## **Weekly Highlight**

#### **Worship Survey**

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### **News and Events**

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# **Online Giving**

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### **CONTACT US**

Office Hours 9-4 M-F 6400 Old Centreville Road Centreville, VA 20121

703.830.2684 www.centreville-umc.org Facebook & Instagram: CentrevilleUMC

**Matthew Smith** | Lead Pastor msmith@centreville-umc.org

**Geitra Mickelson** | Associate Pastor gmickelson@centreville-umc.org

**Phil Mohr** | Deacon & Mission Ministries pmohr@centreville-umc.org

**Music Ministries** | Laura Hesse lhesse@centreville-umc.org

**Children's Ministries** | Joy Rangel jrangel@centreville-umc.org

**Youth Ministries & Upward Sports** | Sean Gray sgray@centreville-umc.org

**Communications** | Kim Wu kwu@centreville-umc.org

**Centreville Day School** | Diane Formica dayschool@centreville-umc.org 571-522-1875

Other Inquiries receptionist@centreville-umc.org

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## The Service of Worship

(Please silence electronic devices)

Welcome Rev. Matthew Smith

Prelude Praise to the Lord arr. Wagner

Sarah Damers, Johannah Evans, Laura Hesse, Kathy Smith, Anna Tiesler

handbell quintet

\*Call to Worship Rev. Phil Mohr

Come and see the works of God,

God's awesome deeds among us.

Come and hear, all who revere God,

God's still speaking voice in our weary world.

Come and realize.

The extraordinary is revealed in the ordinary.

\*Hymn Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise Hymnal No. 103

**Opening Prayer** 

Almighty God, worker of wonders, too often we are limited by our own understanding. We do not understand how or why You do things the way that You do. Broaden our imagination to see new horizons we could never have conceived ourselves. Guide us to a better understanding of Your continual work or renewal. Amen.

Back to School Litany and Blessing

See Insert

Children Dismissed to Kids Quest

Anthem By Our Love Nochels, arr. McDonald

Debbie Fox - solo

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 38:1-8 Rev. Geitra Mickelson

In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz came to him, and said to him, 'Thus says the LORD: Set your house in order, for you shall die; you shall not recover.' Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall, and prayed to the LORD: 'Remember now, O LORD, I implore you, how I have walked before you in faithfulness with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight.' And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

Then the word of the LORD came to Isaiah: 'Go and say to Hezekiah, Thus says the LORD, the God of your ancestor David: I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; I will add fifteen years to your life. I will deliver you

and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria, and defend this city. 'This is the sign to you from the LORD, that the LORD will do this thing that he has promised: See, I will make the shadow cast by the declining sun on the dial of Ahaz turn back ten steps.' So the sun turned back on the dial the ten steps by which it had declined.

\*Hymn Take Time to Be Holy Hymnal No. 395

\*Gospel Lesson Luke 13:6-9 Johannah Evans

Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

Response

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Mysterious God - Time" Rev. Matthew Smith

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Geitra Mickelson

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Announcements Rev. Matthew Smith

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

\*Hymn In His Time TFWS No. 2203

\*Benediction Rev. Matthew Smith

\*Benediction Response Let Us Now Depart in Thy Peace Hymnal No. 668

Postlude Praeludium in F Major Buxtehude

Laura Hess, organ

\* Please stand as you are able for this act of worship.

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## The Service of Worship

(Please silence electronic devices)

**GATHER** 

Welcome Rev. Matthew Smith

Praise Sonas Battle Belonas

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

**Morning Prayer** Dave Brown, Praise Team Leader

Greeting One Another

Back to School Litany and Blessing See Insert

Children Dismissed to Kids Quest

**GROW** 

First Lesson: Isaiah 38:1-8 Rev. Geitra Mickelson

In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz came to him, and said to him, 'Thus says the LORD: Set your house in order, for you shall die; you shall not recover.' Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall, and prayed to the LORD: 'Remember now, O LORD, I implore you, how I have walked before you in faithfulness with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight.' And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

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Second Lesson: Luke 13:6-9

Garrett Youmans

Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

"Mysterious God - Time" Message

Rev. Matthew Smith

**RESPOND** 

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Geitra Mickelson Holy Communion

The Great Thanksaivina

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor gives thanks, remembering God's acts of salvation, and concludes:

And so, with Your people on earth

And all the company of heaven

We praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The pastor continues the thanksgiving and concludes:

And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,

We offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving

as a holy and living sacrifice,

in union with Christ's offering for us,

as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The pastor invokes the work of the Holy Spirit and the Trinity and concludes:

All honor and glory is Yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Giving the Bread and Cup

Announcements and Giving

Rev. Matthew Smith

How Great Is Our God

Dismissal with Blessing

Closing Song

Rev. Matthew Smith

### Back to School Litany and Blessing

Leader: Loving God, we begin this new school year as we begin each day—by acknowledging Your presence, Your power, Your guidance, and Your love.

Congregation: Watch over all students and staff as they begin this new school year.

Thank you, Jesus, for being a faithful friend to all those we recognize here today. Help them to follow Your auidance each day by arace through faith in You.

May their lives be filled to overflowing with Your countless, daily blessings.

When they feel stress or anxiety or fear...

We pray they find strength in Your Word and power in Your presence.

When they encounter sadness or grief, whether at school or at home...

We pray they find comfort and peace through the healing of the Holy Spirit.

When they experience joy and laughter and celebrations and success...

We pray they find You there, too, rejoicing in love.

Keep their hearts and minds trained on You, Loving Savior, that their lives may reflect Your love for them.

Bless them, we pray, to see Your face in the faces of friends, teachers, parents, and others who gather with them this year.

We pray also for parents, as the start of a new school year is always another leap of faith. Wrap them in Your reassuring love as they entrust their children to You. When questions remain unanswered, and the realm of control is finite, bless them with peace, and the confidence of knowing You are right there with their child, whether heading to preschool or driving to college.

### Loving God, hear our prayers.

And we also pray for teachers, staff, and administrators. Bless these faithful servants with courage and confidence, and help them to know that You are with them, wherever they may be. Give them peace, patience and wisdom in the pressures they face, and the fortitude to justly serve all Your children. Grant them, also, delight in the ones they serve, and a recognition that students can also be teachers.

#### Loving God, hear our prayers.

And so with confident hope in God's watchful care, we bless these backpacks and their owners in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. May all of us, young and old, be strong in faith and filled with the Spirit that we might be a blessing to others.

#### Amen.

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