life, healing, and hope to our community and the world.

Our Values...

*Sharing life together and including all persons in our common life.
Growing in faith, compassion, and understanding.
Serving one another and our neighbor's good.
Sharing the love of God and the God that is love.*

PASTORAL MINISTRY STAFF

Jeff Carr – Senior Pastor

Chris Zepp – Associate Pastor

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITIES MINISTRY STAFF

Fortunato Correa – Custodian

Phil Flory – Treasurer

Karissa Hunt – Interim Financial Secretary

Shannon Puffenbarger – Administrative Assistant

Leon Rhodes – Head Teller

PROGRAM & MUSIC MINISTRY STAFF

Kathleen Arndt – Child Care Center Administrator

John Barr – Organist

Jim Benedict – Bell Choir Director

Josh Eye – Interim Christian Education Director

Mary Beth Flory – Pianist

Marianne Houff – Children's Choir Director

Ellsworth Neff – Sound, Light, Video Coordinator

Curtis Nolley – Sanctus Choir Director & Music Coordinator

Clarke & Hope Staton – Youth Ministry Coordinators

CONTACT INFORMATION

420 College View Drive, Bridgewater, VA 22812

www.bwcob.org / (540) 828-3711

Normal office hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-Noon, and 1-5 p.m.

SUNDAY MORNING INFORMATION & TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

HOSPITALITY CENTER in the Greeting Hall

Nametags; large-print Bibles, hymnals, & bulletins; listening receivers; and information are available here.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 a.m.

PARKING ASSISTANCE: 10:30-10:55 a.m. every Sunday.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!

Children are always welcome among us and in our corporate worship gatherings. Activity bags are available in the greeting hall for their use and enjoyment. Additionally, childcare for children ages birth to kindergarten is available as well as a "cry room" for those who wish to listen and see the worship service in a separate room from the sanctuary. Ushers are more than willing to help you locate these resources.

Decorators – Dwynn & Tony Stovall

Fellowship Host – Tim Kreps

Deacon Caregiver – Dwynn & Tony Stovall

Head Usher – Palmer Lee Berry

Pianist (8:30) – Cindy Fike

Van Driver – Wayne Angleberger

Worship Leader – Kathy Guisewite

ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP FOR SUNDAY: 3/10/19

Worship Attendance: 8:30 – 18 11:00 – 223 Sunday School:110

Pledges & Envelope Giving	\$16,215.00
Loose Offering	440.07
<i>Messenger</i> Subscriptions	30.00
Wednesday Night Meals	455.00
Nigeria EYN	100.00
Youth Programs	70.00
Journey Bags	540.00
Olive Mae Grove Memorial Fund	120.00

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

The flower arrangement on the worship center is in loving memory of Walt Daggett, shared by his family.

TODAY'S ANTHEM TEXT: *Daniel T. Taylor & Lloyd Larson*

Cross of Christ, O sacred tree, hide my sins and shelter me.
Claim or merit have I none, yet my salvation has been won!
Cross of Christ, O sacred tree, let me to thy shadow flee.
Here they mocked the Crucified, here the royal Sufferer died.
Here was shed atoning blood, here expired the Son of God.
For my soul Christ's love was poured, precious Lamb and Holy Lord.
At the cross of Christ I am restored.
Cross of Christ, O sacred tree, gift of God, love's mystery.
'Twas my sin provoked this love, matchless gift from God above.
The cross of Christ, O sacred tree, this my boast shall ever be,
That Thy blood for me was shed, that for me He groaned and bled.
Here was shed atoning blood, here expired the Son of God.
For my soul Christ's love was poured, precious Lamb and Holy Lord.
At the cross of Christ I am restored.
Cross of Christ, O sacred tree, hide my sins and shelter me.

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LIBRARY DISPLAY WINDOW

Most weeks our church library will be displaying special books in the hallway window. For the last two weeks we highlighted books new to our library and that collection is on display shelves inside the library. Look for the NEW BOOKS sign. This week's display in the window is CELEBRATING IRELAND AND GREEN BOOKS. Enjoy!

JMU GRADUATE BRASS QUINTET CONCERT

The James Madison University Graduate Brass Quintet will perform a recital in the sanctuary on Sunday, March 24, at 2 p.m. The program will feature quintet standards by Ewald and Ewazen, as well as familiar tunes such as Londonderry Air and Shenandoah. This recital is free and fun for all ages. The quintet personnel consists of:

John Nye and Shelby Carico, *trumpets*

Josh Almond, *horn*

Kyle Remnant, *trombone*

Ozzy Juarez, *tuba*

Psalm 27
Triumphant Song of Confidence
Of David.

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold^[a] of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

² When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh—
my adversaries and foes—
they shall stumble and fall.

³ Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.

⁴ One thing I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD,
and to inquire in his temple.

⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.

⁶ Now my head is lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

⁷ Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud,
be gracious to me and answer me!

⁸ “Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!”
Your face, LORD, do I seek.

⁹ Do not hide your face from me.

Do not turn your servant away in anger,
you who have been my help.

Do not cast me off, do not forsake me,
O God of my salvation!

¹⁰ If my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will take me up.

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD,
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.

¹² Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they are breathing out violence.

¹³ I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.

¹⁴ Wait for the LORD;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!