

If you have a prayer request, please forward the request to the church office. We will include it on the prayer request list for a month, unless you request for us to leave it on longer.

Thanks to our choir for leading music this morning!

#### Mission Partners and Liaisons

##### Local: HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS

ForKids - Marie Finch  
 St. Columba - Alice Allen-Grimes  
 St. Mary's Soup Kitchen - Larry Hull  
 LAUNCH Ministry - Joe Morgan  
 The Norfolk Street Choir Project - Rich Voter

##### Local: OUTREACH & INCLUSION

Faith Inclusion Network - Lori Crouch  
 YOURS - Larry Hull  
 Tidewater Pastoral Counseling Services - Catherine Hart Monroe

##### INTERNATIONAL

Ben Seidl in Germany - Craig Wansink  
 Jenn West in Ireland - Paul West  
 The Jungs in East Asia - Roz Klein  
 Our Partners in M.E. - Mark Erickson

#### 2024 Session and Ministry Teams

Larry Hull, Clerk of Session

##### DISCIPLESHIP

Lynn Ruehlmann  
 Erin Todd  
 Lisa Dubey  
 Sandy Simmermon  
 Peggy Haile McPhillips

##### MISSION

Tami Ndahi  
 Mark Erickson  
 Chris Siemering

##### ADMINISTRATION

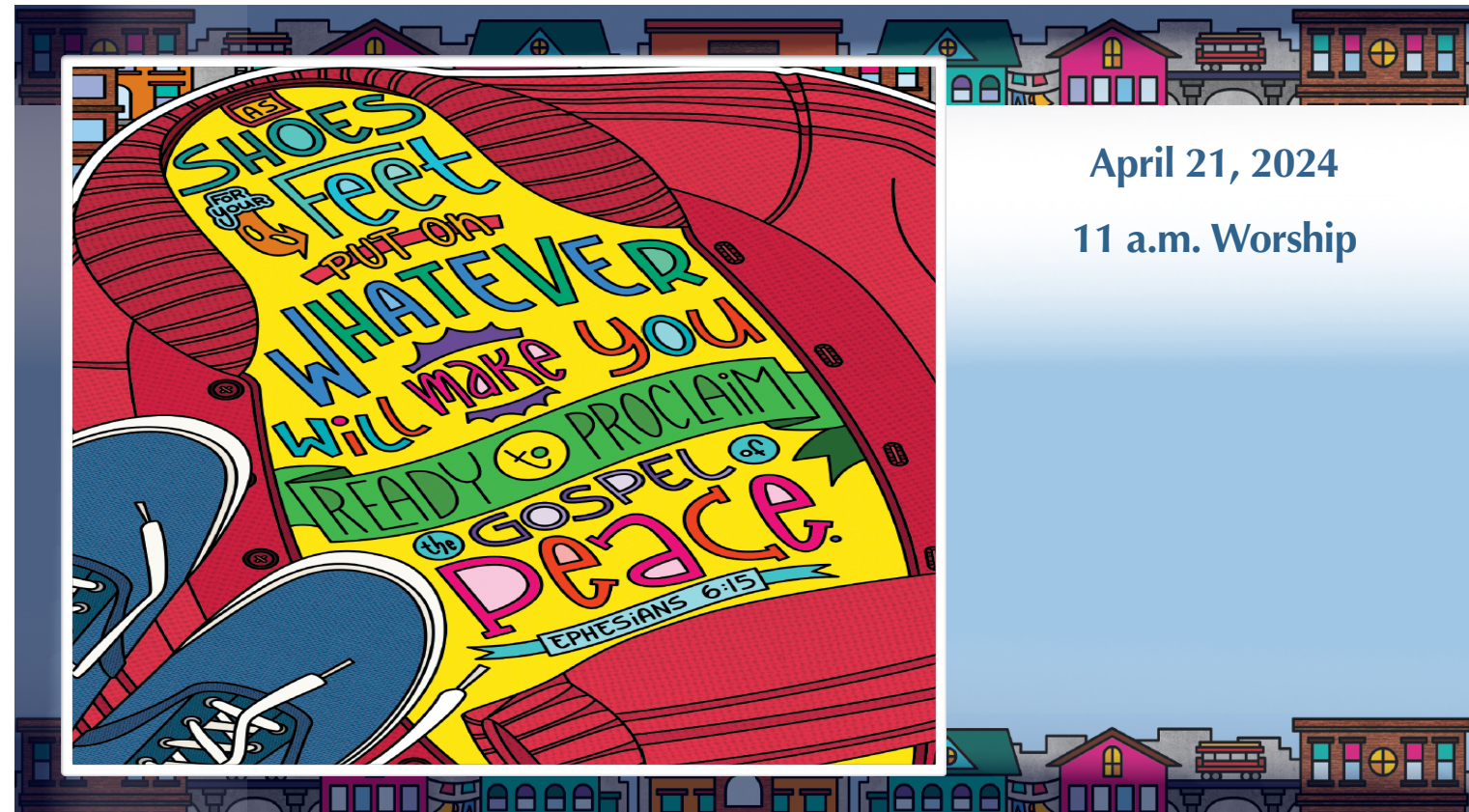
Philip Byrd  
 Wendy Horner  
 Sam Stearns  
 Rich Voter

