



Lexington Presbyterian Church  
120 South Main Street  
Lexington, VA 24450  
[www.lexpres.org](http://www.lexpres.org)

12 July 2020  
10:00AM

## GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

SIGN IN AND FELLOWSHIP

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

*Psalm 65:9-14*

***You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.***

*You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.*

***You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.***

*You crown the year with your goodness and your paths overflow with plenty.*

***May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.***

*May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.*

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

***What mighty praise belongs to You, O God, for Your acts of love, faithfulness, generosity toward us! Through the power of Your Holy Spirit make Your presence known among us that we may hear Your Word and know Your will. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Intercessor, we pray. Amen.***

HYMN 38

*To Bless the Earth*

A TIME OF CONFESSION\*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (unison)

***Patient and persistent God, we come, polished and presentable, to this comfortable room as if we knew what to expect, as if this were a safe and predictable place, as if we could simply observe. Holy One, forgive our tepid expectations. In the mystery of your love, overshadow us.***

***Plant the seeds of your gospel in each of our hearts until we bloom and spill with your passion to serve in a world that is wasting. Amen.***

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn 417 (vss. 1 & 3)

*Lord Jesus Think on Me*

***Lord Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin.  
From earthborn passions set me free, and make me pure within.***

***Lord Jesus, think on me, nor let me go astray.  
Through darkness and perplexity point thou the heavenly way.***

The Peace (responsive)

*We are washed in the waters of God's grace. Let us share this good news of God's love for us: The peace of Christ be with you.*

***and also with you...***

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Mike Stricker

CHILDREN'S ENRICHMENT

*"The Doxology"*

William McCorkle

THE BLESSING OF OUR OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn 606

*The Doxology*

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

#### HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

*Genesis 25-33*

*"Godly Play"*

GOSPEL READING

*Matthew 13:1-9*

SERMON

*"We Are God's Garden"*

Rev. Bernard

Bangley

HYMN OF REFLECTION 36

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

#### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

*A New Creed*

***We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.***

*us. United Church of Canada*

AFFIRMATION IN SONG - Hymn 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE\* (responsive)

Like a

Seed

*For all the blessings of this life, we give thanks to You, Creator God.*

*For families, friends, colleagues, neighbors, and strangers, who nurture us, that the love of God may grow within. That Your love, your Word, like a seed, may grow to produce in us, good fruit.*

**May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.**

*For the leaders of various nations and cities, that they may lead with strong hearts and gentle hands and generous spirits, with compassion and mercy, with wisdom and grace. May they reflect your will guiding all their actions and decisions.*

**May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.**

*For those who serve in harm's way, those who live in dangerous places, those who live in areas of war and strife, those who live in fear, those who worry about employment, bills, food, and struggle just to find dignity in life. May your grace bring peace and safety to all people, one to another.*

**May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.**

*For those who suffer from any illness or disease—of mind, body, or spirit. Restore these, and all those we carry in our hearts, to fullness of health—health as only you, O God, can bring. May your mercy shower each of us with healing mercy and love.*

**May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.**

*For those who are dying, and for those who have died. Send forth your comforting love. Give solace to those who mourn. Console those who grieve. May your grace surround us like a mantle upon our heads, a shawl upon our shoulders, a hand, to hold our hand.*

**May your love, be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.**

**Amen.** *Written by Terry Tempest Williams and posted on [revgalblogpals@gmail.com](mailto:revgalblogpals@gmail.com)*

## SENDING

HYMN (tune: Ash Grove)

Sent Forth By Your Blessing

**Sent forth by your blessing, our true faith confessing, your people, O God, from this gathering take leave. The worship is ended: oh now be extended the fruits of your service in all who believe. The seed of your teaching, our hungry souls reaching, shall blossom in action for all humankind. Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us to work for your kingdom, your purpose to find.**

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living the task of our everyday life we will face, our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing as neighbors all those of each race. One love that has fed us, one light that has led us, unite us as one in your life that we share. Then may all the living, with praise and thanksgiving, give honor to Christ and his name that we**

**bear.** *Words: Omer Westendorf Music: Welsh traditional*

BLESSING IN WORD

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

**Take the peace of God with you as you go,  
Take the seeds of God's peace and make them grow.  
Go in peace to serve the world,  
in peace to serve the world  
take the peace of God,  
the peace of God with you as you go.**

*from: Take the Word of God - Christopher Walker*

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP/BREAKOUT ROOMS

*The **flowers** are given to the glory of God. Our **sympathy** to all friends and family of Barbara Joyner, Thomas Lee Hathorn (Jan Hathorn's father), and Marian Rohne.*

*Thank you to our **worship leaders**, John Morman and Mike Stricker and our **worship team**, Andy Coffey, Ruth and Flash Floyd, and Doug Caldwell*

Service Notes:

*Time of Confession: Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2 (pp. 70-71). Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Kindle Edition.*

*Lexington Presbyterian Church: Congregational Hymns/Songs*

*PUBLIC DOMAIN (text and music):*

*Hymn 38*

*To Bless the Earth*

*Hymn 417*

*Lord Jesus, Think on Me*

*Hymn 606*

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

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*Hymn 36*

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

*Text: Fred Pratt Green, © 1970, Hope Publishing Company*

*Music: Welsh melody - Public Domain*

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*Hymn 582*

*Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

*Text & Music: Paul M. Vasile. © 2008 Paul M. Vasile.*

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*Hymn Sent Forth by Your Blessing*

*Text: Omer Westendorf, © 1964, World Library Publications, div. of J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.*

*Music: Welsh melody – Public Domain*

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*Hymn Take the Word of God with You*

*Text: James Harrison, © 1991, James Harrison, published by O.C.P.*

*Music: Christopher Walker, © 1991, Christopher Walker, published by O.C.P.*

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*Numbered hymns from Glory to God (Westminster John Knox Press, 2013)*

*-“Sent Forth by Your Blessing” from The Book of Praise (The Presbyterian Church of Canada, 1997)*

*-“Take the Word of God with You” from Journeysongs, third edition (O.C.P., 2012)*