



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026

**9AM & 11AM
HOLY COMMUNION**

**"What is man?"
(Psalm 8:4a)**

To Be A Christian: Nine Questions Every Life Answers

Many people today are deconstructing their faith—taking apart the Christianity they inherited in search of a better life. There are reasons for this. But I wonder whether one reason for deconstruction is simply poor construction.

Sometimes what looks like a Christian house has only a Christian veneer. Its weight-bearing beams rest, often unknowingly, on earthly hopes, cultural beliefs, and human designs. Unsound structure can weaken the faith of any of us.

One antidote to deconstruction, then, is careful construction.

That's why this fall we're beginning a sermon series, **To Be a Christian: Nine Questions Every Life Answers**. Turning to Scripture, we'll examine nine beams and joints of Christianity, asking how God builds a sturdy life:

1. **How Do I Know the Truth?** The Doctrine of Holy Scripture
2. **Who Is God?** The Doctrine of God
3. **What Is a Human Being?** The Doctrine of Humanity
4. **What Happened to Us?** The Doctrine of Sin
5. **Who Is the Messiah?** The Doctrine of Christ
6. **How Can I Be Saved?** The Doctrine of Salvation
7. **How Should I Live?** The Doctrine of Sanctification and Christian Life
8. **Why Do I Need a People?** The Doctrine of the Church
9. **Is History Going Anywhere?** The Doctrine of Last Things

These aren't merely Christian questions. They're human questions. We're all building a life, Christian or otherwise, and in doing so answering them.

Whether you're a longtime Christian, deconstructing your faith, or simply curious about how a solid life is built, this series explores the kind of life God builds—a house with an unshakable foundation in Christ and windows that open to the glory of God.

In Christ,



The Rev. Dr. Samuel D. Ferguson
Rector

Getting Connected to the Body of Christ

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY



Join us for some **coffee, donuts, and fellowship** downstairs after each service!

Are you new? Welcome! We'd enjoy getting to know you. Stop by downstairs at the **Connections Center** for our gift to you and more information on the church. Contact Erin O'Keefe (eoakeefe@tfcanglican.org) to get connected.

TWO NEW WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES STARTING OCTOBER 14!

PRAYING IN THE WAY OF JESUS: A CLASS ON THE LORD'S PRAYER

Wednesdays, Oct. 14-Nov. 18 (No Class Nov. 11) | 7-8:15 p.m. | The Back 40 (Third Floor Office Building)

When Jesus' disciples asked, "Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1), he gave them the Lord's Prayer. What does it mean to call God "Father," to hallow his name, or to pray for his will on earth as in heaven? How can we pray in ways that are healthy, biblical, and life-giving, even when our prayers seem unanswered? Join us for a five-week Wednesday night class on the Lord's Prayer as we explore these questions and more.

FAITHFUL & FREE: BIBLICAL FINANCE

Wednesdays, Oct. 14-Nov. 4 | 7-8:30 p.m. | Learning Center Room 104 (First Floor Office Building)

Join us for Faithful & Free: Biblical Finance, a 4-week course from the TFCA Finance Ministry on aligning our finances with God's purpose. We'll cover setting priorities, understanding investing, managing debt, and more, in a casual seminar-style format with light weekly homework. All are welcome, at any stage of life. Questions? Email Kelley Arllen at karllen@tfcanglican.org.

BECAUSE YOU GAVE: THE LAMB CENTER

We are excited to partner alongside The Lamb Center as they prepare to open Beacon Landing, a new Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) community currently under construction which will provide 54 affordable rental apartments and on-site supportive services for people experiencing or at risk of chronic homelessness. Residents are expected to move in to their apartments in December 2026!

Each new resident will receive a Move-In Welcome Kit, supplying necessary household items such as towels, sheets, and kitchen appliances. Each Kit is valued at approximately \$1,000. In addition to our annual support of The Lamb Center, **The Falls Church Anglican has given \$5,000 to this project, sponsoring 5 apartments.** If you would like to get involved in this project and sponsor an apartment, we encourage you to contact Debbi Tinkham at The Lamb Center (debbitinkham@thelambcenter.org) no later than October 15th. Though TFCA cannot accept a gift on behalf of The Lamb Center, we encourage you to coordinate with Debbi and collaborate with your small group, household, or a group of friends to sponsor an apartment.

