

Living hope

Responsive reading

Leader: We give you praise this day, O Lord, as you are the source of our living hope.

Many: May we live into this hope.

Leader: When circumstances around us threaten to lead us to despair and hopelessness,

Many: May we live into this hope.

Leader: When friends, neighbors, loved ones, and all that is created in your image are going through persecutions of many kinds,

Many: May we live into this hope.

Leader: When hope requires showing up and putting our time, resources, and physical well-being on the line for your children's good,

Many: May we live into this hope.

Leader: Bring to mind all of the times you have accompanied us through turbulent storms, that we might persevere amid the challenges of this day.

Many: May we live into this hope.

ALL: Lord, instead of resting in the hope that can only be found in you, may your hope spur us to live lives worthy of the One who first loved us, and who loves us still.

In Christ's name we ask it, Amen.

—Josiah Ludwick
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a *living hope* through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:1, NRSVue). **Today's Bible readings from the lectionary:** Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31.

April 12, 2026. Photo © Wendy McFadden. Used by permission.
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CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

April 12, 2026

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Sandy Clipp, Worship Leader

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?

PRELUDE "The Risen Christ" (Smith)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We come again to celebrate resurrection. God gives us new birth into a living hope.

All: Death has no power over us. Christ goes before us in the new life God offers.

One: Blessed be the God of our Savior Jesus Christ! Our faith, tested by fire is renewed.

All: Our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice. God shows us the path of life.

One: Again, Jesus says to us: Peace be with you. Come to receive life in Christ's name.

All: We rejoice in God's amazing good news. In God's presence, we find fullness of joy.

***HYMN #269**

"Thine is the Glory"

[Verse 1]

*Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son!
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.*

[Refrain]

*Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son!
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.*

[Verse 2]

*Lo! Jesus meets us. Risen from the tomb,
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.*

*Let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for our Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.*

[Refrain]

*Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son!
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.*

[Verse 3]

*No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conqu'rors, through thy deathless love.
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.*

[Refrain]

*Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son!
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.*

***OPENING PRAYER**

Your Easter people gather to praise you, amazing God. Continue to make your ways known to us. Fill us with your presence. We cannot live apart from you. Your counsel and instruction are with us day and night. We have only to open ourselves to your direction. Inspire in us fullness of joy, we pray, as we respond in faith to the risen Christ and embrace the tasks you set before us. Build up our sense of community that we may truly care for one another through all life's trials. Amen.

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN

SERVICE OF GIVING

Call to Giving

The boundary lines have fallen for us in pleasant places. We are blessed beyond all deserving. How marvelous is the opportunity placed before us to share what we have received. Let us express our thanks to God for all that is precious than gold, as we pass on God's gifts to us.

As we pass the offering plate here in the sanctuary, we also pass a virtual offering plate to those worshiping with us on YouTube 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 website.

Offertory "That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright" (Ripper)

***Doxology #119** "Praise God from whom"

POSTLUDE “Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!” (Turner)

(Worship resources used from, “Taught by Love”, Year A, by Lavon Bayler.)

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*Please rise — in body or spirit — as an act of worship

Thank you for joining us in worship today.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~



Welcome

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 YouTube Live at
10:45 AM

www.hagerstowncob.org

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

[www.youtube.com/
@hagerstowncob](http://www.youtube.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 April 12, 2026

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, April 12 - You are the joy of my life, O Lord. Waking up every morning to your glorious presence welcoming me to the day gives me peace...assuring me that this will be a good day. I know I do not need to fear what tomorrow will bring because you are by my side every day. But you know me, Lord, and you know fear can get the best of me sometimes. Forgive me and help me if I should be overcome by painful or distracting circumstances that hide your presence from me right when I need you most. Help others, Lord, who are overcome with fear because of, but not limited to...tragedy, illness, financial struggles, social threats near and far, and death. Free them from their fear. Help them to trust you to find peace. Guide me so as to be a calming presence to those who need to know you are near. Breathe on me breath of God...lead me this day in all your ways. Amen.

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.

Our thanks to Sandy Clipp for being our worship leader today and to Wendy Browne for sharing special music with us this morning.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Ed Brewer, by Donna Brewer and family.

Junior Church will be held today for children ages Kindergarten through the sixth grade. **We will gather in the Children's Church Room (Room #203).** (Parents may, of course, opt to keep their child in worship with them especially if the child is uncertain about going.) Parents/grandparents should pick up their children afterward at the stair/elevator area outside the sanctuary in the west entrance. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Tina Mills. **Junior Church is held the second and fourth Sunday of each month.**

Newsletter Deadline—All articles should be submitted to the Administrative Assistant **on or before April 15th.** You can submit articles by email or leaving a note in Allyson's mailbox. Thank you!

Next Sunday, April 19th, we will have a guest speaker during Sunday School. It will be a combined Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall.

Our May Congregational Business Meeting will be held on May 3, 2026. We will have a potluck lunch in the fellowship hall following our combined 10:45 am Worship, then following lunch, we will have our Congregational Business Meeting. Sign-up sheets have been placed in the west entrance and fellowship hall. Please sign up so we can get a head count on attendance and to bring a dish. Spiritual Nurture will provide chicken and drinks.

All Music Sunday / Sunday School Orchestra—May 3, 2026—The Sunday School Orchestra will be performing in the fellowship hall on Sunday, May 3rd at 9:00 AM. Sunday School will follow at the normal scheduled time. There will be a combined worship service at 10:45 AM in the sanctuary. The Temple Choir, Early Service Praise Team, and the Brethren Bell Ringers will lead us in an inspiring musical worship service.

