



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 13, 2020

MEDITATION

“Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. . . . If, in this life only, we have hope in Christ, we are of all people the most miserable. Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard the things which God hath prepared for those who love him.” What samples of God’s love in Creation all around us! Even in the city, the changing sky, the trees, frail though they may be, which prisoners grow on Rikers Island, to be planted around the city, bear witness. People — all humankind, in some way. “In the beginning God created heaven and earth.” Looking out over the bay, the gulls, the “paths in the sea,” the tiny ripples stirring a patch of water here and there, the reflections of clouds on the surface — how beautiful it all is.

Alone all day. A sudden storm in the night. Vast, dark clouds and a glaring lightning flash with thunder. No rain. Reading *Dr. Zhivago* a second time.”

Dorothy Day (1897-1980)

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on *Lobe den Herren*
“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Johann Gottfried Walther
(1684-1748)

Jason Kissel, *organist*

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**O God, you are infinite,
eternal and unchangeable,
glorious in holiness,
full of love and compassion,
abundant in grace and truth.
Your works everywhere praise you,
and your glory is revealed
in Jesus Christ our Savior.
Therefore we praise you,
blessed and holy Trinity,
one God, forever and ever.**

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE 115

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

ST. KEVIN

1. Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - um - phant glad - ness;
2. 'Tis the spring of souls to - day; Christ hath burst His pris - on,

God hath brought forth Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness;
And from three days' sleep in death As a sun hath ris - en.

Loosed from Phar - aoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;
Now re - joice, Je - ru - sa - lem, And with true af - fec - tion

Led them, with un - moist - ened foot, Through the Red Sea wa - ters.
Wel - come in un - wea - ried strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!

CONFESSION

Words of the confession will appear in the video

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged^[a] their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

ANTHEM

He Watching Over Israel (from *Elijah*)

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

*Recorded during a service of worship in 1999 by the
Chancel Choir of ShadySide Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
Jason Kissel, organist, with John Goldsmith, conductor.*

He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps.
Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, He will quicken thee.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Numbers 14:1-4

Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the people wept that night. And all the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron; the whole congregation said to them, "Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness! Why is the LORD bringing us into this land to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become booty; would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?" So they said to one another, "Let us choose a captain, and go back to Egypt."

