



INTER-FAITH CHAPEL WORSHIP SERVICE

Mother's Day

May 12, 2024

SILENT MEDITATION

What if I can speak eloquently, with large words at my disposal in my vocabulary? What if I have multiple academic degrees, have had a powerful and significant career, and have experienced traveling to exotic lands, but I live without love? Well then, anything I say or have experienced is just trivial. If I do not live in love, I accumulate nothing but selfish acts and gain nothing but a sense of self-importance. ... Faith, hope, and love: these three virtues must characterize our lives. The greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13 (adapted from "The Voice")

PRELUDE

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing
Dr. Holly Oberle, Director of Music

Powell

WORDS OF WELCOME

Dr. Woodie Rea

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

INTROIT

Cradle Me in Your Arms
Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: You reach out to us, O seeking God.

ALL: With a mother's love and a father's patience.

Leader: You touch our lives with your healing love.

ALL: With a mother's tender care and a father's stronghold.

Leader: You teach us and call us to service beyond ourselves.

ALL: With a mother's wise words and a father's affirmation.

Leader: You have gathered us together that we might appreciate one another.

ALL: You have gathered us together to love and care for each other.

Praise be to God who calls us to be a family of faith.

Let us worship God who calls us into a community of love.

INVOCATION

✦ OPENING HYMN

Faith of Our Mothers

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Barbara Beale

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of love, on this day there are many things on our minds and in our hearts. For some, today is a glad day of celebration of motherhood; but for others, it is a day of confusion and awkwardness. For some, the focus is on family; but for others, thoughts of family bring back painful memories. Forgive us when we think that *our* celebration and joy should be *everyone's* celebration. Forgive us when we are insensitive to the emotions of others. Help us to look for ways of providing healing love and nurturing hope to all those around us. Hear our prayer and forgive us this day. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

✦ AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that God gives breath to our lives.

We believe that God's love is present in our hearts.

We believe God's care sustains us in each moment.

We believe God's compassion guides us in each situation.

As a mother protects her children, we affirm that you provide safety for us.

As a mother forgives her children, we affirm that you offer grace to us.

As a mother calls her children, we affirm that you offer welcome for all of us.

As a mother longs for her children to be reconciled with their siblings,

We acknowledge that you desire harmony and unity for all of us.

We, your daughters and sons, affirm our faith and

We confirm our commitment to love others as you have loved us. Amen.

✦ GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

World without end. Amen. Amen.

✦ You are invited to stand as you are comfortable.

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Faith of Our Mothers

1. Faith of our moth - ers, liv - ing still, fresh in our mem - ories,
 2. Faith of our moth - ers, hop - ing still, pray - ing for ev - ery
 3. Faith of our moth - ers, lov - ing still, trust - ing the truth of

held in our hearts Here or in heav - en, their deeds live on,
 daugh - ter and son, build - ing us up as a fam - ily in Christ,
 kind - ness and grace, shar - ing God's Spir - it in ser - vice and strength,

spread - ing the joy God's love im - parts.
 work - ing that we may all be one. Faith of our moth - ers,
 liv - ing life well, and run - ning faith's race.

ho - ly faith! We will be true to thee till death.

WORDS: Lawrence A. Wik, 2013
 MUSIC: Henri F. Hemy, 1864, adapt. by James G. Walton, 1874

ST. CATHERINE
 88.88.88

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SCRIPTURE READING

John 17: 6-19

PASTORAL PRAYER / 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

Christ Hath a Garden
Chancel Choir

Near

SERMON

“The Mother Load”

Dr. Woodie Rea

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

In Thee is Gladness
Dr. Holly Oberle, Organist

Wagner

✠ DOXOLOGY

(Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

✠ CLOSING HYMN

Standing in the Need of Prayer

✠ BENEDICTION

✠ BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Tune: Ar Hyd Y Nos

**Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.**

✠ POSTLUDE

Jesus Shall Reign
Dr. Holly Oberle, Director of Music

Williamson

Standing in the Need of Prayer

Refrain

It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, stand-ing in the

need of prayer. It's me (it's me), it's

(Hal - le - lu - jah, Lord, it's me!)