To learn more about Beacon Landing or the Move In Kits, visit: thelambcenter.org/beacon-landing

SERVING OPPORTUNITY: YOUNGLIVES POP-UP SHOP

Saturday, October 10 | 9 a.m.-noon | Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church

YoungLives Eastern Fairfax would love a team of volunteers to help set up for their Fall Pop Up Shop where expectant and parenting adolescent moms can shop for their little one! Set up will be on Saturday, October 10th from 9am-12pm. If you would like to know more, sign up to help, or are interested in donating, visit tfcanglican.org/outreach.

HOLY COMMUNION • October 4, 2026

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN

"All Creatures of Our God and King" (9AM)

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" | "Great Are You Lord" (11AM)

THE ACCLAMATION

Leader: Blessed be God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

*People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A "collect" is a short prayer. Here we are asking God to prepare our hearts to worship Him.

SONG OF PRAISE

"King of Kings" (9AM)

"How Great Thou Art" (11AM)

THE PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD

Lesson: Genesis 1:26-31 (*Pew Bible, page 1*)

Gospel: Luke 12:22-24 (*Pew Bible, page 871*)

Sermon Lesson: Psalm 8 (*Pew Bible, page 450*)

Sermon, Sam Ferguson

We read from different passages from the Bible because it is one, coherent story, and we desire to hear God speak to us through his Word.

CREEDS & PRAYERS

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

We join Christians around the world and throughout history in affirming our faith through this ancient creed.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

People: **Hear our prayer**

We pray silently and aloud for those in need in our church, nation, and world, and give thanks for the many blessings of this life.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in continual godliness, that through your protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly serve you in good works, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

We confess our sins not to earn God's grace, but in response to it, being honest before Him and seeking deliverance from all darkness.

PEACE

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Having confessed our sins and been reminded of God's forgiveness, we share a greeting of peace with one another.

PARISH UPDATES

OFFERTORY

"The Majesty and the Glory of Your Name" | Doxology (9AM)

"I Am Not My Own" (11AM)

The offering of our resources to God is a tangible expression of His ownership of all things.

HOLY COMMUNION

**All baptized Christians are invited to come forward and receive the bread and wine. If you'd like a gluten-free wafer, please ask your server; for an alcohol-free option, please ask your usher.*

With this Sacrament of bread and wine, God feeds us spiritually, reminding us that of the things we need, we need Him most.

SONGS OF PRAISE

"Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)" | "Set Me as a Seal" | "Jesus Paid It All (O praise the one)" (9AM)

"All I Have Is Christ" | "Amazing Grace" | "Jesus Paid It All (O praise the one)" (11AM)

BLESSING & COMMISSION

Blessing

"Lift High the Cross" (9AM)

Dismissal

With God's blessing, we are sent into the World to do the work He has given us to do.

Seven Questions about Being Human

1. What Is the Chief and Highest Purpose of Human Beings?

Man's chief and highest end is to glorify God, and fully to enjoy him forever (Westminster Larger Catechism, Q.1, 1647).

2. Where Did Human Beings Come From, and Why Were They Created?

I acknowledge that God created for his own glory everything that exists. He created human beings, male and female, in his image and appointed us stewards of creation. God's creation is thus a gift to enjoy as we work and care for it (*Gen 1:27–28; 2:15; Ps 8:5–8; Lk 19:11–27; 1 Cor 4:1–2; To Be a Christian: Anglican Catechism, Q. 43, 2020*).

3. What Are Human Beings, and How Did God Create Us?

After God had made all other creatures, he created man male and female; formed the body of the man of the dust of the ground, and the woman of the rib of the man; endued them with living, reasonable, and immortal souls; made them after his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness; having the law of God written in their hearts, and power to fulfill it, and dominion over the creatures; yet subject to fall (Westminster Larger Catechism, Q.17, 1647).

4 What Does It Mean to Be Created in the Image of God?

God created man good and in His own image, that is, in true righteousness and holiness; that he might rightly know God his Creator, heartily love Him, and live with Him in eternal blessedness to praise and glorify Him (*Gen 1:31; Gen 1:26-27; Eph 4:24; Col 3:10; Ps 8; Heidelberg Catechism, Q.6, 1563*).

5. Did We Continue in the State Wherein God at First Created Him?

Our first parents being left to the freedom of their own will, through the temptation of Satan, transgressed the commandment of God, in eating the forbidden fruit, and thereby fell from the estate of innocence wherein they were created (*Gen 3:6-8, 13; Ecc 7:29; 2 Cor 11:3; Westminster Larger Catechism, Q.21, 1647*).