SERMON

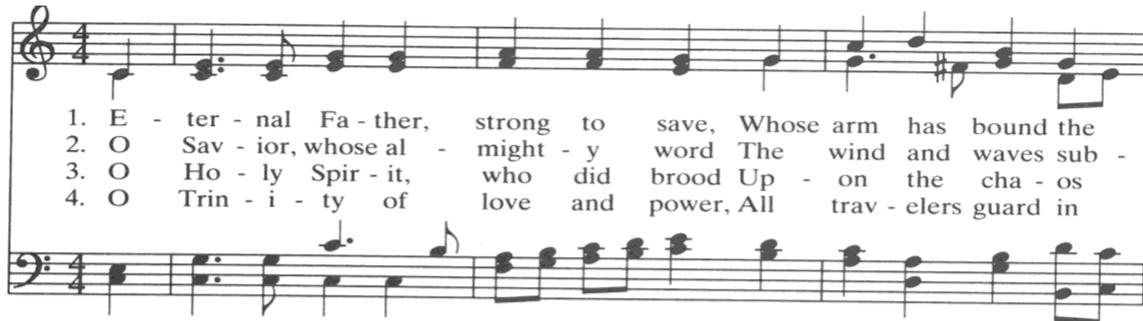
A Dialogue on Power, Politics, and Race

Rev. Rob Hoch

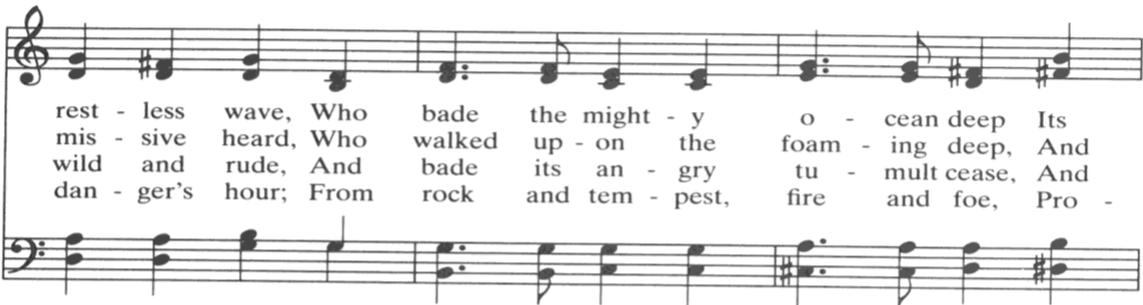
with Revs. Karen Brown, Andrew Foster Connors, Michael Moore, and Keith Paige

HYMN OF RESPONSE 562

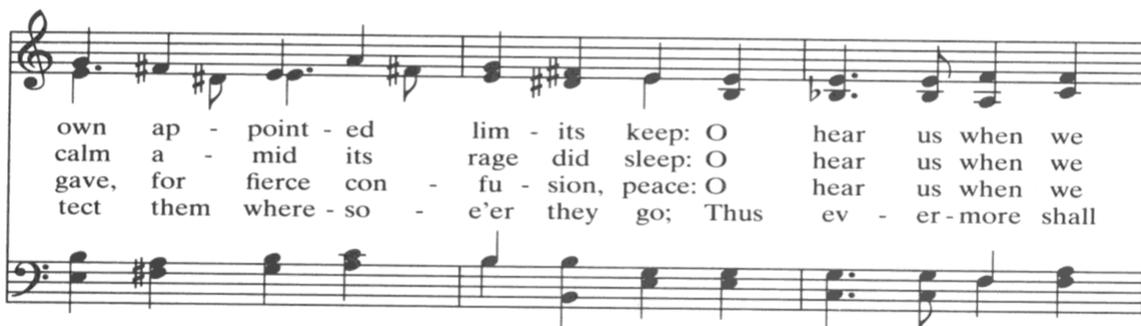
MELITA



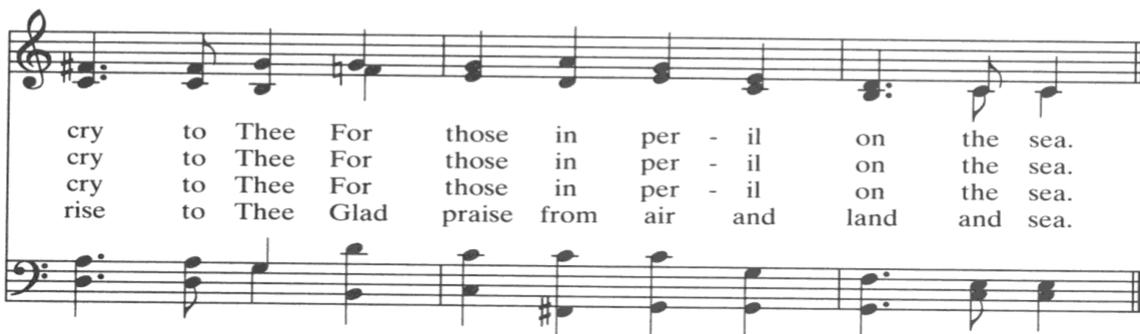
1. E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, Whose arm has bound the
2. O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word The wind and waves sub -
3. O Ho - ly Spir - it, who did brood Up - on the cha - os
4. O Trin - i - ty of love and power, All trav - elers guard in



rest - less wave, Who bade the might - y o - cean deep Its
mis - sive heard, Who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, And
wild and rude, And bade its an - gry tu - mult cease, And
dan - ger's hour; From rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, Pro -



own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we
calm a - mid its rage did sleep: O hear us when we
gave, for fierce con - fu - sion, peace: O hear us when we
tect them where - so - e'er they go; Thus ev - er - more shall



cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.
cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.
cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.
rise to Thee Glad praise from air and land and sea.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please use the chat forum to enter your prayers and we will share those as a part of our communal worship.

