

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CONNECTIONS—We welcome all who attend as our honored guests. Please complete the Connections Card in the pew if you are new. You may drop it off at the Connections Desk or place it in the offering. Stop by the Connections Desk to allow us to welcome you to our church.

SOUL FOOD ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL—Class will be held in the Parlor studying Colossians.

SUMMER MISSIONS MEETING—TODAY following Sunday School/Soul Food in the Youth Room ASP June 23-29 All adults and children who are interested in joining our Summer Mission Trip this summer, are encouraged to attend an information meeting. Please RSVP to Julian Hague at: youth@fcfchurch.org. Please note the time change due to the Ravens/Chiefs football game.

ELDER AND DEACON NOMINATIONS—TODAY is the last day to submit nominations for the offices of Elder and Deacon. Stop by the Connections Desk today to complete a form and see the list of the current officers. Being nominated does not obligate you to serve as an Elder or Deacon, it just begins the process of training for the offices of Elder & Deacon.

CHURCHWIDE PRAYER/FAST WEEK—Monday-Sunday Our annual churchwide prayer/fasting week begins tomorrow continuing through Sunday. Prayer guides have been emailed. If you would like a paper copy, they are available today at the Connections Desk. Join us in praying for our Faith family, neighborhood and the world.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & POTLUCK—Sunday, February 4 following worship We will have a Congregational Meeting after worship. There will be NO Sunday School or Soul Food. Following the meeting, we will have a Potluck together in the Fellowship Hall. Please plan to bring a dish to share with the following guidance according to your last name: A-L side/dessert M-Z Main dish.

ATTENTION LADIES—The FCF Women’s Leadership Team wants to know about women’s activities you’d be interested in seeing more . Please take a few minutes to complete their survey, which you can access via the QR code on the accompanying slide or via paper copy at the Connections desk. Submit it electronically or leave it at the Connections Desk **by February 4, 2024**. If you have any questions, please see Chrissy Walsh or Mary Ellen Castle. Thank you!

SPRING DISCOVER FAITH—Sundays April 14, 21, 28 following worship Save the dates if you are interested in learning more about who we are, what we do and why as a Faith family.



To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest, to all who mourn and long for comfort, to all who struggle and desire victory, to all who sin and need a Savior, to all who are strangers and want fellowship, to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness, and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.



FAITH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MISSION-VISION

***Celebrating** the reconciling work of Jesus Christ, **Building** grace-filled disciples,
Serving Pen Lucy, Baltimore and the world.*

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America.

505 E. 42nd Street, Baltimore, MD 21218 Phone: 410.323.0202 Email: fcfoffice@fcfchurch.org

Pastor J.B. Watkins —Senior Pastor

We have LARGE print and braille Bibles. See an Usher if you are interested.

A full listing of all our servant leaders is available at the Connections Desk in the lobby.

Session Email: session@fcfchurch.org; Deacons Email: deacons@fcfchurch.org; Facebook: Fb.me/fcfchurchbaltimore

Calendar and materials from Sunday services are available online at www.fcfchurch.org

Sunday, January 28, 2024
Order of Service

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS—Elder Simon Ocailap

CALL TO WORSHIP—From Psalm 143
Leader: “Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!
People: Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you.
Leader: Make me know the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul. I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands.
All: Teach me to do your will, for you are my God! Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!”

SONGS OF PRAISE—Holy Forever; Firm Foundation (He Won’t)

CORPORATE PRAYER—Arlette Lindsay

SONG OF ADORATION—Goodness of God

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING—Nehemiah 1:1-11

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING—Ephesians 4:1-6

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN—Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Amen. *Moment of Silence for Personal Confessions.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON—Leader: Church, hear the Good News! The blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. People: AMEN!

PLAN UPDATE—Gerry Sütter/TITHES & OFFERINGS—”Praise” United Voices of Faith

FRIENDS OF JESUS

Sermon Notes

SERMON “Repentance & Forgiveness” Luke 18:9-14 Pastor JB Watkins

Luke 18:9-14
Text = “9 He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: 10 “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ 13 But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Faith Unity Declaration:
We acknowledge that great transgressions based on race, gender, class and faith have tragically marked our life together as a human family throughout the history of the world and this nation. While the Church has pursued justice and reconciliation, regrettably it has often participated in this sin through active support or indifference. We join with those believers who confess that true reconciliation cannot be realized without a commitment to repentance, forgiveness and the pursuit of justice. Nehemiah 1:4–11; Daniel 9:4–19; Ephesians 4:1–6, 32; Philippians 2:1–11; Acts 6:1–7

A Prayer to Receive and Rest on Jesus Christ for Salvation
“Heavenly Father, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through your Son Jesus, I can be more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. Jesus, I thank you that you lived the life I should have lived, and paid the debt and punishment I owed by dying on the cross for me. Receive me now. I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior. Amen.”
If you have made a decision to trust in Jesus Christ for your salvation please let any member, usher or leader know so that we might assist you in your spiritual growth as a new believer.