6. What Does Scripture Teach about the Goodness and Dignity of the Human Body?

Holy Scripture tells me that my body, though tainted by sin, was created good, bearing the image of God and endowed with great dignity. Therefore, from the moment of conception to natural death, every human body and every human life should be cared for, protected, and loved (*Gen 1:26–28; Ps 139:7–18; Matt 11:2–5; 1 Cor 6:19–20; Ja 3:8–10; To Be a Christian: Anglican Catechism, Q.114, 2020*).

7. Are Human Beings Truly Free?

Of Free Will they teach that man's will has some liberty to choose civil righteousness, and to work things subject to reason. But it has no power, without the Holy Ghost, to work the righteousness of God, that is, spiritual righteousness; since the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God, 1 Cor. 2:14; but this righteousness is wrought in the heart when the Holy Ghost is received through the Word. These things are said in as many words by Augustine in his *Hypognosticon*, Book III¹: We grant that all men have a free will, free, inasmuch as it has the judgment of reason [=human beings can reason and make choices]; not that it is thereby capable, without God, either to begin, or, at least, to complete aught in things pertaining to God but only in works of this life, whether good or evil [= without God's help, we cannot begin, much less accomplish, God's perfect will, but rather, our natural freedom extends only to the affairs of this earthly life].... (Augsburg Confession, Article XVIII, 1530).

¹The *Hypognosticon* (Latin: *Hypomnesticon contra Pelagianos et Coelestianos*; English: "A Memorandum Against the Pelagians and Celestians") reflects the work of St. Augustine (354-430), who debated Pelagius (354-418) about the necessity of divine grace for fallen human beings to come to God.

Today's Scripture Lesson: Psalm 8

¹O Lord, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

² Out of the mouth of babies and infants,

you have established strength because of your foes,

to still the enemy and the avenger.

³When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

⁴what is man that you are mindful of him,

and the son of man that you care for him?

⁵ Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶ You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,

⁷ all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,

⁸ the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

⁹ O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

(ESV)

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This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Upcoming Events & Classes

Visit tfcanglican.org/upcoming-events for a full list

20s WORD & FELLOWSHIP

Sunday Mornings | 9:45-10:45 a.m. | Learning Center Room 110 (First Floor Office Building)

Are you in your 20s? You're invited to Word & Fellowship on Sunday mornings in Learning Center Room 110! We meet from 9:45-10:45 to visit with one another, read and study Scripture, and pray together, before attending the 11 a.m. service.

GENERATIONAL HEALING SERVICE

Friday, Oct. 9 | 7 p.m. | Sanctuary

The Healing Prayer Ministry invites families of The Falls Church Anglican to join us for an evening of worship, communion, and prayer at our Generational Healing Service.

This will be a sacred time as we gather in the sanctuary to ask the Lord to bring healing to areas of our personal and family histories where patterns of brokenness, pain, or illness may have taken root. Together we will remember Christ's death and resurrection through the Eucharist and invite the power of His redeeming work to bring freedom, restoration, and hope.

MEMORIAL GARDEN

Our Memorial Garden is a beautiful, sacred space where all are welcome for quiet reflection and prayer. Due to recent events, we request that you accompany your children when they visit the Memorial Garden to help us maintain this space accordingly. Rocks and debris continue to be found in the wall fountain and have caused damage to the pump. Additionally, we will be keeping the west entrance to the Memorial Garden locked so as to limit passthrough traffic. Thank you for helping us with this.

KEEPING THE FAITH GROUP

Sunday, Oct. 11 | 9-11 a.m. | The Back 40

Keeping the Faith (KTF) is a hybrid Sunday School class/small group that equips parents of kids of any age — or any caring adult with young ones in their life — to confidently and effectively disciple the children and teens they love. KTF meets on alternating Sundays at 9:00 am during the service. Each gathering, you can check your children into Sunday School or childcare, then join us in the Back 40 for coffee, snacks, and fellowship as we dig into Scripture,

EVENTS & CLASSES CAN BE FOUND AT [TFCANGLICAN.ORG/UPCOMING](https://tfcanglican.org/upcoming)

LOCATIONS THIS SUNDAY

Baptism Class for Parents of Young Children (11-12:15) <i>Learning Center (First Floor Office Building)</i>	Foster & Adoption Ministry Care Community Training <i>12:30-The Back 40 (Third Floor Office Building)</i>
Children's Sunday School (9& 11a.m.) <i>Check-in Downstairs Church Building</i>	In the Word Adult Sunday School (11-12p.m.) <i>The Back 40 Stage Side (Third Floor Office Building)</i>
20s Word & Fellowship (9:45-10:45a.m.) <i>Learning Center Room 110 (First Floor Office Building)</i>	Youth Group NO YOUTH GROUP TONIGHT! <i>Parking Lot Behind Church</i>