Lord’s Day, April 30, 2023

Communion Sunday

*Please complete the Attendance Registration sheet and pass it down the row to your left. Visitor cards and prayer cards are in the Attendance Register. Please place visitor cards and prayer request cards in the offering plate. We welcome your prayer requests.*

Verse to Meditate 1 Tim. 3:1 ESV

*“The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task.”*

Welcome/Announcements Nancy Stagge

Prelude

Call to Worship Ps. 86:8-12

Prayer of Invocation

\*Praise Songs *10,000 Reasons/Lord, I Need You*

\*The Confession of Faith: *The Heidelberg Catechism*, Lord’s Day 18

Q.46. What do you mean by saying, “He ascended to heaven”?

**A. That Christ, while his disciples watched, was lifted up from the earth to heaven and will be there for our good until he comes again to judge the living and the dead.**

Q.47. But isn’t Christ with us until the end of the world as he promised us?

**A. Christ is truly human and truly God. In his human nature Christ is not now on earth; but in his divinity, majesty, grace, and Spirit he is not absent from us for a moment.**

Q.48. If his humanity is not present wherever his divinity is, then aren’t the two natures of Christ separated from each other?

**A. Certainly not. Since divinity is not limited and is present everywhere, it is evident that Christ’s divinity is surely beyond the bounds of the humanity he has taken on, but at the same time his divinity is in and remains personally united to his humanity.**

Q.49. How does Christ’s ascension to heaven benefit us?

**A. First, he pleads our cause in heaven in the presence of his Father. Second, we have our own flesh in heaven – a guarantee that Christ our head will take us, his members, to himself in heaven. Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a further guarantee. By the Spirit’s power we make the goal of our lives, not earthly things, but the things above where Christ is, sitting at God’s right hand.**

\*The Confession of Sin (see inside of bulletin)

\*Assurance of Pardon Titus 3:5-7

\*Gloria Patri Hymnal #735

**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.**

Worship through the Giving of Tithes and Offerings/Prayer

\*Offertory Response #731 “Doxology”

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise him, all creatures here below;**

**praise him above, ye heavn'ly host;**

**praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Scripture I Thessalonians 3 p. 1173

*We ask that children stay in the sanctuary with their parents, as there is no Children’s Church on Communion Sundays***.**

Sermon “A Heart for God's People Expressed in Action and Prayer”

\*Hymn #94 “How Firm a Foundation” (vv. 1-4, 6)

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

\*Hymn #431 “A Parting Hymn We Sing”

\*Benediction

\* Please stand if you are able.

**Church Office Hours - week of May 1st – May 5th**

Monday: Church Office closed

Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**UPCOMING NURSERY ATTENDANTS**

Today, 4/30 Erin Beerli and Brea Duty

5/7 Jean Bender and Edie Milligan

5/14 Suzanne Maddox and Cindy Walshe

5/21 John Selby and Danielle Breneman

Direct website links to church information:

* Prayer / Praise - [www.lochravenpca.org/praise-prayer-form/](http://www.lochravenpca.org/praise-prayer-form/)
* Giving - [www.lochravenpca.org/giving/](http://www.lochravenpca.org/giving/)
* Calendar / Events - [www.lochravenpca.org/our-activities/](http://www.lochravenpca.org/our-activities/)
* Resources - [www.lochravenpca.org/resources/](http://www.lochravenpca.org/resources/)
* Visitor Feedback - [www.lochravenpca.org/visitor-feedback/](http://www.lochravenpca.org/visitor-feedback/)

Guest Wi-Fi network: LRPC@9318-Guest

Guest Wi-Fi Password: ac@lrpcgc

Church Website: [www.lochravenpca.org](http://www.lochravenpca.org)

**SAMARITAN'S PURSE/OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

For the last seven years, Franklin Graham, President and CEO of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA) and Samaritan's Purse, has been bringing the gospel message to various areas of the United States of America through the God Loves You tour.  The 2023 God Loves You Tidewater Tour is free with special musical guests and will include several venues in Maryland:

* Southern Potomac River Region: Saturday, April 29, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., Charles County Fairgrounds, 8440 Fairground Road, La Plata, MD 20646
* Baltimore Region: Sunday, April 30, 2023, at 4:00 p.m., Maryland State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Road, Timonium, MD 21093
* Tri-State Region: Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., Fair Hill Fairgrounds, 4640 Telegraph Road, Elkton, MD 21921
* Eastern Shore Region: Thursday, May 4, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., TidalHealth Stage, 115 East Carroll Street, Salisbury, MD 21801 (Located at East Carroll & South)

For more detailed information, please go to their web page:  <https://godlovesyoutour.com/>. Please also continue to keep Operation Christmas Child in your prayers and to start shopping for bargains to help you pack a shoebox for our churchwide campaign this fall.

