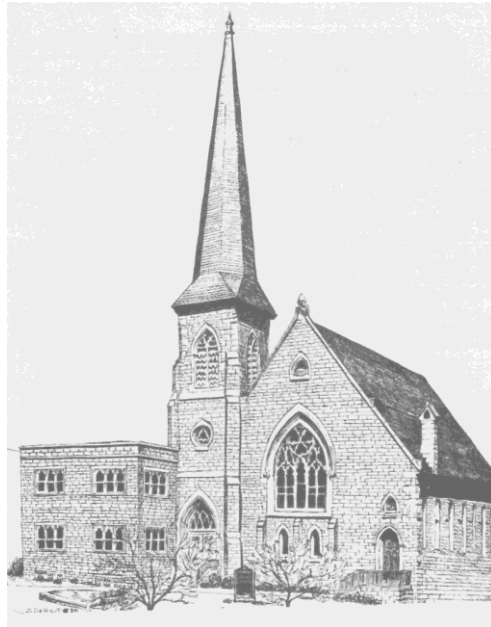


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY 6TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 16, 2020

11:00 AM

PRELUDE

ADAGIO IN C
BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

W. A. MOZART

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME , ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS

CHORAL INTROIT

HE WHICH HATH BEGUN A GOOD WORK IN YOU
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

JAN BENDER

He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 119:1-2

Happy are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord.
Happy are those who keep the Lord's decrees,
who seek the Lord with their whole heart.

Let us pray..

Almighty God,
you gave the law to guide our lives.
May we never shrink from your commandments,
but, as we are taught by your Son Jesus,
fulfill the law in perfect love; through Christ our Lord and Master,
who lives and reigns with you and the holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

* HYMN #630

FAIREST LORD JESUS

“CRUSADERS’ HYMN”

* CALL TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
in your gracious presence
we confess our sin and the sin of the world.
Although Christ is among us as our peace,
we are a people divided against ourselves as we
cling to the values of a broken world.
The profit and pleasures we pursue
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.
The fears and jealousies that we harbor
set neighbor against neighbor
and nation against nation.
We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,
of intellect and reason,
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

Lord, have mercy upon us;
heal and forgive us.
Set us free to serve you in the world
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

KYRIE ELEISON

KYRIE

“NEW WORLD”

Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.
Christe, Christe eleison. Christe, Christe eleison.
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison, eleison.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

II CORINTHIANS 1:19

Brothers and sisters, hear these words from the scriptures:
For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I,
was not, “Yes and No”; but in him it is always “Yes.”
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

(Please greet one another with signs of peace.)

* RESPONSE #582

GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME

“GLORY TO GOD”

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

PSALM 30

PEW BIBLE, OT, p. 478

ANTHEM

GLORIA FROM ‘TWELFTH MASS’
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR
Translated from the Latin text:

ATT. W. A. MOZART

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty father, Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten son, Lord God, lamb of God, son of the father.

SERMON

THE PARABLE OF THE SHREWD MANAGER

REV. DR. JAMES R.M. YOUNG

* HYMN #721

LORD, YOU HAVE COME TO THE LAKESHORE

"PRESCADOR DE HOMBRES"

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

HEAR MY PRAYER
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

MOSES HOGAN

O Lord, please hear my prayer, in the mornin' when I rise.
It's your servant bound for glory, O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.

O Lord, please hear my prayer: Keep me safe within your arms.
It's your servant bound for glory, O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.

When my work on earth is done, and you come to take me home,
just to know I'm bound for glory, and to hear you say, "Well done."

* SONG OF PRAISE & PRESENTATION # 609 PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

"LASST UNS ERFREUEN"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

PASTORAL PRAYER CONCLUDING WITH
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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* HYMN #725

O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED

"NYLAND"

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION-CORPORATION

(All members are encouraged to stay; visitors are welcome.)

* BENEDICTION

* SUNG RESPONSE #306

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS

"DENNIS"

(Please join hands as we sing together.)

