

4th Sunday after Pentecost
Fathers' Day
June 21, 2026



The Witch of Endor summons the shade of the prophet Samuel" by Dmitry Nikiforovich Martynov, 1857, oil on canvas, Ulyanovsk Regional Art Museum

Welcome to worship at Faith Presbyterian Church!

We are glad you are joining us this morning. Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, whatever your faith or your doubt, we welcome all whom God welcomes, and that means you. As we begin our time together, take a few deep breaths and settle in, to make the transition from getting here to being here, and to prepare your mind and body for worship.

**Faith Presbyterian Church
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich

* Please rise in body or in spirit

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRELUDE *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*

Rebecca Parkinson

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, Holy Spirit! Speak to us, for we are listening.

Help us comprehend the mystery, until our souls are stirred up, and burning brightly with wonder!

Brush away the weariness of the week,

as we focus fully on being here, being open, listening, and receiving in this holy space.

Warm us by your steady presence:

Glimmers and glimpses of glory in story, silence, and song.

Let us worship God.

***HYMN 12** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that our imaginations are, at times, limited: we believe only what we can see, trust only that which can be definitively proven.

We try to be your followers, but doubt overcomes us. We are distracted and dismayed.

Too often, we fail to follow through on the most basic of tasks: loving ourselves; loving our neighbors, loving creation. Forgive us!

Restore in us the steady flame of faith, bright burning spirits that do not falter come wind or rain, hardship or doubt. We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...

KYRIE 285 *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song*

BRIDEGROOM

With the healing of division,
With the ceaseless voice of prayer,
With the power to love and witness,
With the peace beyond compare.
Come, Holy Spirit, Come

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Come all you people,
Come and praise your maker (x3),
Come now and worship the Lord!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you...
... and also with you.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

MOMENT WITH FAITH KIDS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HEBREW BIBLE READING, 1 Samuel 28:3-14

Now Samuel had died, and all Israel had mourned for him and buried him in Ramah, his own city. Saul had expelled the mediums and the wizards from the land. The Philistines assembled and came and encamped at Shunem. Saul gathered all Israel, and they encamped at Gilboa. When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. When Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord did not answer him, not by dreams or by Urim or by prophets. Then Saul said to his servants, "Seek out for me a woman who is a medium, so that I may go to her and inquire of her." His servants said to him, "There is a medium at Endor."

So Saul disguised himself and put on other clothes and went there, he and two men with him. They came to the woman by night. And he said, "Consult a spirit for me, and bring up for me the one whom I name to you." The woman said to him, "Surely you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the wizards from the land. Why then are you laying a snare for my life to bring about my death?" But Saul swore to her by the Lord, "As the Lord lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing." Then the woman said, "Whom shall I bring up for you?" He answered, "Bring up Samuel for me." When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice, and the woman said to Saul, "Why have you deceived me? You are Saul!" The king said to her, "Have no fear; what do you see?" The woman said to Saul, "I see a divine being coming up out of the ground." He said to her, "What is his appearance?" She said, "An old man is coming up; he is wrapped in a robe." So Saul knew that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his face to the ground and did obeisance.

MUSIC *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Mark Hayes
(B. 1953)

NEW TESTAMENT READING, 1 Samuel 28:15-25

Then Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" Saul answered, "I am in great distress, for the Philistines are warring against me, and God has turned away from me and answers me no more, either by prophets or by dreams, so I have summoned you to tell

me what I should do.” Samuel said, “Why then do you ask me, since the Lord has turned from you and become your enemy? The Lord has done to you just as he spoke by me, for the Lord has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David. Because you did not obey the voice of the Lord and did not carry out his fierce wrath against Amalek, therefore the Lord has done this thing to you today. Moreover, the Lord will give Israel along with you into the hands of the Philistines, and tomorrow you and your sons shall be with me; the Lord will also give the army of Israel into the hands of the Philistines.”

Immediately Saul fell full length on the ground filled with fear because of the words of Samuel, and there was no strength in him, for he had eaten nothing all day and all night. The woman came to Saul, and when she saw that he was terrified, she said to him, “Your servant has listened to you; I have taken my life in my hand and have listened to what you have said to me. Now, therefore, you also listen to your servant; let me set a morsel of bread before you. Eat, that you may have strength when you go on your way.” He refused and said, “I will not eat.” But his servants, together with the woman, urged him, and he listened to their words. So he got up from the ground and sat on the bed. Now the woman had a fatted calf in the house. She quickly slaughtered it, and she took flour, kneaded it, and baked unleavened cakes. She put them before Saul and his servants, and they ate. Then they rose and went away that night.