**WORSHIP, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**Monday, May 1, 2023**

12:00 p.m. **ROMEO group**

**Tuesday, May 2, 2023**

1:00 p.m. **Prayer Meeting**

5:30 p.m. **TOPS**

**NO GATHERING**

7:00 p.m. **ESOL**

**Wednesday, May 3, 2023**

7:00 p.m. **Men’s Bible Study**

**Thursday, May 4, 2023**

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

9:30 a.m. **Women’s Bible Study** *Spiritual Disciplines…*

1:30 p.m. **Men and Women’s Bible Study** *Acts*

7:00 p.m. **Praise Team**

**Friday, May 5, 2023**

8:00 p.m. **Movie Night**

**(Come at 6:30 for hot dogs, a bonfire, and wiffle ball)**

**Saturday, May 6, 2023**

8:00 a.m. **Men’s Breakfast**

**Sunday, May 7, 2023**

9:30 a.m.

**Adult Classes**

Men’s Class: *Moses, God’s First Super Hero* Room 201

Berean Class (Women): *Ephesians*  Room 202

Adult Elective: *Westminster Confession of Faith*  Room 203

**\*Please have any announcements or schedule changes in to the church office no later than noon on Wednesdays.**

**Upcoming Tech Team**

**5/7 Alan and Jeff**

**5/14 Melissa and Patrick**

**5/21 Zachary and Sam**

**5/28 Ethan and Carol**

**Missions Prayer Emphasis**

**(see insert)**

**Church News**​

**VBS 2023: JULY 10th -14th**

**YOUTH FOR CHRIST FUNDRAISER**

**Metro Maryland Youth for Christ** will be holding their annual fundraising banquet on Tuesday, May 2, at 6:45 p.m. at Martin’s West.  The guest speaker will be Terry Crews and the musical guest, Tasha Layton.

We are seeking sponsors, table hosts, and guests.  If you are interested in sponsoring or attending this informative celebration of how God is working to disciple kids 11-19 years old, please reach out to George Considine by calling him at 410-663-2450 or by email at George@OldhamMurdockProperties.com.

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

The National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 4. There will be bookmarks in the lobby that you can take, either for a reminder for yourself or to hand out to others.

**MOVIE NIGHT**

Come join us for a movie night on the lawn on Friday, May 5, at 8 p.m. We'll be watching *Sandlot*! Come early at 6:30 for a fire, hotdogs, s'mores, and a game of wiffle ball. Feel free to bring a side dish if you'd like.

**THE GATHERING IN MAY**

The Gathering will not be meeting on Tuesday, May 2. In May, the Gathering will meet on May 9, 16, 23, and 30..

**CHURCH BONFIRE AND CAMP-OUT**

Come join us for an evening of fellowship on Friday, May 19 (weather permitting). We'll have a potluck dinner around the campfire starting around 6. Those that enjoy camping can set up tents on the lawn and stay all night! We'll end with breakfast together in the morning. Talk to the Oskamps for more information.

**Confession of Sin**

**(Confession #5 from *Leading in Worship*)**

**Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before You our sinful nature – prone to evil and slothful in good – and all our shortcomings and offenses against You. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your love. O Lord, have mercy on us, who are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased You. Teach us to hate our errors, cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins for the sake of Your dear Son. And O most holy and loving Father, send Your purifying grace into our hearts, we beseech You, that we may henceforth live in Your light and walk in Your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

Please take the insert in the bulletin with you as a reminder to pray this Thursday for our country.  No special times are planned for gathering at church but try to set aside time for special prayer for our country. Praying with someone or planning a time when you and a friend or friends will pray may help to remind you to pray on Thursday.  The theme this year is from James 5:16b: "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."  May we pray **fervently**for our country - family, church, business, education, military, government, entertainment and media.