

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

FEBRUARY 23, 2020

11:00 AM

PRELUDE

CANTABILE
BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

CÉSAR FRANCK

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME , ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS

* CALL TO WORSHIP

I JOHN 3:2

Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we will be has not yet been revealed.
What we do know is this:
When he is revealed,
we will be like him,
for we will see him as he is.

Let us pray..

O God,
in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith
by the witness of Moses and Elijah; and in the voice from the cloud
you foreshadowed our adoption as your children.
Make us, with Christ, heirs of your glory,
and bring us to enjoy its fullness; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

* HYMN #394

CHRIST IS MADE THE SURE FOUNDATION

"WESTMINSTER ABBEY"

* CALL TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of compassion,
in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory,
but we turn away, distracted by our own plans.
We confess that we speak when we should listen,
and act when we should wait.

Forgive our aimless enthusiasms.
Grant us wisdom to live in your light
and to follow in the way of your beloved Son,
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

(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 4:6

Brothers and sisters, hear these words from the scriptures:
"God who said, "Out of darkness the light shall shine!" is the same God who made light shine in our hearts
to bring us the knowledge of God's glory shining in the face of Christ."
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.

A MOMENT WITH BEAUREGARD

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

EXODUS 34:29-35

PEW BIBLE, OT, P. 78

ANTHEM

LIGHT OF THE MINDS THAT KNOW HIM
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

K. LEE SCOTT

Light of the minds that know him, may Christ be light to mine!
My sun in risen splendor, my light of truth divine;
My guide in doubt and darkness, my true and living way;
My clear light, ever shining, my dawn of heaven's day.

Life of the souls that love him, may Christ be ours indeed!
The living bread from heaven, on whom our spirits feed,
Who died for love of sinners, to bear our guilty load,
and make our brief journey a new Emmaus road.

Strength of the wills that serve him, may Christ be strength to me,
who stilled the storm and tempest, who calmed the tossing sea;
His spirit's power to move me, his will to master mine,
his cross to carry daily and conquer in his sign.

May it be ours to know him that we may truly love,
and loving fully serve him as serve the saints above;
Till in that home of glory with fadeless splendor bright,
we serve in perfect freedom our strength, our life, our light.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

MATTHEW 17:1-9

PEW BIBLE, NT, P. 17

SERMON

THE TRANSFIGURATION

REV. DR. JAMES R.M. YOUNG

* HYMN #189

O WONDROUS SIGHT, O VISION FAIR

“DEO GRACIAS”

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL PG. 35

SUNG RESPONSE #568

AMEN

“AMEN”

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

WALK IN THE LIGHT
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

ARR. ANDRÉ THOMAS

*We’ll walk in the light, beautiful light, come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright;
Shine all around us, by day or by night, Jesus, the Light of the World.*

Hark, the herald angels sing; Jesus, the light of the world.
Glory to the newborn king; Jesus, the light of the world.

Hail, the heaven-born prince of peace; Jesus, the light of the world.
Christ, the everlasting Lord! Jesus, the light of the world.

* 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 #192

LORD, THE LIGHT OF YOUR LOVE IS SHINING

“SHINE, JESUS, SHINE”

* 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.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

FIAT LUX
BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

THÉODORE DUBOIS

* 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.....Charlene Lelinski
Director of Music Ministries.....Bryan Lohr
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir
Sound TechnicianJoe Aurigemma
Ushers.....Kristina Hall and Judy Stern

MISSION STATEMENT

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we worship God and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ by loving our neighbors and promoting peacemaking, justice and care of the earth.

VISION STATEMENT

We strive to be a community grounded in the good news of God's love in Christ where all of God's children are:

- Welcomed and cherished
- Called to worship, learn and grow together in faith, and
- Sent to share God's love and justice with a broken and hurting world.