O God, in your mercy.

Hear our prayers.

PURPLE RIBBON LIST

09/05/2020	James Brown	28	Male	White
09/05/2020	Melissa Hefty	39	Female	Black
09/05/2020	Jarron Johnson	38	Male	Black
09/08/2020	Troy Poindexter	41	Male	Black
09/08/2020	Shaheed Carter	37	Male	Black
09/08/2020	DeAndre Davis	31	Male	Black
09/09/2020	Arnay McLean	20	Male	Black
09/09/2020	Tywon Rounds	19	Male	Black
09/09/2020	Malique Georges	21	Male	Black
09/10/2020	Dominique Whitby	24	Male	Black
09/10/2020	Deion Jenkins	24	Male	Black
09/10/2020	Khaleb Shaw	1	Male	Black

Each ribbon represents a life lost to homicide in Baltimore City. We name them each week and hang a purple ribbon on the outside of Park Ave. to remind us to pray for the perpetrators of these acts of violence, and to remind us of our calling to challenge the systemic injustices of our time.

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.**

OFFERTORY

See invitation to give in the Chat Box on Zoom and Facebook Live.

If you wish to give via Paypal, you will need to open a new tab on your browser.

If you need assistance please request help from either of our E-Ushers:

Allie Pyan alexandra.pyan@gmail.com or Sabrina Schlosser Schumann ssschuma@gmail.com

If you would like to give your offering by mail, please send to the church office at First & Franklin Presbyterian Church, 210 West Madison Street, Baltimore MD 21201. Offerings will be processed weekly.

AT THE OFFERTORY

This Little Light of Mine (from *Five Spirituals for Organ*)

arr. Calvin Taylor
(b. 1948)

Jason Kissel, organ

DOXOLOGY 591

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Phil Adams

Merciful and gracious God, time and again, in the Bible and in the stories of our lives, we learn of the prodigious and persistent nature of your love for each of us, for humanity, and for all creation. As grateful recipients and led by your example, we are moved to respond and so we offer these heartfelt gifts of time, talent, and tithe born from your blessings. Sanctify them and send the Spirit of Wisdom to guide us in their use so that we share the good news of your love and light not only with our mouths, but also with our hearts and hands as we strive to live together, respectful of each other and our planet. We ask these things in the name of the risen Christ, our guide and mentor, Amen.

SENDING HYMN 281

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

1. Guide me, O Thou great Je - ho - vah, Pil - grim through this
 2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, Whence the heal - ing
 3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but Thou art might - y; Hold me
 stream doth flow; Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar Lead me
 fears sub - side; Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, Land me

with Thy power - ful hand; Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through; Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side; Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

Feed me till I want no more, Feed me till I want no more.
 Be Thou still my strength and shield, Be Thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to Thee, I will ev - er give to Thee.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

God of Grace (Improvisation on *Cwm Rhondda*)

Paul Manz
(1919-2009)

FELLOWSHIP

GROUP MEETING FOR CHURCH BEYOND THE BUILDING

Giving at First & Franklin Presbyterian Church

The ministry of the First & Franklin Church depends on your generous giving, especially in these difficult times. Click the link to give your offering: [GIVE](#). Please consider using an "automatic payment" for your church giving, or mail your offering to the church office at 210 West Madison Street, Baltimore, MD 21201. Your gifts will be processed by the church office.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Rob Hoch, *Pastor*

with Revs. Karen Brown, Andrew Foster Connors, Michael Moore, and Keith Paige

Jason Kissel, *Organist*

Taylor Brooks, *Tech Support*

Marianne Shick, *soprano, hymn leader*

The First & Franklin Sanctuary Choir, *anthem recordings*

*Pastor Rob's schedule runs from Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
(not including Sunday). To meet with Rob, please set up an appointment.*

CONGREGATION GIVING

September 2, 2020	\$ 2623.00
September 8, 2020	\$ 2349.00
PayPal Sept. (to date)	\$ 597.00

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

DON'T MISS IT!

