



FACES OF OUR FAITH



September 8, 2024
17th Sunday in Pentecost

us02web.zoom.us/j/4206093840

Zoom ID 4206093840 Passcode: BBCWorship

Prelude

Valerie Mills Cooper

*Lighting Christ Candle & Call to Worship

Charity Villame

One: For 42 years, the people of Broadneck Baptist Church have gathered to seek God.

All: Today as strongly as ever, we believe God has called us together for a reason.

One: We are called to grow in the ways of Christ.

All: We are called to continually and intentionally pursue deeper relationship with God, others, and the world around us, even when we struggle on the journey.

One: We are called to support the life of this particular community by giving our time, talents, resources and energy to carry out our congregation's mission and vision.

All: We are called to join and serve with others in living our faith.

One: We are called to build relationships with those who may be different than us.

All: We are called to honor and respect the different ways the Spirit of God is at work in each person.

One: We are called to listen before speaking, be thoughtful about our words, and recognize that God's Spirit has the power to lead us in directions that may make us uncomfortable or not be what we imagined.

All: We are called to seek God's guidance in cooperating with others to reach decisions that are for the benefit of all.

One: Honoring God—Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit—and our call to be God's people in this time and place,

All: Let us worship God together!

*Gathering Hymn

God of Life, in Christ You Lead Us

Words: Jane Parker Huber Tune: BEECHER ("Love Divine, All Love Excelling")

God of life, in Christ you lead us, guiding us along the way.

In our past, through joys and sorrows, you have been our strength and stay.

Keep us faithful, true disciples, in our learning and our praise,

Celebrating past and present, consecrating future days.

God of words and Word Incarnate, words that challenge and embrace,
Grant us boldness in our speaking, while we know your loving grace.
Give us words both clear and winsome, loving hearts and listening ears,
Celebrating past and present, consecrating future years.

God of music, psalms and anthems, help us sing your faith anew:
Melodies expanding worship, harmonies enriching too.
May our lives be hymns in action, tuned to Christ in note and rhyme,
Celebrating past and present, consecrating future time.

God of days and years and eons, still you call as in the past.
Work undone demands our labor; justice yearns for peace at last.
Yours the vision and the challenge; ours the mission and the praise,
Celebrating past and present, consecrating future days.

***Invocation**

Joann Davis

Epistle Reading

Romans 12:1-13

Eloise Ullman

As we celebrate the birthday of our church, which first gathered together in worship on September 12, 1982, and also prepare for our Congregational Town Hall after worship, hear these words of blessing and challenge from Paul's letter to the church in Rome.

So, brothers and sisters, because of God's mercies, I encourage you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice that is holy and pleasing to God. This is your appropriate priestly service. Don't be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you can figure out what God's will is — what is good and pleasing and mature. Because of the grace that God gave me, I can say to each one of you: don't think of yourself more highly than you ought to think. Instead, be reasonable since God has measured out a portion of faith to each one of you. We have many parts in one body, but the parts don't all have the same function. In the same way, though there are many of us, we are one body in Christ, and individually we belong to each other. We have different gifts that are consistent with God's grace that has been given to us. If your gift is prophecy, you should prophesy in proportion to your faith. If your gift is service, devote yourself to serving. If your gift is teaching, devote yourself to teaching. If your gift is encouragement, devote yourself to encouraging. The one giving should do it with no strings attached. The leader should lead with passion. The one showing mercy should be cheerful. Love should be shown without pretending. Hate evil, and hold on to what is good. Love each other like the members of your family. Be the best at showing honor to each other. Don't hesitate to be enthusiastic — be on fire in the Spirit as you serve the Lord! Be happy in your hope, stand your ground when you're in trouble, and devote yourselves to prayer. Contribute to the needs of God's people, and extend hospitality to strangers.

Anthem

Concerns and Celebrations

Abby Thornton Hailey

*All who wish are invited to offer praise for things God has done or is doing and express concern for difficult circumstances in your life, the lives of others and the life of our world. You are also invited to name ways God is at work in your life, or ways you feel called to connect with God and our church through baptism, membership, or some other expression of faith. After a time of silent and spoken prayer, we will conclude by praying together as Jesus taught us to pray: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.***

New Testament Reading

Acts 8:26-40

Eloise Ullman

In this story we meet two unlikely Faces of our Faith: a court official of the Queen of Ethiopia, and a Greek-speaking Jew from Jerusalem who had been commissioned as a deacon to distribute food to the poor. Listen to how God's Spirit brought them together on a desert road, and their stories became powerfully intertwined. In the words of our earlier reading from Romans, how were these two men transformed by the renewing of their minds?

