

We act with great boldness

Kingian Nonviolence Principle 1: "Nonviolence is a way of life for courageous people."

Reflecting on today's verses, I write as one who is privileged not to experience systemic harm. I recall the acts of courage and boldness that invite us to witness a truth from which we all too often hide our attention. I am thinking of Malala Yousafzei (who was shot for going to school as a girl and continues to advocate for education for girls), Darnella Frazier (who filmed and posted the murder of George Floyd), Mamie Till (the mother of Emmett Till who insisted on an open casket for her son so that the world could see the brutality of racial violence in the US), and many others who acted to show us the harsh realities of oppression. Jesus could be added to this list.

Could the Corinthian church be us? The predominantly white, affluent people trying to do church with neighbors, people who have been shown God's spirit but need to be reminded to act in the spirit. Are we waiting for "letters of recommendation" (2 Corinthians 3:1) before we react or act as God called us? What if we applied 2 Corinthians 4:1-2 to the unveiling of racism in our midst, as the Standing with People of Color study action team invites us? What if "we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word" and boldly act in the face of injustice and oppression, confess our complicity, work to receive and discover the truth? What if, "by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God," and become a Beloved Community of faith that repents and repairs and grows in our relationships as siblings in Christ?

We are ministers of a new covenant, a priesthood of all believers. Let us grow in faith so that we may bear witness to the way of Christ.

—Marie Benner-Rhoades
Trumansburg, New York

"Since, then, we have such a hope, *we act with great boldness*" (2 Corinthians 3:12, NRSV). **Today's Bible readings from the lectionary:** Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a).

March 2, 2025, Transfiguration. Photo © Benjamin Hoffmann. Used by permission.
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We act
with great
boldness

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

March 2, 2025

Transfiguration Sunday

Luke 9:28-36

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHERE DID YOU SEE GOD?

PRELUDE "Laudes Domini" (Wood)

*CALL TO WORSHIP Ed Beachley, Worship Leader

One: Lord, you have called us to the mountaintop.

All: Help us to look forward to where you would have us go.

One: Help us to listen carefully to the words of your healing love.

All: Open our hearts and spirits to receive your glorious directions.

One: Place your trust in the Lord in all your ways.

All: Lord, we have come here to give our lives to you.

*HYMN #644 "When morning gilds the skies"

[Verse 1]

When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Alike at work and prayer, on him I cast my care: may Jesus Christ be praised!

[Verse 2]

Does sadness fill my mind, a solace here I find: may Jesus Christ be praised! Or fades

my earthly bliss, my comfort still is this: may Jesus Christ be praised!

[Verse 3]

The night becomes as day when from the heart we say: may Jesus Christ be praised!

In heav'n's eternal bliss the loveliest strain is this: may Jesus Christ be praised!

[Verse 4]

Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine: may Jesus Christ be praised! Be this

th'eternal song, through all the ages long: may Jesus Christ be praised!

*OPENING PRAYER

Lord, it seems so long ago that we heard your words at Jesus' baptism. You reminded us that he is your beloved Son with whom you are well pleased. Again, today we hear your words that we are to listen to him, to pay attention. Open our hearts this day, Lord, to hear the words of Jesus, to fol-

low in his footsteps, and to serve You. For we ask this in Christ's Name. Amen.

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN

SERVICE OF GIVING

Call to Giving

In days of old, God was seen as far from the people. But we know Christ, and in him we know God. When we share what we have out of love, our hearts grow closer to God, and we shine with Christ's glory. Let us offer our gifts to God today.

As we pass the offering plate here in the sanctuary, we also pass a virtual offering plate to those worshiping with us on Facebook Live. We invite you to give by mailing your offering to the church or dropping it off at the church during the week, or by going to the Hagerstowncob webpage.

Offertory "Look, Ye Saints! The Sight is Glorious" (Arr. Page)

*Doxology #119 "Praise God from whom"

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Generous God, it is through your mercy that we have this ministry—the ministry of our talents and treasure, the ministry of our passion and purpose. Strengthen our hearts for your service, and accept the grateful offerings we lay before you. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS, AND HOPES

Please remember our worship is also on Facebook Live and our website.

Please do not share any personal information you do not want to be made public.