Adopted by the Session on September 17, 2015

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 parents, Robert and Virginia Neville, and Guy and Jane Fiscus, by Mike and Laura Fiscus. **CORRECTION:** Last week, the flowers in the sanctuary were given to the Glory of God in honor of their 56th wedding anniversary, 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 16, 2020
Total 2020 Pledges Promised	\$206,064.00
Pre-paid pledges	\$ 17,368.00
2020 Pledge Balance Promised	\$188,696.00
Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date	\$ 26,606.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 25,540.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 1,065.00

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

February 17, 2019
61

February 16, 2020
54

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. **Today**, 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 KELLERMAYER

SUNDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP: Today, we began 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: **Today**, 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 **today** 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.**

INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY DONATION BOX: The Missions Committee is looking for a volunteer from the congregation to monitor the food box located in the lobby for the Interfaith Food Pantry. This person would be responsible for checking the bin and when it is full, taking the food items to the food pantry. Anyone interested in taking on this important mission opportunity, please contact Pam Jan or Aaron Hendrickson for further details"

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY (24)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY (25)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY (26)

ASH WEDNESDAY

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 (27)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
5:30 PM NEW TESTAMENT STUDY WITH REV. JIM YOUNG

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY (28)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY (29)

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY (30)

11:00AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FEBRUARY 23, 2020
TRANSFIGURATION
OF OUR LORD

Disciples have a mountaintop experience.

taking faith home

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

- Sunday Matthew 17:1-9 Transfiguration of Jesus
- Monday Exodus 24:12-18 Moses goes up to Mt. Sinai
- Tuesday 2 Peter 1:16-21 Eye witnesses of Christ's glory
- Wednesday Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 Giving, praying, and fasting
- Thursday Genesis 8:1-22 The Lord's promise for the earth
- Friday Genesis 22:1-19 The Lord will provide
- Saturday Psalm 2 The Lord's chosen king
- Sunday Matthew 4:1-11 Temptation of Jesus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.
Matthew 17:7-8 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

- A Prayer for the Week:**
 Almighty and eternal God, help us to be aware of your saving presence in our lives and in our world, through Christ our Lord. Amen.
- Mealtime Prayer:**
 Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let this food to us be blessed; and let there be a goodly share, on every table, everywhere. Amen.
- A Blessing to Give:**
 May the Lord Almighty bless you to see Jesus and to bring you comfort and strength.



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FEBRUARY 23, 2020
HYMN OF THE WEEK
Jesus on the Mountain Peak

taking faith home

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:

- Identify a special place in your life where you go to experience God's presence.
- Tell of or think about a time you had a special sense of God's presence in your life.
- How do you think the experience of Jesus' transfiguration witnessed by Peter, James, and John impacted the disciples after Jesus' death and resurrection?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 17:1-9.

In the midst of the challenges and hurts of everyday life, it can be a gift and a source of comfort and strength to have a "God moment" experience. It happened to Peter, James, and John. It also happens to us, that sense that God is near and all is well. Our comfort is not in any god or spiritual experience, but one that links us to Jesus, the Son of God, the one who came to die on another mountain, Golgotha. This mountain experience brings together Jesus, Moses, Elijah, and unprepared disciples. What makes this moment a valued "God moment" is that the disciples are comforted ("do not be afraid") and their focus becomes exclusively on Jesus alone. What a moment and a gift it is to see Jesus before us with total focus and concentration. Have you had a special moment that gave you a comforting sense that Jesus was with you?
Pray: Dear God, help us to see Jesus in our mountaintop highs and in our valley lows, and may that vision give us comfort and strength to be your faithful followers. In Jesus' name, amen.

SERVICE

A clear voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" (Matthew 17:5b). The key word here is "listen." A Greek philosopher, Epictetus once said, "We have two ears and one mouth so that we can listen twice as much as we speak." One way to serve others is to simply listen. Who, in your life this week, would appreciate the gift of listening?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Exodus 24, Moses went up on a cloud-covered mountain. "Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights" (vs. 18b). We are about to enter another 40-day period of prayer and fasting as we prepare for Ash Wednesday this week. The day before is called Shrove Tuesday and is recognized around the world as a day to eat fattening foods, especially pancakes. Prepare a pancake feast on Tuesday this week to enjoy with friends and family. After feasting, say this blessing: May God bless you through your journey this Lent.



In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org