Vacation Bible School will be held June 15th through the 19th. The theme this year will be Tropical Trek. Sign-up sheets can be found on the credenza in the wing of the sanctuary and in the fellowship hall. Please fill out and give to any CE Team member, place in the offering, or put in Tina Mills mailbox. CE Team: Tina Mills (chair), Debbie Long, Brenda Shane, Kay Ogilvie, & Tracie Poteet

NOTICE—Starting in 2026 Contribution Statements will now be emailed. If you do not have an email on file with the church office, your statement will be mailed or placed in your church mailbox. By doing this, it will help us save money in postage and paper and will be a more convenient way for you to have access to your statements. If you do not have an email on file with the church office and wish to receive your statement via email, please contact Allyson (secretaryhcob@gmail.com or 301-733-3565) and she will add your email to the list.

The Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Auction will be held this year on Saturday, May 2, 2026 at the Carroll County Ag. Center in Westminster, MD and will start at 9:00 am.

World Vision Global 6k water walk/ run will be held on Saturday May 16th at Paramount Elementary School starting at 9:00AM—if you would like to participate or make donation you can go to: <https://global6k.worldvision.org/> and select teams 39506 or contact Mary Means.



Ed Poling Memorial HARC walk/run will be held on Saturday May 30th at Williamsport Zion Lutheran Church. If you would like participate or make a donation you can go to: harccoalition.org/hike/ or contact Mary Means.

The Little Library is now up outside near the Washington Street entrance. We filled it with 63 books last week. In one week there were only 6 left. We added an additional 20 books recently. If you have children's books, adult books, magazines, Readers Digest, novels, craft books, etc., please feel free to put them in the Little Library, or drop them in the box marked "Books" in the west entrance under the table. *Thank you, Spiritual Nurture Team.*

Would you like a truly fun and meaningful few days away with your family this summer? The Family & Grand Camp retreat, one of Shepherd's Spring's newest weekend adventures, is filled with faith-based fun for all ages. This camp, from Friday afternoon, July 31, through Sunday afternoon, Aug. 2, offers strong Scriptural teaching with lots of family-building activities -- from making your family's own t-shirts, to swimming and hiking together, gathering at campfires and much more -- while staying amid 220 acres of God's forested beauty, bordering the C&O Canal and the Potomac River!! All this, while staying in Shepherd's Spring's very own lodge, its Poplar Village cabins, or setting up your own tent and enjoying breakfast, lunch and dinner in the lodge's beautiful dining room. It's all here -- intergenerational, even! Yes, BRING Grandma and Grandpa!! Build the meaning of having Christian FAMILY!!! And, there's no charge for bringing your littles, ages 5 and under!! So, how 'bout it? Right now, family meeting!! Begin your adventure at: <https://www.shepherdsspring.org/> and click on "Summer Camp". -- *Arn Platou*

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 Donnie Maas (240-866-1077). We can make arrangements to leave cards in your church mailbox or mail them to you.

Church mailboxes. Everyone is welcome to use the mailboxes. If you would like to be added or taken off the list, please contact Mary Means. If you have a mailbox, we ask that you be willing to monitor it. Any mail that is left in the mailboxes after a three-month period will be disposed of. The mailboxes are located in the hallway of the church office.

CALENDAR

Sunday, April 12

Junior Church

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 & YouTube (www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)

Monday, April 13

Church office closed

1:00 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, April 14

5:30 pm P&F Meeting/Mullendore Room

Wednesday, April 15

Admin. Assistant/Work from home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

12:00 pm Newsletter Deadline

Thursday, April 16

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room

7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

Friday, April 17

8:00 am Bulletin prep/church office

1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3 PM)

Saturday, April 18

Pastor Twyla's day off

Sunday, April 19

8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall

9:30 am Combined Sunday School/Fellowship Hall Guest Speaker

10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & YouTube (www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)

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...

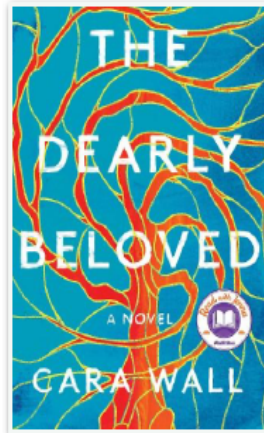
The Dearly Beloved

by Cara Wall

"This gentle, gorgeously written book may be one of my favorites ever."
—Jenna Bush Hager (A Today Show "Read with Jenna" Book Club Selection)

"The best book about faith in recent memory."
—Entertainment Weekly

This book is a character study about friendship, family, and faith. Charles and Lily & James and Nan meet in Greenwich Village in 1963 when Charles and James are jointly hired to manage the historic Third Presbyterian Church through turbulent times. However, their personal differences threaten to tear them apart. Charles is destined to follow his father as an esteemed history professor at Harvard until an unorthodox lecture about faith leads him to ministry. So, how can he fall in love with intellectual Lily after she tells him that she never will believe in God? And yet, how can he not believe?



James, the youngest son in a hardscrabble Chicago family, spent much of his youth angry at his alcoholic father and avoiding his nervous mother. James's escape from his desperate circumstances leads him to Nan, the devout and beloved daughter of a Mississippi minister and debutante. Despite James's guarded optimism, Nan's gentle, constant faith changes the course of his life. *The Dearly Beloved* follows these two couples through decades of love, friendship, jealousy, forgiveness, and commitment. Against the backdrop of conflict and change facing the city and the church's congregation, these four forge improbable paths through their evolving relationships as each struggles with uncertainty, heartbreak, and joy. This book is a moving reflection on faith and reason, and the ways we find meaning in our lives.

Date: Saturday, April 25

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

Place: Fellowship Hall

*This is a book for men and women alike, so we encourage the men of the congregation to attend and offer their perspectives.

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, Judy Williams, Jan Young