An angel from the Lord spoke to Philip, "At noon, take the road that leads from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert road.) So he did. Meanwhile, a man from Ethiopia was on his way home from Jerusalem, where he had come to worship. He was a eunuch and an official responsible for the entire treasury of Candace. (Candace is the title given to the Ethiopian queen.) He was reading the prophet Isaiah while sitting in his carriage. The Spirit told Philip, "Approach this carriage and stay with it." Running up to the carriage, Philip heard the man reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you really understand what you are reading?" The man replied, "Without someone to guide me, how could I?" Then he invited Philip to climb up and sit with him. This was the passage of scripture he was reading:

Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent so he didn't open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was taken away from him.

Who can tell the story of his descendants because his life was taken from the earth?

The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, about whom does the prophet say this? Is he talking about himself or someone else?" Starting with that passage, Philip proclaimed the good news about Jesus to him. As they went down the road, they came to some water. The eunuch said, "Look! Water! What would keep me from being baptized?" He ordered that the carriage halt. Both Philip and the eunuch went down to the water, where Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Lord's Spirit suddenly took Philip away. The eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing. Philip found himself in Azotus. He traveled through that area, preaching the good news in all the cities until he reached Caesarea.

***Hymn**

I'm Gonna Live so God Can Use Me

1 I'm gon-na live so God can use me

an - y time and an - y - where.

I'm gon-na live so God can use me

an - y time and an - y - where.

2 I'm gonna work...

3 I'm gonna pray...

4 I'm gonna sing...

WORDS and MUSIC: African-American spiritual

I'M GONNA LIVE

Children's Sermon

Abby Thornton Hailey

At the conclusion of this time, our children are welcome to remain upstairs for the sermon or to go downstairs with Ms. Tracy and Ms. Rosa for a time of learning together.

Prayer to Bless our Offerings

Margie Kelbel

You may choose to share your offerings in basket passed or via PayPal by scanning this QR Code with the camera on your phone.



Offertory Music

Valerie Mills Cooper

***Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise God all creatures here below!
Praise God above, you heavenly host--Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost!*

Sermon *Faces of Our Faith: Philip and the Ethiopian Official* Abby Thornton Hailey

Time of Reflection and Response

***Celebration of Communion** (*all are welcome to participate; bread is gluten-free!*)

***Closing Hymn** **Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

Upcoming Opportunities to Grow and Serve

- **TODAY:** Congregational Lunch and Town Hall after worship—all are urged to stay and participate, we need as many voices at the table as possible as we discern together around ministry for the coming year! We will have a taco bar, a video sharing images from this past year together in ministry, a game that will leave you laughing, and important work to do together looking towards the future. Childcare will be provided—please make it a priority to stay, eat, and talk!
- **Wednesday 7pm:** Weekly Prayer and Meditation via Zoom resumes—look for login information from Joann in your email!
- **Sunday, September 22:** Service of Baptism and Parent/Child Dedication—weather permitting, the first half of our service will be a baptism service for James Riordan and Nikki Tyree down at the Little Magothy Beach. Due to limited parking we need to carpool to the baptism site—please meet at the church by 9:50am to carpool! We will then return to the church around 10:20am to continue with our worship service.
- **Sunday, September 29:** Potluck Lunch after worship
- **Monday, September 30 7pm:** ACT Countywide Meeting at St. Philip's Episcopal Church (730 Bestgate Road)-- During this meeting we'll receive updates from Housing on MPDU legislation, next steps on descendant African American communities, state-wide action with PATH & AIM, and more! ACT has challenged each member organization to bring 3-5 people—let Abby know if you can go!

***Benediction**

Abby Thornton Hailey



Welcome! We are so glad you have joined us for worship! We extend a special welcome to our guests and hope you fill out the form below and put it in the offering basket so we may learn more about you. Children are more than welcome in worship--there are worship boxes by the back bookshelf to help them engage. Nursery care is also available for our youngest ones downstairs throughout the service.

Broadneck has been worshipping and ministering on the Broadneck peninsula since 1982. We affiliate with the American Baptist Churches USA, D.C. Baptist Convention and Alliance of Baptists, and ecumenically with Anne Arundel Connecting Together (ACT). Learn more at BroadneckBaptistChurch.org or facebook.com/BroadneckBaptistChurch, or contact Pastor Abby at 410-375-4081 or broadneckpastor@gmail.com.

Guest Information/Prayer Requests

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Would you like (check all that apply)

- More information about our church?
- A chance to talk with the pastor or someone from the church?
- Prayer for _____
 - To be included on our prayer list
 - To be shared only with pastor

We hope to see you again soon!