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

* When this symbol precedes an element of the service, if you are able, please stand.
Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

This Morning's Worship Leaders

Preacher..... Rev. Dr. James R.M. Young
Liturgist.....Mike Levitas
Director of Music Ministries.....Bryan Lohr
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir
Sound TechnicianJoe Aurigemma
Ushers.....Sharon Squires and Evan Swanger

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION-CORPORATION of First Presbyterian church of Cumberland, Maryland is called by the Session for **today**.

The purposes of the meeting are:

- To hear the Annual Report of the Session
- To elect Auditors to the Auditing Committee for the Class of 2022 and 2023
- To elect a new class of Ruling Elders
- To elect a 2020 Congregational Nominating Committee
- To receive the 2020 Budget
- To elect Officers of the Corporation
- To conduct any other business properly coming before the Congregation-Corporation

-By Order of the Session

MUSIC NOTES

'The Twelfth Mass' has long been attributed to Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, although it wasn't published until 1819, twenty eight years after Mozart's death. Recent scholarship suggests that the *Mass* was likely written by Wenzel Müller, a younger contemporary of Mozart, known for his musical works for the theater.

Hear My Prayer is an original work written in 2001 by African American composer and choral conductor Mosses Hogan (1957-2003.) During his lifetime Hogan championed the mainstream programming of African American spirituals and published more than 70 spiritual arrangements and original works.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

RULING ELDERS: DAVID STICKLER & CATHY LEVITAS

FPC SNOW POLICY: Sunday School – The Pastor, the Security Patrol, and the Co-Chairs of the Faith Formation and Buildings & Grounds committees will consult by phone and make a decision by 8:00 a.m. If Sunday School is canceled, announcements will be made on radio stations including WCBC 1270 AM (and on their website Snow Watch list) and by email to church members, Facebook , and the church website.

Worship – Worship will be canceled only in the most extreme weather conditions. If indicated, the Pastor, the Security Patrol, and the Co-Chairs of the Worship & Music and Buildings and Grounds committees will consult and make a decision. If worship is canceled, announcements will be made on radio stations including WCBC 1270 AM (and on their Snow Watch list) and by email to church members, Facebook, and the church website.

Church members should not venture out to Sunday School or Worship if they do not feel safe doing so.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME VISITORS: We are glad you found your way to First Presbyterian Church of Cumberland. For more information about opportunities to worship, learn and serve with us, we encourage you to visit the table outside the church office. You can also learn more about us at www.fpc-cumberland.org and www.facebook.com/First.Pres.Cumberland. Childcare is provided in the nursery. An usher will be glad to direct you there.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP: While we do provide a nursery for young children, we also welcome you to bring your child with you to worship. We have "worship bags" in the back of the sanctuary that include materials for drawing and coloring, as well as Bible stories and Bible word-find games. Our "Young Children in Worship" pew card contains information about why young children should be encouraged to come to worship and how parents and others can engage them more fully in worship.

THE PRAY-GROUND is a special space in the sanctuary for our youngest children and their families. All families are welcome to come and sit in the right front pews with their children seated on the rug. This front row seat will allow God's youngest children to participate in the service in a place where they can see and hear best. There will be activities provided so that their little hands are kept busy while participating in worship. "Jesus said to them, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it'" (Mark 10:14-15).

FRIENDSHIP PADS: Please locate and sign the red pad in your pew, tear off the sheet and place it in the collection plate during the offering. This important practice allows us to be mindful of new folks and long-time members as well, and is a good way to learn (or remember) the names of those with whom you are seated. **If you are visitor, please fill out the "Welcome to First Presbyterian Church" card in the pew rack and put it in the offering plate when it comes by during the service.**

PERSONAL LISTENING DEVICES: (amplifiers) are available in the back of the church for use during worship. Please see an usher for assistance.