Today, following worship, we will be gathering in our “fellowship” time for an important conversation about the “church beyond the building” – here are the questions we’ll be discussing:

- What makes First and Franklin who we are? What is our identity?
- Which of those qualities is/are most important? What is it that draws you to participate at First and Franklin when you have a choice of many other churches?
- How might we be a church in a different way or space – what options might be available to us? This will be a brain-storming activity with a “no fault-finding” ground rule – we simply want to develop a list of options without listing why they wouldn’t work.
- Given what we think is important and our list of options, how could we try to maintain what is important while pursuing another model – what issues would need to be addressed?

BE B'MORE HUMAN | “Race, Power, and Politics” September 16, 2020 6:30 p.m. and “Townhall” on September 19, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

If you were intrigued by today’s message, please join us on Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. by way of Zoom. In the Loop Presbyterian churches drew this theme from the NYT series, “1619” (get it? September 16 and September 19!). Check out the flyer at the end of today’s bulletin. Please follow the link <https://baltimorepresbytery.org/events/1619-dialogue/> to register for “Race, Power, and Politics: What do We Need to Talk About?” and the Townhall (<http://baltimorepresbytery.org/events/1619-project-town-hall/>). Our pastor, Rev. Rob Hoch, will be a member of Wednesday’s panel.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR OFFERINGS

As we all recognize real concerns for our friends who will experience hardships through this disruption in regular routines, so too, we need to be mindful that your weekly contributions are critical to helping us maintain the financial obligations of the church. Payroll, mortgages, electricity and the rest are needs we must continue to cover, and your continued support of your pledges will be even more important while we are tele-worshipping. In addition to accepting your pledges by mail to the church office, we have recently added a PayPal link to the top of our new website which will allow us to process donations with this link: **GIVE**. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

A NOTE FROM MINISTER OF MUSIC & ORGANIST, JASON KISSEL

As some of you know, Doug Heist, former Organist at Catonsville Presbyterian Church (CPC) died suddenly on July 19, 2020. Doug was a dedicated and beloved church musician, and the CPC community mourns his passing. The church organ has remained silent since his death, as part of a memorial tribute to his life and work. As the CPC congregation prepares for the beginning of a new program year, they have asked if I would serve as their Interim Organist for a brief period of time, beginning Sunday, September 13. CPC records their services of worship on Saturdays, and has no other time requirement that would interfere with my responsibilities at First & Franklin. After consulting with and receiving no objections from our Session, I have agreed to help CPC. Much like First & Franklin, CPC is a loving, God-centered community of faith, actively working to dismantle racism and advocating for peace and justice. I look

forward to helping CPC through their transition, and to seeing how our two music ministries might work together in the future!

Thank you for your support.

REMINDER FROM FIRST & FRANKLIN'S DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN ARTS AND EDUCATION

I hope all of the friends and members of First & Franklin Presbyterian have had a good summer. Starting today, our multi-age church class will meet each Sunday at 9:00 A.M during the fall and perhaps the winter season by way of ZOOM Meetings. Using Reformation Press lessons as our foundation for study, we will continue to learn how the love of God plays the utmost part in our everyday life. This year we will again explore God's words in a variety of ways. Art lessons are an integral part of our time together.

I am excited to meet each week with the Multi-age class, as they love to learn about the Lord! If members of the congregation know of any young children who might profit from joining us please have the families contact Deborah McCrimmon at either 516-761-2412 or deborah_mccrimmon@fa.org. Again, I am happy about teaching and learning in this new season.

THEOLOGY ON TAP | SEPTEMBER 24 | 7:00 PM

Theology on Tap has just begun a study of the Book of Ruth. Ruth has sometimes been described as a love story — a love story between Ruth and Boaz, or a love story between Naomi and Ruth, or perhaps a love story between God and the human family. It's probably all of the above. And like all good love stories, it seems like it's just chance; and like all good love stories, it feels like it was destined to be. We hope you can join us at . . .

