

Traditional Worship Service

Sunday, September 20, 2026 • 9:40 a.m.

Welcome!

Rev. Lee Foster

Invocation

Quietly Preparing to Worship God

Everyone

Please take a moment to silence your cell phones

In our collective stillness, reflect on the pure joy that is ours in worshipping a God who is unchanging. Scripture assures us that in our God there is no variation or shadow of change (James 1:17). "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. (Heb. 13:8)

Yet Jesus grieved over the hypocrisy of the Pharisees. Their outward religious practices concealed hearts distant from God. "This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me." (Matt. 15:8) You "clean the outside of the cup and the plate but inside are full of greed and self-indulgence." (Matt. 23:25) They carefully observed religious tradition yet neglected Justice, compassion, and mercy.

How different is the heart of Christ. He didn't merely speak of mercy. He extended it. He did not simply teach humility. He knelt to serve. As Christ's body, may our actions reflect the faith we profess, our worship rise from sincere hearts, and our lives reveal the unchanging love of God.

Prelude ***There Is a Balm in Gilead***

Spiritual/
arr. Callahan

Hymn 640 ***Let All Things Now Living***

ASH GROVE

Reading from Psalm 145:1-8

Lisa Lynch

Hymn 172 ***Love Divine, All Loves Excelling***
stanzas 1 and 2

BEECHER

Reading from Philipians 1:9-11

David Haver

Responsive Reading

Dr. Jimmie Miles and Everyone

*Congregation reads the **bold print***

Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. (Matthew 6:1)

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. (Psalm 139:23-24)

When you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. (Matthew 6:2)

The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy. (Proverbs 12:22)

And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. (Matthew 6:5)

You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart You will not despise. (Psalm 51:16-17)

When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. (Matthew 6:16)

Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require. I desire to do your will, my God; your law is within my heart. (Psalm 40:6, 8)

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven. (Matthew 6:19-20)

Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Lord, align our hearts with Yours. (Matthew 6:21)

Hymn 475

Jesus Is All the World to Me
stanzas 1 and 4

ELIZABETH

Offertory Prayer

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Everyone

Choral Anthem *Jesus Loves Me* arr. Bradley Phillips

Pastoral Scripture **Matthew 6:1-8** Rev. Foster

Pastor: The Word of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Message *Good Question:* Rev. Foster
Doesn't hypocrisy undermine Christian beliefs?

Hymn 154 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* CONVERSE

Closing Words

Benediction

Postlude *The Rejoicing* Handel/arr. Thompson

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13617 Midlothian Turnpike
Midlothian, VA 23113
(804) 794-5031
winfreechurch.org
office@winfreechurch.org
wifi password: winfreewifi
Pastoral Care Line:
(804) 401-6445

Rev. Lee Foster • Senior Pastor
Rev. Jimmy Doan • Youth Minister
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