An usher will hold the microphone for you while you share.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MORNING ANTHEM "Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory" Temple Choir

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 9:28-36 NT

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down

with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah” —not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

HYMN #232 “Christ upon the mountain peak”

[Verse 1]

*Christ upon the mountain peak stands alone in glory blazing.
Let us, if we dare to speak, with the saints and angels praise him.*

Alleluia!

[Verse 2]

*Trembling at his feet we saw Moses and Elijah speaking.
All the prophets and the law shout through them their joyful greeting.*

Alleluia!

[Verse 3]

*Swift the cloud of glory came; God, proclaiming in its thunder Jesus as his
Son by name! Nations, cry aloud in wonder! Alleluia!*

[Verse 4]

*This is God’s beloved Son! Law and prophets fade before him.
First and Last and only One, let creation now adore him! Alleluia!*

MESSAGE “Listening” Pastor Twyla Rowe

***HYMN #517** “Open my eyes, that I may see”

[Verse 1]

*Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp, and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.*

Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

[Verse 2]

*Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear,
and while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev’rything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

[Verse 3]

*Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth ev’rywhere.
Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

[Verse 4]

*Open my mind, that I may read more of thy love in word and deed.
What shall I fear while yet thou dost lead? Only for light from thee I plead.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my mind, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

BENEDICTION

*After the Benediction, you may be seated.
Please continue in a spirit of worship as we listen to the Postlude music.*

***POSTLUDE** “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies” (Mansfield)

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*\*Please rise — in body or spirit — as an act of worship  
Thank you for joining us in worship today.*

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Hagerstown
Church of the Brethren
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown, Maryland
21740
301-733-3565

Office: Tuesday—Friday
Flexible hours
(appointments welcome/
call ahead)

Morning Praise Worship
at 8:30 AM
Sunday School at 9:30 AM
Worship and Facebook Live at
10:45 AM

www.hagerstowncob.org

[www.facebook.com/
hagerstowncob](http://www.facebook.com/hagerstowncob)

Twyla Rowe
Pastor

Allyson McPeak
Administrative Assistant

Burton Young
Director of
Music Ministries

Don Rowe
Interior Esthetics
Technician

*We welcome you to our church and
Rejoice in your participation with us in
worship. It is our prayer that you will
experience the presence of God's Spirit and
that it will equip you for service and ministry
in the week ahead. Our Pastor, Deacons, and
Cluster Leaders are available after worship
and during the week to listen and assist you in
your Christian pilgrimage.*

THE ANNOUNCER March 2, 2025

If you placed someone on the prayer list and they are now celebrating a recovery and would like their name taken off the list, please contact the church office.

If you or a loved one has surgery scheduled, is hospitalized, or would like a visit from the pastor, please notify the church.

"Take a Moment" Let this be our daily "Take a Moment" prayer beginning on Sunday, March 2 - Living God, Each and every day you reveal yourself to me through a multitude of avenues. Thank you. I am awed by your ability to be everywhere anytime. You are not confined to a building...like our church. I find you not only on the mountain-tops of life...but also in the dark valleys of my life. Wherever I find you, help me to see you and listen for what you say to me. Whenever these encounters occur, I pray that I will be open to your Spirit...allowing you to work within me...even transforming me as needed...and leading me in a life of faithfulness and obedience according to your will for me. I will seek you, O God, everyday. Amen.

Our thanks to Ed Beachley for being our worship leader today and to the Temple Choir for our morning anthem.

Attendance. Please sign the attendance rosters found at the end of your pew, or possibly in the hymnal rack, and pass it down the row so everyone can sign.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of David (Sonny) Valentine, March 1, 1946 to March 5, 2024, given by Janet Goller.

The Lenten devotional, "Take Up Your Cross" by Tim Harvey is available this morning. Copies can be found on the credenza in the west entrance of the sanctuary and in the fellowship hall. The devotional is provided by the Worship Ministry Team. If you're a Cluster Leader, please make sure everyone in your cluster gets a devotional.

It's time to order Easter flowers! Everyone is invited to purchase a flower for Easter morning and may be purchased as a memorial, tribute or as a thank you. All orders must be received by March 16th. Please see the order form in the bulletin.

Today is Food Pantry Sunday. Thanks to all for your gift(s) of non-perishable food items and your continued support of this ministry to our community.