WORSHIP BROADCASTS ON YOUTUBE: To view worship services live or to view taped worship services, go to www.youtube.com (First Presbyterian Church of Cumberland Live Stream) or go to our website <http://www.fpc-cumberland.org/> and click on "click here to view our worship service" located at the bottom of the home page.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS: The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the Glory of God in honor of their 65th wedding anniversary, which is today, by Rex and Sandra Burton. **Please contact Michael Levitas or the church office if you would like to sponsor flowers for a special occasion like a birthday or anniversary or in memory or honor of someone. You may specify live or silk flowers. Silk flower money will be directed to the Special Ministries Fund.**

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

RULING ELDERS: GARY HENDRICKSON & CINDY CORLEY

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of February 9, 2020
Total 2020 Pledges Promised	\$206,064.00
Pre-paid pledges	\$ 17,368.00
<u>2020 Pledge Balance Promised</u>	<u>\$188,696.00</u>
Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date	\$ 25,604.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 21,891.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 3,712.00

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

February 10, 2019

70

February 9, 2020

46

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2020 are now available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. If you do not see a box with your name on it, please contact the church office.

CARE & OUTREACH

RULING ELDERS: LAURA FISCUS & JOSH GILHART

PAINT PARTY AT MR. TOAD'S POTTERY (Located in LaVale Plaza near Joann Fabrics) on **Saturday, February 29th** from **2:00 – 4:00 PM**. Join us for a fun afternoon of painting pottery. First, choose the item you want to paint. They have mugs, plates, bowls, and many other choices. Prices vary depending on your selection. After a brief lesson on how to paint pottery, select your colors and create your masterpiece! They will add the final glaze and fire it in their kiln. Your pottery will be finished within a week. Hope you can make it! Meet at the pottery studio in LaVale. For more details, contact Laura Fiscus or Josh Gilhart.

SIGHT AND SOUND TRIP: The Congregational Care and Outreach committee would like to begin planning another Trip to Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA. They will begin showing their new musical, “Queen Ester” in March. Weekend spots at the theater are filling up rapidly. Ticket prices for the seats range between \$60.00 and \$90.00 depending on the day of the week. Transportation costs will vary depending on the number of people attending and method of transportation. Last time we rented a 15-passanger van which added \$25.00 to each person’s total cost. Next Sunday, February 23rd, we ask anyone interested in joining us on this trip to meet us in the Gathering room after the service to go over any questions you might have as well as try to determine a date suitable to us all. Thank you!

FAITH FORMATION

RULING ELDERS: JOE WEAVER & ANN KELLERMEYER

SUNDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP: On February 23rd, we will begin a weekly book group from 10:00 AM to 10:50 AM on Sunday mornings. Participants will be able to read and discuss books on religious, social, and other topics of interest. The Faith Formation committee will suggest a list of books to vote on, but we also encourage participants to suggest books they are personally interested in to add to the list.

We have selected a book to start us out but moving forward all books will be voted on by the group. Our first book is “**Searching for Sunday**” by Rachel Held Evans. This book deals with the authors struggles with loving, falling away from, and finding her way back to church. The book is available for \$9.49 on Amazon. Anyone interested please contact Joshua Gilhart. If anyone interested is in need of child care please let Josh know in advance and it will be arranged.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL: Next **Sunday, February 23**, each family attending worship will receive a Lenten Devotional “**Becoming a Beloved Community: a Matthew 25 Journey to the Cross**”. Every day, a Scripture reading, short reflection and closing prayer tell the powerful story of how God’s love in action is changing lives. Also featured in the devotional are ancient and modern mosaics depicting the life of Jesus. Readers are invited to pause and ponder the reflection question that accompanies each picture. The mosaics underscore how each person’s action, gift, prayer and desire for a better world are necessary – and beautiful – pieces in the picture of God’s kingdom here on Earth. If you are unable to attend worship on Sunday, devotionals will be available in the church office.

LENTEN STUDY: On **Thursdays, March 19, 26, and April 2**, we will have a light supper at 5:30 followed by a study led by Rev. Young and taken from these devotionals. Join us on these evenings to try and grow together as the “beloved community” by “facing our fears, prejudices and our flawed understandings, so that in Christ, wrongs may be righted, hearts may be changed and we might live together in peace.” If you are in **need of childcare**, let Ann Kellermeyer or Julie Courtney know.

