



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS: FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 27, 2020 11:00 AM

PRELUDE

JOY TO THE WORLD
NANCY HODGES, PIANO

ARR. BOB WALTERS

CHORALE PRELUDE ON 'HE WHOM THE SHEPHERDS PRAISED'
BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

HELMUT WALCHA

WELCOME

BRYAN LOHR

CHORAL INTROIT

STAR CAROL
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR (STREAMED LIVE FROM WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS EVE, 2019)

JOHN RUTTER

OPENING PRAYER

* CONGREGATIONAL CAROL #140

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY
(STREAMED LIVE FROM WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 30, 2018)

"IRBY

THE FIRST READING

THE BIRTH OF JESUS (LUKE 2: 1-7)

READ BY MIKE LEVITAS

CAROL

WHAT CHILD IS THIS
OTTO ROSS, ACCORDION

TRADITIONAL ENGLISH

CAROL

THE COVENTRY CAROL
NANCY HODGES, PIANO AND KARL HODGES, UKULELE

TRADITIONAL ENGLISH

THE SECOND READING

THE HEART IN WAITING (BY KEVIN CROSSLEY-HOLLAND)

READ BY JULIE COURTNEY

CAROL

HE IS BORN
THE JOYBELLS (STREAMED LIVE FROM WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 22, 2019)

ARR. CYNTHIA DOBRINSKI

THE THIRD READING

THE SHEPHERDS GO TO THE MANGER (LUKE 2: 8-16)

READ BY SHARON KAZARY

CAROL

CHRISTMAS ANGELS
BRENDA LUGER, FLUTE (STREAMED LIVE FROM MORNING WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 24, 2017)

ARR. JOEL RANEY

* CONGREGATIONAL CAROL #136

GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN
(STREAMED LIVE FROM WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 30, 2018)

"GO TELL IT"

THE FOURTH READING

THE OXEN (BY THOMAS HARDY)

READ BY CATHY LEVITAS

CAROL

THE HOLY BOY
GAIL PLITNIK, SOPRANO (STREAMED LIVED FROM WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 30, 2018)

JOHN IRELAND

THE FIFTH READING

THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST'S INCARNATION IS REVEALED (JOHN 1: 1-14)

READ BY BOB COURTNEY

CAROLS

SILENT NIGHT
WIL TURNER, PIANO

FRANZ GRUBER

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH
WIL TURNER, PIANO

TRADITIONAL FRENCH

*** CONGREGATIONAL CAROL #110**

LOVE HAS COME
(STREAMED LIVE FROM WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 24, 2017)

BRING A TORCH

THE SIXTH READING

NOEL (BY ANN PORTER)

READ BY KATIE ROSS

CAROL

SILENT NIGHT
MIKAYLA, ZACH, AND ARIA DODGE

FRANZ GRUBER

PRAYER AND 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.

*** CONGREGATIONAL CAROL #134**

JOY TO THE WORLD
(STREAMED LIVE FROM MORNING WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 24, 2017)

“ANTIOCH”

THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

NOËL
BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

LOUIS-CLAUDE DAQUIN

This Morning’s Worship Leaders

Director of Music Ministries.....Bryan Lohr
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir (previously recorded), Zach and Mikayla Dodge,
.....The JoyBells, Nancy Hodges, Piano; Karl Hodges, Ukulele, Wil Tuner, Piano; Brenda Luger, Flute, Otto Ross, Accordion
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler

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

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

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY FLOWERS: 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.

CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

Thursday, December 31, 2020- CLOSED

Friday, January 1, 2020- CLOSED

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

RULING ELDERS: GARY HENDRICKSON & CINDY CORLEY

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of December 20, 2020
Total 2020 Pledges Promised	\$206,064.00
Pre-paid pledges	\$ 17,368.00
<u>2020 Pledge Balance Promised</u>	<u>\$182,214.00</u>
Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date	\$182,214.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$186,077.00
Over/(Under)	\$(3,863.00)

2020 YEAR END GIVING: Thanks for your faithful support of the mission and ministry of First Presbyterian Church during 2020. Remember that **year-end contributions must be received by the church no later than Wednesday, December 30th** in order to qualify as 2020 contributions for tax purposes.

ONLINE PLEDGE SUBMISSION NOW AVAILABLE: This year, we have created a way to submit your pledges online via our webpage. If you are interested in submitting your pledge online, please visit <http://www.fpc-cumberland.org/pledge/>.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & OUTREACH

RULING ELDERS: KRISTINA HALL & JAN LAYMAN

NOON PRAYER INVITATION: The Congregational Care & Outreach Committee invites you to join them in communal prayer, every day at Noon, Monday through Saturday, just for 5 minutes. It will give you a quiet mini retreat in the middle of a busy day, or a sense of a virtual community in case you are suffering from quarantine loneliness. You can pray anywhere, any prayer, any language, and know that someone from our Congregation is there with you in spirit.

The best way to be in sync is to put the Noon Prayer into the Alarm on your cell phone - at least that is how some of us do it. Thank you for joining us ! - and if you miss, do not worry, we will pray for you.