#### Staff

Dr. Craig Wansink, Senior Pastor  
 Rev. Catherine Hart Monroe, Covenant Associate Pastor  
 Rev. Nancy Rowland, Parish Associate  
 Robert Shoup, Director of Music  
 Jo Kolb, Director of Communication & Administration  
 Andrea Franklin Matheson, Coordinator of Intergenerational Outreach  
 Tom Libbey, Facility Manager  
 Joe Morgan, Maintenance Specialist  
 Barbara Watson, Housekeeper and Host

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April 21, 2024  
 11 a.m. Worship

**Chiming** Ringing of the bells indicates the beginning of worship.

## We Gather In Need of the Risen Christ

### Gathering in Musical Meditation

“When We Are Living”  
 Traditional Mexican, arr. Shoup

### Opening Prayer (inspired by Matthew 5:43-48)

Holy Jesus,

You call us into a life that others have told us is easy, but it is not.

You challenge us to forgive, to love our enemies, to bless those who curse us.

We want the easy way, but you have given us the hard path.

Grant us the patience and endurance to journey with you,

to allow ourselves at times to stumble, to live into the hard way

so that we might fully experience your love, grace, and peace in this world,

by becoming a people full of love and grace. Amen.

### Welcome

\*Passing the Peace



# We Recognize Our Need to Grow Closer to God

## \*Singing Our Faith Together

No. 251 "The Church's One Foundation"  
*Verses 1, 3, and 4*

## \*Confessing our Sin

When we allow darkness to overcome the light,  
**forgive us.**

When we let disorder reign and anger flourish,  
**move us to seek peace for all**

We confess our sinfulness before you and before each other.  
**Remove all barriers that divide us.**  
**Let there be no obstacle to our love for you**  
**and for one another. Amen.**

*We sing together:*

**Make me a channel of your peace.**  
**It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,**  
**In giving of ourselves that we receive,**  
**And in dying that we're born to eternal life.**

## \*Receiving Grace

There is one fact that will never change: God has loved all of us in the past. God loves each of us now, and will love us for all time. This is the Good News that brings new life.

**Thanks be to God.**

# We Hear the Word

## Time of Discovery

## Message

"Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace": A Look at Our Purpose  
Matthew 5:9, 21-26

Dr. Craig Wansink

# We Respond in Humility

## Meditating on our Faith

"The Prayer of St. Francis"  
By René Clausen

## Mission and Ministry of the Church

## Offering Gratitude

*As you offer thanks for God's presence in your life,*  
*and as you try to be an agent of peace in the world,*  
*write down one way in which you can first seek to bring peace into your own life.*

*Please fold that paper, put it in the black basket in your pew, after which baskets will be brought forward as an offering. These responses will be both read by the pastoral staff and prayed over.*

*Thank you for all of the ways you share your time, life, and finances on behalf of the mission of this church family. Please feel free to financially support us by sharing your gifts in the baskets up front.*

## Prayers of the People and 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 forever. Amen.**

## \*Singing Our Faith Together

No. 452 "When We Are Living"  
*"... we belong to God..."*

# We Depart in Joy

## \*Benediction

Don't let people pull you into their storm. Pull them into your peace. Go into the world, blessed by the guidance of God, the humility of Jesus Christ, and the power of the holy spirit. **Amen.**

"Fear imprisons,  
faith liberates;

fear paralyzes,  
faith empowers;

fear disheartens,  
faith encourages;

fear sickens,  
faith heals;

fear makes  
useless,  
faith makes  
serviceable."

—Harry Emerson  
Fosdick

"Peace of heart  
lies in perfect  
resignation to the  
will of God.  
What you need  
is true simplicity,  
a certain  
calmness of spirit  
which comes  
from entire  
surrender to all  
that God wills,  
patience and  
toleration for your  
neighbor's faults,  
and a certain  
candor and  
childlike docility  
in acknowledging  
your own faults."

—Francois  
Fenelon

"Peacemaking  
doesn't mean  
passivity.  
It is the act of  
interrupting  
injustice without  
mirroring  
injustice,  
the act of  
disarming evil  
without  
destroying the  
evildoer,  
the act of finding  
a third way  
that is neither  
fight nor flight  
but the careful  
arduous pursuit  
of reconciliation  
and justice."

—Shane  
Claiborne

"In the absence of  
peace and love,  
we teach war  
and hate as an  
escape from  
the problems  
we are too lazy  
to solve."

— unknown