MISSION

RULING ELDERS: PAM JAN & AARON HENDRICKSON

MISSION OUTREACH DINNER: The monthly outreach dinner will be held **February 23rd** at **Christ United Methodist Church, 336 Race Street**. Dinner will be served from 4:00-5:30PM. If anyone can volunteer to serve dinner, help clean tables, and/or provide brownies; please let Judy Stern (814-977-8880), Phil Mills, or Linda Smith (301-395-8165) know.

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO SOUTH DAKOTA THIS SUMMER? If you would like to learn more about the 11th annual Learning Camp, please join Robin Bissell and Janet Hendershot after worship on **Sunday, March 8th** and **March 22nd** in the Gathering Place for a short slideshow and plenty of time for your questions. **Other times can be arranged by contacting Robin at rbissell444@gmail.com.**

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY (17)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
1:30 PM AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY (18)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
6:30 PM BUILDING & GROUNDS WORK NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY (19)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
6:15 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL
7:00 PM N.A. GROUP MEETING IN THE HERITAGE ROOM
7:30 PM SANCTUARY CHOIR REHEARSAL

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY (20)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
5:30 PM NEW TESTAMENT STUDY WITH REV. JIM YOUNG
7:00 PM SESSION MEETING IN THE GATHERING PLACE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY (21)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY (22)

6:00 PM N.A. GROUP MEETING IN THE HERITAGE ROOM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY (23)

11:00AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
4:00 PM MISSION OUTREACH DINNER

FEBRUARY 16, 2020
SIXTH SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY

taking+
faith
home

God's law is meant to protect life.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 5:21-37	Teachings of Jesus
Monday	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	Choose life, not death
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 3:1-9	Working together for God
Wednesday	Galatians 5:13-6:2	Fulfilling the law of Christ
Thursday	Deuteronomy 30:8-14	The Lord will bring you back
Friday	Romans 3:19-26	Justified by grace
Saturday	Psalms 119:1-8	The law of the Lord
Sunday	Matthew 17:1-19	Transfiguration of Jesus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him.
Deuteronomy 30:19b-20a (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, you who give life and protect life with your law, help us to care for others, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food, a gift of love that gives us life. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord bless you with joy as you walk in the ways of God. (Psalm 119:1)

FEBRUARY 16, 2020

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Arise, Your Light
Has Come!*

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What is something that you really enjoy in life?
- How do others watching you know that you are enjoying life?
- How do you see God as part of the life you enjoy?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 5:21-37.

These words from Jesus can seem difficult to accept, even scary. Jesus is doing two basic things. He is presenting himself as an authorized interpreter of God's law ("but I say to you") and he is refusing a use of the law that allows people to abuse others. Jesus points out that not killing and not committing adultery carries with them the commitment to value another person's life beyond not killing or divorcing someone. God's law protects life, all life. That means people's reputations, relationships with others, and ability to live daily in peace is valued by God. God cares about all of life. Jesus' hyperbole about plucking out one's eye or cutting off one's hand is a tool of wisdom speech. It makes a point that the intent of God's law is so very important because God's gift of life is that important. And Jesus—like no other—is authorized to state this point in the face of scribes, Pharisees, and all the learned teachers of the law. How do you see God's law as a gift to protect you and your neighbor?

Pray: Lord Jesus, you teach us that the greatest law is to love God and neighbor. Help us to live lives that love you and all people. Amen.

SERVICE

God's law is meant to protect life, which is the theme this week throughout the Daily Bible Readings. The Christian response to Jesus' teachings is to love God and neighbor through actions and words. Think about and act upon what this means to you. Is there a congregation or organization near you that would benefit from a financial contribution or your volunteer time to provide a needed service for others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The reading from 1 Corinthians 3 this week reminds us that "we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building" (v.9). Gather together a few toy building blocks or boxes. Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-9. Build a tower one block at a time. Each time you add a block, name ways we grow in our faith: e.g., worship, prayer, singing, or reading Scripture. After the tower is built, use these practices to grow in your faith this week.