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89007664995>

Meeting ID: 890 0766 4995

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,89007664995# US (Germantown)

+13126266799,,89007664995# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 890 0766 4995

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcPm7sDo6q>

THE SPIRE SERIES

Do you know that First & Franklin has a YouTube page? There, you may view performances from the 2020 summer series of mini concerts, all recorded live in First & Franklin's sanctuary. You may also revisit last May's virtual piano marathon concert! Here is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2QwYlynh7VYhxAYt-9cm2g>

You can also view the August Spire Series recordings on Facebook.

MORNING PRAYER | 7:00am

Please join us online: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays

Zoom Event Click: [MORNING PRAYER](#)

You can also follow the prayers and meditations by going to the following page on our website:

<https://www.firstfranklin.org/category/prayers-and-meditations/>

PANDEMIC 2020 | EXTENDED to Sept. 30th!

Through the Lens of the Prophets -- Steady. Aim. Click! -- Everyone is invited to participate!

Back in 2016, we invited you to sharpen your "lens" of signs of God. Now in 2020, as we pass the 100+ day mark and head into the second half the year, the global pandemic has many of us quarantined in our own little worlds without too much human interaction except by Zoom or phone. Even in our isolation we believe that there are signs of God all around us, and maybe even more so now that our minds are less distracted and our eyes are open. We invite you to grab your camera and see and share your interpretation of God's presence in the world. Be surprised and open to God-sightings and God-sighs in the world around you.

EXTENDED through September 30, 2020, send your photos* via email to: spire_series@verizon.net

*Submitting a photo and text means you agree to allow us to use your photo, name and text on social media.

Please include your name, the date and location of the picture, and 2-3 short sentences you would like to share about your inspiration or how you "see" God in the picture. ONE PICTURE PER PERSON please.

Watch our First & Franklin Facebook page for reminders and maybe a peek at some of the photographs we have received. We will put together a slideshow to showcase all of the submissions.

FOOD PANTRY AT FIRST & FRANKLIN

The word is getting out in our neighborhood that the First and Franklin Presbyterian Church has a pantry. When we arrive to open on Saturdays, we are now greeted by neighbors who are in need of food. The weekly count of bags has jumped from 3 to 18 and we expect the numbers to rise as government funds end.

In each grocery bag we pack food for breakfast, peanut butter and jelly (a good source of protein) for lunch, the makings for a balanced dinner such as beans and rice, pasta and sauce, canned meat, soup, vegetables, and fruit, and a paper good. If there is room left in the bag, we are now adding a little fun food, such as pop corn or cookies, for everyone enjoys a treat.

Thank you to Mark Corser for donating 250 canvas bags which has made the transport of groceries easier. Your generosity has been greatly appreciated by our neighbors.

Contributions of shelf stable foods can be brought to Reid Chapel every Saturday between noon and 2:00 p.m. If shopping is difficult for you, monetary donations earmarked food pantry may be sent to the church and we will shop for you.

Foods we are currently low in are:

Apple sauce, canned fruit and dried fruit

Rice and beans

Peanut butter and jelly

Cereal and canned or dry milk

Tuna fish and canned meats

Spaghetti

Soup

Canned corn (and other vegetables)

Popcorn and cookies

How else can you help? We need volunteers to help collect and distribute food every Saturday. Sabrina Schumann is coordinating the volunteers. You may reach her by email at ssschuma@gmail.com or phone 240-481-6929. You can also help by spreading the word to those you know who are facing food insecurity.

Thank you,

The Peacemaking Committee

DID YOU MISS A SUNDAY?

Or did you want to re-visit a particular sermon from our congregational life?

Please visit: [Sermons](#)

NEED TECH HELP? OR SOME EXTRA SUPPORT AROUND ACCESSING OUR ONLINE SERVICES?

