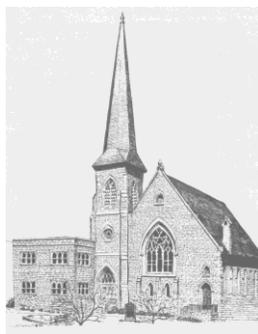


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FEBRUARY 28, 2021 11:00 AM

PRELUDE

'OUT OF THE DEPTHS I CRY TO THEE' AND 'WONDROUS LOVE'
BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

ALFRED K. FEDAK

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME , ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS

INTROIT

GIVE ME JESUS
NANCY HODGES, PIANO

TRADITIONAL SPIRITUAL, ARR. MARK HAYES

* HYMN #339

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

"LIFT EVERY VOICE"

* CALL TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you loved us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from our neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.

God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

(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) Friends trust the Good News from the Lord: **In 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 4:1-16

4 Now the man knew his wife Eve, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have produced^[a] a man with the help of the LORD." ²Next she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground. ³In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, ⁴and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, ⁵but for Cain and his

offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. ⁶The LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? ⁷If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it.”

⁸Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let us go out to the field.”^[b] And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and killed him. ⁹Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?” He said, “I do not know; am I my brother’s keeper?” ¹⁰And the LORD said, “What have you done? Listen; your brother’s blood is crying out to me from the ground! ¹¹And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. ¹²When you till the ground, it will no longer yield to you its strength; you will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.” ¹³Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is greater than I can bear! ¹⁴Today you have driven me away from the soil, and I shall be hidden from your face; I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and anyone who meets me may kill me.” ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, “Not so!^[d] Whoever kills Cain will suffer a sevenfold vengeance.” And the LORD put a mark on Cain, so that no one who came upon him would kill him. ¹⁶Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD, and settled in the land of Nod,^[d] east of Eden.

ANTHEM

THE PRODIGAL SON
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

THE SACRED HARP

(STREAMED FROM WORSHIP ON MARCH 31, 2019)

Afflictions ‘tho they seem severe are oft’ in mercy sent:
They stopped the prodigal’s career and caused him to repent.

“Oh! I die with hunger here,” he cries!

“Oh! I die with hunger here,” he cries!

“And starve in a foreign land!

*My father’s house hath large supplies
and bounteous are his hands!”*

Although he no relenting felt till he had spent his store,
his stubborn heart began to melt when famine pinched him sore.

“What have I gained by sin,” he said, “But hunger, shame, and fear?”
“My father’s house abounds with bread, while I am starving here.”

“I’ll go and tell him what I’ve done; fall down before his face.
Not worthy to be called his son, I’ll ask a servant’s place.”

He saw his son returning back, he ran, he looked, he smiled,
and threw his arms around the neck of his rebellious child.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

LUKE 15:11-32

The Parable of the Prodigal and His Brother

¹¹Then Jesus^[a] said, “There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with^[b] the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’^[c] ²²But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your

father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him.²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends.’³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’³¹ Then the father^[d] said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.’³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.”

SERMON

“CAIN AND ABLE, OR SHE/HE STARTED IT!”

REV. DR. JAMES RM. YOUNG

* HYMN #215

WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS

“WONDROUS LOVE”

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.

* HYMN #649

AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND

“AMAZING GRACE”

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION #750

GOODNESS IS STRONGER THAN EVIL

“GOODNESS IS STRONGER”

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

SARABANDE
 BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

CARL BÖHM

* 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.....Michael Levitas
 Director of Music Ministries.....Bryan Lohr
 Musicians.....Nancy Hodges, Piano; The Sanctuary Choir (previously recorded)
 Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler

Music Notes

This morning's preludes come from *Eight Meditative Preludes*, a 2016 collection from organist and composer Alfred Fedak (b. 1953) who serves as organist at Westminster Presbyterian Church on Capitol Hill in Albany, New York. Fedak was a member of the Presbyterian Committee on Congregational Song, which assembled our current hymnal, *GLORY TO GOD*.

The Prodigal Son comes from *The Sacred Harp*, a seminal collection of hymn tunes, texts, and anthems first published in Hamilton, GA in 1844. The text is attributed to John Newton, author of *Amazing Grace*, while the tune is typical of the brash and rollicking style of its time.

SESSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REV. DR. JAMES R.M. YOUNG, MODERATOR OF THE SESSION
DAVID STICKLER, 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
Evan Swanger: Building & Grounds

CLASS OF 2023

Sharon Kazary: Worship & Music
Jan Layman: Congregational Care & Outreach
Buck Belt: Worship & Music

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

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.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

RULING ELDERS: GARY HENDRICKSON & CINDY CORLEY

| ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE: | as of February 14, 2021 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Total 2021 Pledges Promised | \$192,124.00 |
| Pre-paid pledges | \$ 400.00 |
| <u>2021 Pledge Balance Promised</u> | <u>\$191,724.00</u> |
| Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date | \$23,661.00 |
| Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date | \$26,334.00 |
| Over/(Under) | \$(2,673.00) |

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: 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.

RULING ELDERS: JOSH GILHART

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL: The Faith Formation Committee is offering the devotional "Were You There: Lenten Reflections on the Spirituals" to those interested. Twenty devotionals have been claimed but it is not too late to request yours!

Also, as we go through the journey to the cross, we are offering the study "Reflections on the Lord's Prayer," facilitated by Joshua Gilhart on Thursdays at 6:00pm. This class began on February 18th; however, you can still join if you're interested.

Please contact Joshua Gilhart at 240-920-9395 for more information or if you would like to participate in either of these activities.

FAI