Christmas Fundraiser 2020

- ✠ To the Glory of God in honor of John and Eleanor Johnson by Carl and Jane Belt
- ✠ To the Glory of God in honor of Bryan Lohr and Judie Brown by Deb and Gary Hendrickson
- ✠ To the Glory of God in honor of all first responders, all essential workers and all medical workers in all their levels of care giving
- ✠ To the Glory of God in memory of W. Edward Solomon and Eleanor Solomon by Elaine Solomon
- ✠ To the Glory of God in honor of Joe Arigemma and Eric Ringler for their excellence in providing the virtual Sunday Services

In the place of the Christmas Music Offering this year, Session has approved the motion presented by the Worship & Music Committee to collect funds to purchase a new projector for the sanctuary. The new projector will enhance our ability to stream and project during services and allow us to continue to host simulcast and movies in the future.

We have currently raised \$775.00 thanks to the generous donations from the members and friends listed above. Unfortunately, we are still in need of \$282.00 to fully pay for the projector and screen. Please consider making a donation to this project. Checks can be mailed to the Church Office and designated to the Sanctuary projector. We greatly appreciate your donations to make this project possible.

MISSION

RULING ELDERS: LAURA FISCUS * & AARON HENDRICKSON

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING: This Sunday and next Sunday are the days set aside to contribute to the Christmas Joy Offering. 50% of the proceeds will go to help support the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions (BOP). This offering honors the faithfulness of current and retired church workers and their families in need. Thanks in part to support from this Offering, church workers can receive critical financial assistance to support them through life's challenging circumstances.

The other 50 percent helps support Presbyterian related schools where communities of color can grow their faith and prepare to become the leaders of the Church in the future.

If you would like to contribute to this worthwhile offering, please send a check made out to the church and in the memo line write Christmas Joy Offering.

REASON FOR THE SEASON 2020

As we've learned all too well this year, viruses can spread around the world bringing sickness, increased poverty and hunger, and death. In contrast, what would the opposite look like? A "virus" that spreads God's contagious love?

Mission is one way to do that. Through "Reason for the Season", our church has been spreading such a "virus" locally and around the globe for over 20 years. It's an alternative giving opportunity that can be a donation or a gift to another person. Please prayerfully consider how you can help spread *this* "virus".

Presbyterian Education Board of Pakistan (PEB) provides quality education to "poorest of the poor" (aka Christian) children through scholarships if parents cannot afford the \$2/month tuition. A scholarship to one student spreads the benefits of an education to future generations. The cost per student is \$365/year, or \$31 per month, which covers tuition, books, supplies, and uniforms. Boarding student scholarships are twice that. We currently sponsor 7 students through this donation and the Mission budget.

"This Child Here" in Ukraine currently trains all foster families and social workers in the Odessa region. There are 751 orphanages in Ukraine and 106,000 youth and children in them. The hope is to get kids back into healthy families: families of origin or foster families, to give them a strong foundation for their life. The cost for two staff people to lead a session is \$400. Training covers 3 days and includes classes on childhood development and skills in effective parenting. Up to 10 people are allowed in each session due to COVID, but previously it was 25.

Q Mountain Connection Emergency Food Fund, Lesotho is a lifeline for the people of Qholaqhoe where there has been a drought and crop failures for more than four years. There are no unemployment funds, PPE, or healthcare benefits. No food pantries and very little food support of any kind. The World Food Program has warned that a hunger pandemic could eclipse the coronavirus. Our church supports 5 high school students with scholarships who, along with 57 other high school students, will benefit from the emergency food fund. \$75 provides supplementary food for a child for 10 months.

Western Maryland Food Bank supplies food to 80 local agencies, emergency needs, and the school backpack program. In the last six months it distributed 482,389 pounds of food. Of that, 220,820 pounds were fresh produce. The Food Bank now has an outlet of fresh food but needs a refrigerated truck in order to bring it to people of the Cumberland area, for a more healthy diet. Since the food bank relies entirely on donations, a truck is a major expense for them.

Interfaith Food Pantry is an all-volunteer emergency food resource for people who live in Cumberland. Located at 301 Cumberland St., it formed in 1975 by the 23 local churches of the Interfaith Consortium. The pantry provides non-perishable food, and vouchers that can be used in three local markets to purchase perishable foods. Distribution of food is governed by family circumstances, family number, and number of times the pantry has been used during the current year. Volunteers are also always needed and welcome.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) believes every abused or neglected child deserves to have a dedicated advocate speaking up for their best interest in court, at school, and in our community. Non-profit CASA trains and supervises community volunteers who ensure each child's needs remain a priority in an overburdened child welfare system. For these children, CASA means having a home instead of feeling lost, and being a priority instead of feeling invisible. Two church members have taken the training to become advocates.

Other ministries that our church supports can also be chosen: **WACT, and Shanti Nepal; Juna Amagara (Uganda); Mulanje Hospital) Malawi; Ihanktonwan Learning Camp (SD); Union Rescue Mission; Family Crises Resource Centre; NAILS; Salvation Army; Allegany Health Right; Allegany Law; United Campus Ministries**



REASON FOR THE SEASON GIVING FORM - 2020

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

Please make your total amount payable to "First Presbyterian Church", and marked "Reason for the Season".

Presbyterian Education Board (PEB), scholarships, Pakistan \$ _____

This Child Here _____

Q Mountain Connection Emergency Food Fund _____

Western Maryland Food Bank _____

Interfaith Food Pantry _____

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) _____

OTHER: _____

(WACT, and Shanti Nepal; Juna Amagara (Uganda); Mulanje Hospital) Malawi; Ihanktonwan Learning Camp (SD); Union Rescue Mission; Family Crises Resource Centre; NAILS; Salvation Army; Allegany Health Right; Allegany Law; United Campus Ministries.)

TOTAL: \$ _____