



THE DECLARATION OF PARDON

John Dillon

\* THE RESPONSE IN PRAISE

#28, Lift Up Your Hearts

**Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!**  
**Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah, hallelujah!** (repeat)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sue Rudd

## Hearing God's Word

TIME FOR CHILDREN

DEDICATION OF OUR 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Let us pray together:

**Lord, Jesus Christ, you are the beginning and ending of all things, the first and the last, the alpha and the omega. Grant that this Sanctuary built so long ago for your glory, and this people who gather in your name may be blessed in this coming year as they join in celebration and remembrance of two hundred years of worship and service.**

\* HYMN OF PREPARATION #67

Text: Reginald Heber, 1811  
"Morning Star"

*Brightest and Best of the Stars of Morning*

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 2:7-9

pew Bible p. 2

SECOND LESSON

Luke 3:15-17

pew Bible p. 56

ANTHEM

*Bring We the Frankincense of Our Love*

"Epiphany Song"

Bring we the frankincense of our love to the feet of the Holy Child.  
Ever remembering God's great gift of a love that is undefiled.

Holy the Infant and holy the mother  
and holy and precious the gifts that we bring;  
Praise to the Father and praise to the Spirit and Praise to Christ Jesus, our King.

Ever secure in His changelessness, though the kingdoms of earth may fall, Bring we the gold of our  
faithfulness to the King who is Lord of all.

Holy the Infant and holy the mother  
and holy and precious the gifts that we bring;  
Praise to the Father and praise to the Spirit and Praise to Christ Jesus, our King.

THE SERMON

"In the Beginning: Two Trees in Eden"

Rev. John Dillon

## Our Response to God's Love

\* THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Christian faith is not an opinion or human conviction, but a most firm trust and a clear and steadfast assent of the mind, and then a most certain apprehension of the truth of God presented in the Scriptures and in the Apostle's Creed, and thus also of God himself, the greatest good, and especially of God's promise and of Christ who is the fulfillment of all promises.**

**But this faith is a pure gift of God which God alone of his grace gives by the Holy Spirit by means of the preaching of the Gospel and steadfast prayer.**

*—from Chapter 10, 5.112-5.113 of the Second Helvetic Confession )*

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

#### WORSHIPPING THE LORD THROUGH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY SOLO

*The Star Proclaims the King Is Here*

Pachelbel

\* THE DOXOLOGY

"Old Hundredth", #592, The Hymnal

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\* OFFERTORY PRAYER

\* THE HYMN OF PARTING #66

*We Three Kings*

"Three Kings of Orient"

\* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

(Please greet one another in the peace of Christ.)

\* SUNG BENEDICTION

*Rejoice! Rejoice!*

"Veni Emmanuel"

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.** (repeat)

### **Going Forth in God's Love**

\* THE POSTLUDE

*Three Kings*

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\* Those who wish to do so are invited to stand

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION-CORPORATION** of The First Presbyterian Church of Cumberland, Maryland is called by the Session for **Sunday, January 24, 2010**. The purposes of the meeting are:

- To hear the Annual Report of the Session
- To elect an Auditor to the Auditing Committee
- To receive the report of the Nominating Committee
- To elect a Nominating Committee for the coming year
- To elect the Officers of the Corporation, and
- To conduct any other business properly coming before the Congregation-Corporation.

—By Order of the Session  
Deborah J. Hendrickson, Clerk of Session

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## **About the Affirmation of Faith**

The PC (USA) Book of Confessions is a collection of Confessions from the church in many ages and many different situations. Therefore, its expressions of faith cover a multitude of theological opinions, many of which are obviously influenced by who participated in their preparation and the times and customs of their era. While not necessarily agreeing with every statement precisely, our Ministers, Elders, and Deacons swear to be guided by its principles and truths. We select a passage from one of these Confessions each month to experience and explore the breadth and depth of our heritage.

Continuing our exploration of the Confessions, in January we will be using extracts from the Second Helvetic Confession of 1566.

The word “Helvetic” is Latin for “Swiss.” The setting of the Second Helvetic Confession is Swiss-German Reformed Protestantism.

In 1561, renowned Minister of the Church of Zurich, Heinrich Bullinger, composed the document that later became known as the Second Helvetic Confession. He intended to attach it to his last will and testament to the Zurich church, but events in Germany soon brought it into the public arena. In 1566, the churches of Switzerland adopted Bullinger’s confession as their new confession of faith. Soon finding wide acceptance throughout Europe and beyond, it was translated into French, English, Dutch, Polish, Hungarian, Italian, Arabic and Turkish.

From the opening paragraphs the Second Helvetic Confession emphasizes the church and its life and affirms the authority of the Scriptures for the church’s government and reformation. The Confession asks the church to trust in God’s free and gracious election of its membership in Jesus Christ and at the same time, addresses the practical life of the gathered community, detailing matters of worship, church order and conflict, ministry, the sacraments and marriage.

## What's Happening This Week:



### SUNDAY, JANUARY (10)

9:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal  
9:45 AM Sunday School for All Ages  
10:15 AM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
11:00 AM Worship Service, Baptism of the Lord Sunday  
200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Dedication  
On the Air WCBC

### MONDAY, JANUARY (11)

9:00 AM Church Office Open  
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool  
5:30 PM Buildings & Grounds Mtg. in Parlor

### TUESDAY, JANUARY (12)

9:00 AM Church Office Open  
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool  
6:30 PM Worship Committee Mtg. in the Parlor  
6:30 PM Pee Wee Basketball Practice at Westside School  
7:00 PM Global Mission Meeting in Library

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY (13)

9:00 AM Church Office Open  
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool  
6:15 PM JoyBells Rehearsal  
6:30 PM Pee Wee Basketball Practice at Cresaptown  
7:30 PM Jr. High Basketball Practice at Cresaptown

### THURSDAY, JANUARY (14)

9:00 AM Church Office Open  
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool  
7:00 PM Session Meeting

### FRIDAY, JANUARY (15)

9:00 AM Church Office Open  
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool

### SATURDAY, JANUARY (16)

2:30 PM "Kairos Torch" Meeting in Library

### SUNDAY, JANUARY (17)

9:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal  
9:45 AM Sunday School for All Ages  
10:15 AM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
11:00 AM Worship Service, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
On the Air WCBC