For the wisdom we find in this ancient story,
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Perplexing Texts: The Witch of Endor*

Rev. Cat Goodrich

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 758** *Why Do Nations Rage Together*

EBENEZER

MINUTE FOR MISSION *Per Capita Giving*

Lauren Hill, Stewardship Chair

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING *If you wish to contribute online, please scan the QR code with your mobile device to be directed to Faith's online giving site.*



OFFERTORY *Light Dawns on a Weary World*

Neil Nemser
Baritone

ACT OF COMMISSIONING Bill Curtis, *Ruling Elder Commissioner from the Presbytery of Baltimore to the 227th General Assembly of the PCUSA*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 339** *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

LIFT EVERY VOICE

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Toccata on "Lift Every Voice"*

Mark Miller
(B.1959)

Leading Worship Today

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich, *Pastor*

Dr. Samuel Springer, *Minister of Music and Organist*

Patrick Baker, *Liturgist*

The Chancel Choir

Delvena Brown, *Usher*

Dawn Shirey, *Zoom Moderator & PowerPoint*

Andy Fuller, *Audio/Camera*

This week we pray for:

Faith's homebound members and those receiving long-term care. All those who suffer from war and disaster.
Our partners in Cuba Undocumented immigrants

WELCOME to Faith Presbyterian Church. If you are visiting with us this morning, we hope you find our worship to be meaningful - your presence enriches our community. If you are seeking a church home, we hope you will return soon so that we might get to know you better. To learn about ways to get engaged in the life of Faith, check out our website, www.faithpcbalt.org, and speak with our pastor, Rev. Cat Goodrich, cgoodrich@faithpcbalt.org.

Kids are WELCOME at Faith! Children are welcome in worship, but if you need it, there is also a caregiver in the nursery, just out the door nearest the pulpit. On the first Sunday of the month, children are encouraged to stay in worship for the whole service, to share in the sacrament of communion. Church school for K-2 and 3-5 grades will be held all other Sundays following the Time with Faith Kids in the classrooms on the third floor.

When in the sanctuary, children six and under are invited to worship in the **Prayground** at the front of the sanctuary. The Prayground has quiet activities and books to keep hands busy so

ears can listen. It's close to the action so that our youngest members can experience the beauty of worship in a space that's just for them.

The Wednesday Bible Study meets at *11:00 a.m. on Zoom*. Join Cat each Wednesday to reflect on the coming Sunday's lectionary passage. All are welcome!

Meeting ID: 867 0820 7535 passcode: 107872.

Fresh Eggs from Beaver Moon Farm are for sale to benefit the **Bread Fund!** \$5/dozen for delicious, pasture-raised eggs. All proceeds will be given to the Bread Fund, to feed hungry people both here and in Cuba. Please give cash to Scott McGill or pay via Venmo: @Scott-McGill21.

Sunday Forum: The Forum is taking a break until September. Instead, please join our centering prayer circle on Sundays in June, from 10-10:30am in the chapel with time for silent prayer and shared reflection.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame! Join us to see the Orioles play the Washington Nationals on Pride Night at Camden Yards, Friday, June 26 at 7:05pm. Call the church office or email faithchurchbalt@gmail.com to reserve your tickets.

School supplies are needed for students in the tutoring program of the IOSC. See the list in the News and Notes and bring your donations to the box in the narthex or to the church office Sunday, July 26.

New Gathering for Senior Adults! Do you remember not only the "Brat Pack," but also the "Rat Pack"? Do you remember when baseball players had to have a job - in addition to playing baseball? Would you like to spend some time with others that know these things, too? (Without Googling the answers.) We are exploring whether there is interest in having a monthly get-together for retired friends of Faith. What this may look like, besides time and a meal together, will be decided by the group! We hope to have a preliminary meeting sometime before September. If you'd like to learn more, please sign up Sunday or email Lori Rawle, lorirawle@gmail.com.

Centering Prayer



EVERY SUNDAY STARTING JUNE 14

10:00-10:30am in the chapel
at Faith

Join us for centering prayer. Space to listen, be still; refill your cup



Learn



Practice



Reflect

PERPLEXING TEXTS

Witches, Bears, and Boils...Oh My!

Join us this summer as we wrestle with confusing, challenging, and downright strange passages of scripture. If the Bible is indeed a living document, can even the texts of terror shed light and bring hope to our troubled times? Tune in to find out!

June 14 **Elisha's Inheritance, aka Bears Defend Baldies**
2 Kings 2:9-14, 23-25

June 21 **The Witch of Endor**
1 Samuel 28

June 28 **What Makes a Faithful Nation?**
2 Chronicles 7:11-22

July 12 **The Rich Man and Poor Lazarus**
Luke 16:19-31

Have a passage to suggest?

catfaithchurchbalt@gmail.com