The Service & Outreach Team will be collecting the large tissue boxes (9"x4 1/2"x3") for the residents of Fahrney Keedy. We ask that you wrap the tissue boxes in spring colors (no bows or ribbons needed). The Team will take the tissues to Fahrney Keedy on Saturday, March 22nd when we host their monthly birthday party. There will be a box for the tissues in the west entrance from March 2nd to March 16th. Thank you so much. The residents love the soft tissues.

Hagerstown Choral Arts will be presenting "The Road Home" Concert, today at 3:00 pm, in the sanctuary at Hagerstown Church of the Brethren. There is no cost to attend and all are welcome!

Ash Wednesday Service will be held in the sanctuary at 7:00 pm, this Wednesday, March 5th.

Our service week at the REACH Cold Weather Shelter is March 9-15. All critical roles are covered!! What a blessing! If anyone is interested in providing an activity (i.e. bingo, games, music, haircuts, etc) one of our nights, please let me know. Donation collection boxes will remain in the West Entrance until March 9. Thank you to everyone for your support of this important outreach ministry. *Sandy Clipp*

Junior Church will be held next Sunday, March 9th for children ages Kindergarten through the sixth grade. We will gather in the Rainbow Room (#205) for a special time together. (Parents may, of course, opt to keep their child in worship with them especially if the child is uncertain about going.) If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Brenda Shane. **Junior Church is held the second and fourth Sunday of each month.**

The Christian Education Ministry Team is looking for a Director or Co-Directors for this year's Vacation Bible School, tentatively scheduled for the week of June 23rd. The candidate need not have prior experience, just a love for children

and a desire to help them learn about and experience God's love. As Director (or Co-Directors), you will be surrounded by a "village" of volunteers who will work alongside you to support you and help make VBS a fun and memorable experience. If you are interested, please reach out to any CE member: Deb Long, Tina Mills, Tracie Poteet, Kay Ogilvie, or Brenda Shane. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

The Service & Outreach Team asks that you save the dates for the following two important events. Community Picnic: Saturday, 06/07/25 and the Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat: Saturday, 10/18/25. We need your help with these events.


A young family is in need of a full size mattress and box spring, full size bed frame and a crib. If you are able to help or know someone who can, please see Arn Platou or Suzie Wolfe for more information.

Cash for Causes/Martin's Gift Card Program. Purchase Martin's gift cards to take to the store to pay for your groceries or gas, and 5% of the face value of the gift card is a donation to the church and goes toward your yearly charitable contribution. To purchase a card, please contact Larry Kees, Jr. (301-331-0107). We can make arrangements to leave cards in your church mailbox or mail them to you.

Please remember to keep the administrative assistant updated on when and where meetings/events are being held. Please email or call the Administrative Assistant with information that needs added to the church calendar. **301-733-3565 or secretaryhcob@gmail.com.** Thank you!

Printed copies of Leadership and Ministry team meeting minutes are available in the west entrance. The holders are located on the wall beside the bulletin board.

Don't forget to check your church mailbox for the third quarter contribution statements. Please help us save money on postage by checking your mailbox. Thank you!

 **Our spring session of GriefShare has begun and will continue each Monday through May 12, from 6:30 – 8:30 in the Mullendore Room.** You may join at any time during the 13 weeks, but we ask that you commit to attending at least 3 consecutive weeks. Cost is free, but we gladly will accept a \$10 donation toward materials.

The grief journey after losing a loved one is very painful, difficult, and lonely. Since everyone grieves differently, there is no magic endpoint to the grieving process. Fortunately, HCOB offers GriefShare, an international, faith-based 13-week seminar offering support after the death of a loved one, no matter how recent. The GriefShare ministry provides a safe, welcoming space where people understand the heavy emotions of grief. As a participant, you will receive valuable tools to help you navigate your personal path, as well as gain support from others also on their grief journeys. If you or someone you know has lost a loved one, please share this information with them and consider attending. We encourage you to bring a family member or friend so they can better understand your loss and become a greater support for you.

Register at www.griefshare.org. If you have any questions about the program, see Pastor Twyla or Debbie Nycum.