Please call Taylor Brooks and he'll set up a time to visit with you about your tech needs. His contact information is below:

Taylor Brooks, Audio Engineer/Electronic Gizmo Wunderkind

Contact by phone or email: 336-341-2294

asoundresource@gmail.com

HELLO BALTIMORE VOTES!

On July 8, Governor Hogan declared that all voters need to request a mail-in ballot if they plan to vote by mail in the upcoming election. This is a big departure from the Primary Election, when all active voters were automatically mailed a ballot.

You can beat the rush by requesting your mail-in ballot now. It takes five minutes! (We timed it.)

[Request your ballot now](#)

Don't have a state issued ID? [Use this form](#) and submit it by mail or email.

¿Hablas español? [Use the Spanish language form.](#)

A couple things to keep in mind:

- If you request a mail-in ballot, you must use it. You will be given a provisional ballot if you change your mind and vote in person.
- Request a ballot early. Local Boards of Elections have already said that [they are worried about being able to process ballot requests](#) submitted close to the election. Get ahead of the game and get your request in early.
- Ask for a paper ballot. Ballots that have been printed at home will need to be copied by hand, which slows down how long it takes to count votes. Opt for mail delivery unless you plan on using assistive technology to mark your internet delivery ballot.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Prayers from 8/30/2020

Prayers for all the Baltimore students and teacher who begin their new educational journey via Zoom, socially distanced classrooms and a combo of the two. [Sarah]

Thanksgiving for Jason and Taylor in coordinating our Spire Series August concerts. [Beth]

For our nation. Healing for our wounds and refreshing of justice and increasing our sense of accountability. [Susan]

Praise God for the safe arrival of Isabelle Mae Wiggins – Sabrina's new niece and for the gentle recovery of her mother. [Sabrina]

Prayers for the family and friends of Chadwick Boseman. May he RIP. [Corena]

Prayers for Betty's brother, David, as he undergoes medical testing. [Betty]

Prayers for our brothers and sisters in Taguasco. [Betty]

Prayer for our friend, Ty, 12 years old, who is waiting for medical news after a seizure. [Beth]

Prayers to the Mt. Vernon community and the Borkman family whose daughter Diane passed away from Covid-19. [Randy]

For the survivors of all the major storms lately. [Marla]

Thanksgiving for the return of Kara and Lee!

Prayers for Becca's father whose dementia is increasing, and for her sister, a nurse practitioner who is stressed by the pandemic in Texas. [Steve]

Prayers of thanksgiving for all those who continue to make regular contributions to the church in order to sustain our staff, buildings and missions. [Beth]

Prayers from 8/23/2020

Prayers for Joan Gordon as she undergoes medical testing.

Prayers for Marie who is undergoing chemo for lung cancer. [Paul]

For Frank and Karen Taylor as he enters rehab after a fall. [Susan]

Thanksgiving for the healing of David Dadds.

Prayers for all those experiencing the devastating fires throughout California.

Prayers of thanks for Andrew & Jessica who welcomed their first child, Liza. And for Jon & Emily welcoming their first child. [Mike]

Prayers for the Mt. Vernon community. [Randy]

Prayers for Bruce who has lost his way. [Bob]

Prayers for all those in the path of storms Laura & Marco. [Beth]



In The Loop Ministry Group
of The Presbytery of Baltimore

B'MoreNTheLoop

B'more Human: A Dialogue About the Legacy of Racial Injustice

Based on NYT 1619 Project — Before the session on the 16th,
Read the NYT article, [“The Idea of America,”](#) by Nikole Hannah-Jones
or [Listen to the Podcast](#)

***“Power, Politics, and Race:
What Do WE Need to Talk About?”***

September 16, 2020

Zoom Interview with In the Loop Pastors

6:30 - 8:00 pm

[Register in advance for this meeting](#)

September 19, 2020

Zoom Townhall & Small Group Discussions

6:30 - 8:00 pm

[Register in advance for this meeting](#)

For more information,
call The Hunting Ridge Presbyterian Church 410-566-2926