

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

MARCH 21, 2021

11:00 AM

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PRELUDE

TWO MEDITATIVE PRELUDES

ALFRED V. FEDAK

I. LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN THY WORD

II. IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY

BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS

MOMENT FOR MISSION

AARON HENDRICKSON

INTROIT

STEAL AWAY

ADAM POMEROY, SOLOIST

TRADITIONAL SPIRITUAL

*Steal away, steal away; steal away to Jesus!*

*Steal away, steal away home; I ain't got long to stay here.*

My Lord, he calls me, he calls me by the thunder;  
The trumpet sounds within my soul; I ain't got long to stay here.

Green trees are bending, poor sinners stand a trembling;  
The trumpet sounds within my soul; I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord, he calls me, he calls me by the lightning;  
The trumpet sounds within my soul; I ain't got long to stay here.

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing to God; sing praises to God's name.

**Lift up a song and be exultant before the Lord.**

Let the righteous be joyful.

**Let them be jubilant before their God.**

Ascribe power and strength to the Lord!

**For awesome is our God! Blessed be the name of the Lord!**

(\*Please refrain from singing the hymns, but rather hum along.)

1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the  
 2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our  
 3 O en - ter then his gates with praise; ap - proach with  
 4 For why? The Lord our God is good; his mer - cy  
 Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his  
 aid he did us make; we are his folk; he  
 joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his  
 is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times  
 praise forth tell. Come ye be - fore him and re - joice.  
 doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.  
 name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.  
 firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

## \* CALL TO CONFESSION

## \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us O God, for we are broken and often fearful people. We insist we trust in you, but we are anxious and bewildered by so much of what happens in our world. We fret when we should be faithful; vacillate when we should be bold; agonize when we should be at peace; and are indifferent when we should be engaged. Forgive the fears that keep us from testifying to the love and the power we have known. Reinvigorate our faith, restore our courage, and help us to recover the hope that is ours because of the resurrection. Then set us on the way again to follow and serve Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## \* HUMMED 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

JEREMIAH 31:31-34

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband,<sup>[a]</sup> says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

## ANTHEM

STEAL AWAY

ARR. JAMES AND STAN PETHEL

NANCY HODGES, PIANO AND BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

### Jesus Speaks about His Death

<sup>27</sup>"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people<sup>al</sup> to myself." <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

## \* HYMN #724

## O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED

## "ANGEL'S STORY"

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;  
 2 O let me feel thee near me! The world is ev - er near;  
 3 O let me hear thee speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,  
 4 O Je - sus, thou hast prom - ised to all who fol - low thee

be thou for - ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;  
 I see the sights that daz - zle; the tempt - ing sounds I hear.  
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will;  
 that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if thou art by my side,  
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;  
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;  
 And, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if thou wilt be my guide.  
 but, Je - sus, draw thou near - er and shield my soul from sin.  
 O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard - ian of my soul.  
 O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE CONCLUDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

MORNING OFFERING AND OFFERTORY PRAYER

(The offering is to be placed in the dish at the rear of the sanctuary. We are not passing the plate at this time)

\* HYMN #223

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

"HAMBURG"

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the  
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a  
 Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ my God; all the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down; did e'er such love and  
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,  
 count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

\* BENEDICTION

\* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION #216

BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS(Vs. 1 only)

"ST. CHRISTOPHER"

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,  
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land;  
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,  
From the burning of the noontide heat and the burden of the day.

POSTLUDE

INVENTION DANS LE STYLE ANCIENT  
BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

ALICE SAUVREZIS

\* 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. Walt Peters
- Liturgist.....Carl Belt
- Director of Music Ministries.....Bryan Lohr
- Musicians.....Nancy Hodges, Piano and Adam Pomeroy, Soloist
- Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
- Ushers.....Carolyn Mathews and Sharon Squires

## Worship & Music Notes

Today we welcome back our guest preacher, the Rev. Walt Peters, to the pulpit. He served congregations in Macon, GA; Tampa, FL, and Augusta, GA, before coming to First Presbyterian in Westminster in 1999, being honorably retired by Baltimore Presbytery in October of 2013. In retirement he is an active participant in the Wild Wild West Ministry Group. He and his wife Rebecca reside in Hagerstown. They have three grown children and two grandchildren.

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.

Today's **postlude** is an anachronistic dance for organ by the French composer Alice Sauvrezis (1866-1946). Sauvrezis studied with the composer and organ titan César Franck, and her published compositions numbered in the hundreds, including two collections of *French Songs For Soldiers*, as a contribution to the allied war effort.

Next Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, Rev. Dr. Walt Peters will serve as our guest preacher and Carolyn Mathews will serve as liturgist.

### 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. We have flower openings for April 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, & 25<sup>th</sup>.

**OFFERING PLATES:** Offering plates are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Please deposit your gifts, offerings, and tithes into the plate as you enter or exit the sanctuary.

### Church Office Hours

Monday 8:30 AM- 4:00 PM, Tuesday 8:30 AM- 4:00 PM  
Wednesday 8:30 AM- 4:00 PM, Thursday 8:30 AM- 4:00 PM, Friday 8:30 AM- 1:00 PM

Please note that on Fridays when the office closes at 1:00 PM, Brittany is still available by phone and email until 4:30 PM.

### ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

**RULING ELDERS: GARY HENDRICKSON & CINDY CORLEY**

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of March 7, 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	\$38,881.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$37,620.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 1,261.00

### MISSION

**RULING ELDERS: AARON HENDRICKSON & LAURA FISCUS**

Easter Sunday is the day set aside to contribute to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. Roughly one third of the proceeds goes to help support the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) program which is the emergency and refugee program of the Presbyterian Church (USA.). It enables our congregations and mission partners to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic events such as flooding in Kentucky, extreme winter storms, wildfires in California and Colorado, hurricanes

Sally in US and Laura in Haiti. In the first half of 2020 (1/1/20-6/30/20) PDA granted \$4.1 million as 487 grants in the United States and 57 countries. Of that, \$2.5 million was for COVID-19 response. Please consider giving generously to this offering.

## Your Answer to.... “What’s For Dinner?”

**First Presbyterian Church is selling homemade soups and rolls to help fund the Annual Mission Trip to South Dakota.  
Will you please consider buying some?**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

	# of Quarts	X \$9	# of Pints	X \$5	Cap Rolls	x \$1 for 2	Total \$ Owed
Beef Stew							
White Chicken Chili							
Traditional Red Chili							
Vegetarian Chili							
Chicken and Rice							
Chicken Tortilla Soup							
Rolls 2 for \$1							
<b>TOTAL</b>							

**Please pay for and pick up your soups, chili, and stews  
on Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> after worship from 12:15-1:00 PM.**

**Please place your order by TODAY.**

Make checks payable to: First Presbyterian Church and write “Dakota” on the memo line.

## EASTER FLOWERS 2021

If you would like to purchase flowers for the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please indicate below whether you wish to take your flowers home afterward, or if you wish them to be given to one of our in-home or nursing care members. Please indicate your selection and total below. **Orders are due by Wednesday, March 24th.**

	Price Each	Quantity	Total
Lily	\$6.00	_____	\$_____
Tulips	\$6.00	_____	\$_____
Hyacinths	\$6.00	_____	\$_____
Chrysanthemums	\$6.00	_____	\$_____
		<b>Total</b>	_____ \$_____

My floral gift is in honor/memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Given to the Glory of God by: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate: I would like to take my flowers home \_\_\_\_\_ I would like to donate the flowers \_\_\_\_\_

## Easter Music 2021

You can also celebrate Easter by contributing to the Special Music Fund. This fund is separate from the budget and is used to pay guest musicians who provide special music during worship on holidays and throughout the year.

*Note: Special Music contributions may also be given any time of the year.*

**Special Music Contribution** \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My Special Music gift is in honor/memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Given to the Glory of God by: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks for music should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church and the form returned to the church no later than **Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>** if you want your dedication listed in the bulletin.

MARCH 21, 2021  
FIFTH SUNDAY  
IN LENT

taking+  
faith  
home

*A time for new beginnings.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 12:20-33	The hour has come
Monday	Jeremiah 31:31-34	A new covenant from God
Tuesday	Hebrews 5:5-10	Jesus as high priest
Wednesday	2 Corinthians 3:5-18	Ministers of the new covenant
Thursday	Nehemiah 1:5-11	Nehemiah prays for his people
Friday	Hebrews 8:6-13	A better covenant
Saturday	Psalms 51:1-12	A prayer for cleansing
Sunday	Mark 14:1-15:47	The passion of Jesus

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.  
Jeremiah 31:33 (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

**A Prayer for the Week:**

God of new beginnings, help us to face our shortcomings knowing that you promise to be our God and that we are your people through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, with this food restore our bodies as your promise of love and care for us restores our hearts. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May God create in you a clean heart through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord.



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MARCH 21, 2021  
HYMN OF THE WEEK  
*My Hope Is Built on  
Nothing Less*

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:

- Think or tell about a time you failed at something.
- Failure is a part of life, but when we learn from our mistakes, it is not a total failure, but a learning moment. When have you learned from your mistakes?
- The Bible is filled with mistakes by God's people, yet God refuses to give up on us. What does that say about the God who reaches out to us through Jesus?

### DEVOTIONS

Read: Jeremiah 31:31-34.

Jeremiah is speaking to a people who are either in exile in Babylon or about to be conquered and sent to Babylon. The northern kingdom of Israel had already fallen to the Assyrians well over a hundred years before. Now the southern kingdom of Judah is doomed. The people have been unfaithful and God's promises to Abraham, Moses, and David seem to have come to naught. But Jeremiah prophesies, "Not so." God promises to find a new way, a new covenant. This passage is about God's people only because it is about the God who continues to claim them. God will not give up on the people God loves. It is the very nature and character of God not to give up on us. God finds a way by having a new covenant, a new start. What God ordains will happen: we shall be God's people and God will be our God. We are not there yet. We are people of the new covenant, but the prophesy has not happened completely. We still need to be taught, but the day is coming that God's promise will be fulfilled. How do you learn about faith in Christ?

*Pray:* God of the new covenant, give us faith to trust in your promises and courage to walk in your ways through Jesus Christ, the one who came to set us free. Amen.

### SERVICE

Psalms 51 is a prayer for cleansing and pardon. Christian prison ministries reach out to inmates with the love and hope of Jesus Christ. There are many who care for the children and families of prisoners and lead Bible studies and prayer with the prisoners. Pray for those who work with inmates and their families this week.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

This is our fifth week suggesting the discipline of using the *Daily Bible Readings*. At the core of new beginnings for Christians is the work of God revealed from the cross and in the Bible. Begin each day's reading by reciting Psalm 51:10: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me." Say the *Prayer for the Week* after each reading, add your own prayers, and end by saying: Remember that you are God's, and to God you shall return.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)