CALENDAR

Sunday, March 2

Food Pantry Sunday

8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:20 am Fellowship Time/Mullendore Room
10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live
3:00 pm HCA Concert/ HCOB Sanctuary

Monday, March 3

Church Office Closed

6:30 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, March 4

7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 5

Ash Wednesday/Administrative Assistant_Work from home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions
12:30 pm Hag. Choral Arts Women's Ensemble/Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service/Sanctuary

Thursday, March 6

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room
7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

Friday, March 7

8:00 am Bulletin Prep Time/Church office
1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3pm)

Saturday, March 8

Pastor Twyla's day off

8:00 am Community Breakfast/Fellowship Hall
(Breakfast open to the public 9-10:30 am)

Sunday, March 9

First Sunday in Lent/Junior Church/Daylight Saving Time
8:15 am Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screening
8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:15 am Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screening
10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Remember our weekday schedule is subject to rapid change.

You may mail your offering to
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown MD 21740
OR
you can make a secure offering
donation on our website using
Breeze www.hagerstowncob.org

The church calendar is online at
www.hagerstowncob.org.
Click the calendar tab.

The Novel Bunch presents...

Looking for Salvation at the Dairy Queen

by Susan Gregg Gilmore

Sometimes you have to return to the place where you began to arrive at the place where you belong.

This novel focuses on a young girl's attempt to escape the confines of her hometown and find her place in the world. In the early 1970s, the town of Ringgold, Georgia, has a population of 1,923, one traffic light, one Dairy Queen, and one Catherine Grace Cline. The quick-witted, extremely stubborn daughter of Ringgold's third-generation Baptist preacher, Catherine Grace feels trapped in her small-town life and longs for more.

Every Saturday afternoon, she sits at the Dairy Queen, eating Dilly Bars and plotting her getaway to Atlanta, where she feels her life will be transformed and she will find happiness. When the dream becomes a reality with the help of a family friend, Catherine Grace immediately packs her bags and leaves behind her family and the boy she loves to claim the life she's always imagined. But before things even begin to get off the ground in Atlanta, tragedy brings Catherine Grace back home. As a series of extraordinary events unravel to alter her perspective and bring sweeping changes to Ringgold, Catherine Grace begins to wonder if her place in the world may actually be, against all odds, right where she began. The major theme of this novel is forgiveness, which causes the reader to ponder...how do we really forgive?

"Readers of Southern stories will enjoy the poignant self-discovery journey of this lovable heroine."—Tampa Tribune

Date: Saturday, May 17

Time: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Place: Fellowship Hall

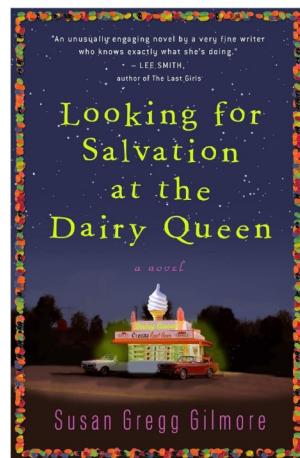
Light refreshments to follow.

NOTE: If you have any questions or need assistance acquiring the book, call Jenny Ferguson at 301-964-1779. Please return the section below if you plan to attend.

NAME _____ I plan to attend _____ YES

Preferred contact information: Phone _____ OR Email _____

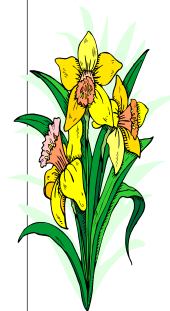
Book Club Team: *Jenny Ferguson, Kristal Bricker, Debbie Nycum, Kay Ogilvie, Jan Young



Easter Flowers Order Form

Your name: _____

Amount enclosed _____



The Easter season is approaching and it is time to order Easter flowers. Everyone is invited to purchase a flower for Easter morning. Flowers are as priced below and may be purchased as a memorial, tribute, or as a thank you. Return this completed form and your check made out to Hagerstown Church of the Brethren. Form may be either placed in the offering or mailed to: Hagerstown Church of the Brethren, 15 S. Mulberry St., Hagerstown MD 21740.

All orders must be received by March 16. Payment must accompany this form. We need to order early so the greenhouse can place the order with its supplier and get our flowers here on time.

Lilies: White only [] Number of plants \$11.50/each

Mums: Yellow [] Number of plants \$10.00/each
Purple [] Number of plants \$10.00/each

Large Daffodils: [] Number of plants \$12.50/each

"Mini Gardens" [] Number of pots @ \$11.00/each
(Mini daffs and violas in the same planter)

(please print)

___ **IN MEMORY OF:** _____

___ **IN TRIBUTE TO:** _____

___ **THANKS TO:** _____