



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY: 11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 16, 2020

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

VARIATIONS ON WONDROUS LOVE
BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

SAMUEL BARBER

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME , ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*** HYMN #308**

O GOD IN WHOM ALL LIFE BEGINS

"NOEL"

1 O God in whom all life be-gins, who births the seed to fruit,
2 U - nite in mu - tual min - is - try our minds and hands and hearts
3 Through tears and laugh-ter, grief and joy, en - large our trust and care;

be - stow your bless - ing on our lives; here let your love find root.
that we may have the grace to seek the power your peace im - parts.
so bind us in com - mu - ni - ty that we may risk and dare.

Bring forth in us the Spir - it's gifts of pa - tience, joy, and peace;
So let our var - ied gifts com - bine to glo - ri - fy your Name
Be with us when we gath - er here to wor - ship, sing, and pray;

de - liv - er us from numb - ing fear, and grant our faith in - crease.
that in all things by word and deed we may your love pro - claim.
then send us forth in power and faith to live the words we say.

*** CALL TO CONFESSION**

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfil your will.
Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you.
In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others.
We do not love one another as you command.
In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Brothers and sisters, hear these words from the scriptures: "He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." (Colossians 1:13-14) **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

* SUNG 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 READING

GENESIS 22:1-19

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ²He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

⁹When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill^[a] his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide";^[b] as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."^[c]

¹⁵The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, ¹⁸and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice." ¹⁹So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beer-sheba; and Abraham lived at Beer-sheba.

ANTHEM

YOU ARE MY ALL IN ALL

ARR. SONDRRA K. TUCKER

MEMBERS OF THE JOYBELLS (GTG #519)

NEW TESTAMENT READING

MATTHEW 26:36-46

³⁶Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." ³⁷He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. ³⁸Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." ³⁹And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." ⁴⁰Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? ⁴¹Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial;^[a] the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." ⁴²Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." ⁴³Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. ⁴⁵Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

SERMON

THE SACRIFICE OF ABRAHAM

REV. DR. JAMES R.M. YOUNG

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me
 2 When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger
 stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 near; when my life is al - most gone,
 Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I
 light; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
 fall; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

PRAYERS FOR ONE ANOTHER, OUR COMMUNITY, OUR NATION, ENDING 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.

1 God of the spar - row God of the whale God of the
 2 God of the earth - quake God of the storm God of the
 3 God of the rain - bow God of the cross God of the
 4 God of the hun - gry God of the sick God of the
 5 God of the neigh - bor God of the foe God of the
 6 God of the a - ges God near at hand God of the
 swirl - ing stars How does the crea - ture say Awe
 trum - pet blast How does the crea - ture cry Woe
 emp - ty grave How does the crea - ture say Grace
 prod - i - gal How does the crea - ture say Care
 prun - ing hook How does the crea - ture say Love
 lov - ing heart How do your chil - dren say Joy
 How does the crea - ture say Praise
 How does the crea - ture cry Save
 How does the crea - ture say Thanks
 How does the crea - ture say Life
 How does the crea - ture say Peace
 How do your chil - dren say Home

* BENEDICTION

* SUNG RESPONSE #306

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS

“DENNIS”

(Please do not hold hands.)

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

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

TOCCATA IN NINE

EUGENE BUTLER

BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

* 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.....Cathy Levitas
 Director of Music Ministries.....Bryan Lohr
 Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
 Ushers.....Paul and Barbara Aber

MUSIC NOTES

A native of West Chester, Pennsylvania, Samuel Barber (1910-1981) was one of the most celebrated American composers of the 20th century. Based on an early American hymn, **Variations on *Wondrous Love*** was his only work for the organ, written in 1958 for Richard Rocklein, organist at Christ Episcopal Church in Gross Pointe, Michigan. Barber opens the piece with the hymn tune played in its shape-note form, sounding ominous with minor and open harmonies. The first variation superimposes a mournful, weeping countermelody on the tune. The second variation is a contrapuntal study, with the melody elongated in the organ pedals and a faster version playing in canon on the organ keyboards. The third variation is in compound triple meter, with the melody singing wistfully in the tenor voice. The final variation is the most abstract, yet heart-rending; the melody is over-embellished, backed-up by chromatic harmonies, being at once avant-garde and achingly romantic.

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

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY FLOWERS: The special flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of William Lee Shaffer Jr., on his birthday, by his family. The sunflowers in the pulpit today were grown from their own seed by Sharon and Bob Kazary. Bob and Sharon are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary today. **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. We currently have openings for flower sponsorship on September 6th and 27th.**

SESSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REV. DR. JAMES R.M. YOUNG, MODERATOR OF THE SESSION
JEFF GETTY, CLERK

CLASS OF 2021

Bob Courtney: Building & Grounds
Laura Fiscus: Mission
Josh Gilhart: Faith Formation
Aaron Hendrickson: Mission

CLASS OF 2022

Cindy Corley: Administration & Finance
Gary Hendrickson: Administration & Finance
David Stickler: Worship & Music
Evan Swanger: Building & Grounds

CLASS OF 2023

Kristina Hall: Congregational Care & Outreach
Janet Hendershot: Faith Formation
Sharon Kazary: Worship & Music
Jan Layman: Congregational Care & Outreach

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

RULING ELDERS: GARY HENDRICKSON & CINDY CORLEY

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of August 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	\$118,496.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$116,754.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 1,741.00

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & OUTREACH

RULING ELDERS: KRISTINA HALL & JAN LAYMAN

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

- ✠ Elizabeth Betts (Georgene McKenzie's granddaughter)
- ✠ Polly Eyer (Recovering at Mountain City Center: Nursing and Rehab in Frostburg from a fractured vertebra)
- ✠ Betty Richtmeyer (Recovering from abdominal surgery)
- ✠ Katie Ross (Upcoming surgery for oral cancer)
- ✠ Memphis Russell (Elva Berry's great-grandson)
- ✠ Carolyn Weaver (Upcoming knee surgery)
- ✠ Agnes Yount (Now in Hickory, NC with relatives, recovering from brain surgery)

PRAYER REQUESTS: You can now submit your prayer request on the FPC website. Click the nurture tab and then prayer request.

MISSION

RULING ELDERS: AARON HENDRICKSON & LAURA FISCUS

MISSION OUTREACH DINNER: The monthly outreach dinner will resume on Sunday, August 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 cupcakes; please let Judy Stern (814-977-8880), Phil Mills, or Linda Smith (301-395-8165) know. We have been asked to provide four dozen cupcakes for the dinner. Cupcakes can be dropped off to the church office on Friday, August 21st by 2:00 PM or be brought to the worship service on Sunday, August 23rd.