Fine

me, O Lord, stand-ing in the need of prayer.

1. Not my broth - er, not my sis - ter, but it's

me, O Lord, stand-ing in the need of prayer.

Not my broth - er, not my sis - ter, but it's

D.C.

me, O Lord, stand-ing in the need of prayer.

2. Not the preacher, not the deacon,
3. Not my father, not my mother,

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

We are delighted that you are with us today! The Inter-Faith Chapel is dedicated to serving as “*A House of Prayer for All People.*” While we worship and gather as a Christian congregation, we welcome people of all backgrounds, believing that we are all beloved children of God and able to enrich one another’s spiritual paths. We invite you to share with us on this journey.

GREETINGS TO VISITORS

We extend a special welcome to our visitors and hope that you will return to be with us again soon. Please sign the *Visitor Register* next to our Sanctuary doors so that we might have a record of you being with us today. As you do, please take an Inter-Faith Chapel mug as our small gift and pick up a copy of our *Courier* newsletter that you might be informed of upcoming events in our faith community.

NEW MEMBER / AFFILIATE REGISTER

If you are interested in joining The Inter-Faith Chapel, or in learning more about us, please let us know by signing the *Member / Affiliate Register* (located in the Narthex on the desk next to the coat room). We look forward to being in touch with you.

WEAR RED FOR PENTECOST

Next Sunday is the Day of Pentecost (50 days after Easter). It is a day when we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit and is often called the “birthday” of the church. In honor of this joyous occasion, we invite you to wear red on Pentecost Sunday to remind us of the presence of the Holy Spirit in our community and symbolizing the tongues of flame that appeared above those who were assembled on the original Pentecost (Acts 2:3).

BIBLE STUDY

Dr. Ramonia Lee will be leading an ongoing “Lunch & Learn Bible Study” that will meet on the third Monday at Noon during the months of May – September. The group will be reading and studying Adam Hamilton’s book *Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things The Bible Doesn’t Say*. To reserve your place for this series and/or to secure a book (\$17.00) please contact The Chapel Office at 301-598-5312 by May 16th.

MUSIC CONCERT

The Music Department of The Inter-Faith Chapel will be offering a special concert on **Tuesday, May 21st at 6:00 PM**. Each component of our music program (Chancel Choir, Gospel Choir, Inter-Faith Ringers, and Generational Joy Dancers) will be featured, along with special organ selections from Dr. Oberle. Invite a neighbor to join you for this special evening of music that is certain to entertain and inspire you.

INTER-FAITH WOMEN

The June program of The Inter-Faith Women will be a Tea Party in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, June 13th at 1:30 PM. Come join us for an elegant afternoon tea including an assortment of tea sandwiches, sweets, and cake. Several varieties of teas will be available for tasting. Bring a special tea cup to use for yourself and, if your tea cup / tea set has a “history” please consider sharing your story with us. Bring a friend. All are welcome.

BOOK DRIVE

The Club to Help the Homeless and Working Poor is sponsoring their annual *Books for Kids* drive. A drop-off box for new and/or gently used children books will be located in the area adjacent to the Narthex near the Fellowship Hall doors through Thursday June 6th. Books will also be received at Clubhouse I on June 7th from 9:00 AM-2:00 PM.

THE INTER-FAITH CHAPEL
3680 South Leisure World Blvd.
Silver Spring, MD 20906

301-598-5312

www.inter-faithchapel.org

CHAPEL OFFICE HOURS

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM ♦ Monday – Friday

Rev. Dr. Woodie Rea, Senior Minister

Rev. Dr. Ramonia Lee, Minister of Congregational Life

Rev. Dr. Robert Perry, Minister Emeritus

Dr. Holly Oberle, Director of Music

Bonnie Bonner, Chapel Administrator

Joy Dufour, Administrative Assistant

Steve Buck, Gary Carpenter, Video Technicians and Sextons