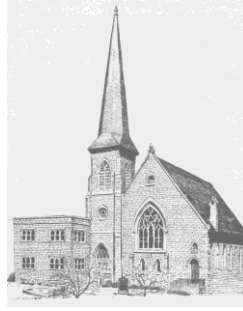


SERVICE OF FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
AUGUST 22, 2021 10:00 AM



OPENING VOLUNTARY

NIMROD NO. 9

'VARIATIONS ON AN ORIGINAL THEME'  
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

EDWARD ELGAR (1857-1934)

10:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Our souls long for your courts, O Lord of hosts;  
**Happy are we who dwell in your house and are ever praising you!**  
Our hearts and our flesh rejoice in the living God;  
**Happy are we who dwell in your house and are ever praising you!**  
We have found a home in your presence, Our King and Our God;  
**Happy are we who dwell in your house and are ever praising you!**  
There is no-one like our God, who strengthens us, and is revealed for generations.  
**Happy are we who dwell in your house and are ever praising you!**

Let us pray...

Holy One of mystery and power, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below, keeping covenant and steadfast love with all who walk before you with pure and upright hearts. Fill our lives with your glory, as you filled the temple with clouds. Give us the strength and courage to worship with all our might and see your majesty in this place. Amen.

\* HYMN #307

GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY

"CWM RHONDDA"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Spirit of God, we confess that we play dress up more often than we put on the armor of God. We are guilty of girding ourselves with lies instead of truth. We try to protect ourselves with arrogance, superstition, and self-reliance instead of righteousness, faith, and your gift of salvation. Our footsteps do not follow your path of peace. And we are quick to use your Word to attack one another, instead of striking out against the sins we personally commit.

Forgive us, Holy God. Gift us with the wisdom and strength to change our ways, so that we may live as your faithful ambassadors of the Good News. Amen.

*(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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 TIME FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST READING

1 KINGS 8:1, 6, 10-11, 22-30, 41-43

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion.

<sup>6</sup>Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim.

<sup>10</sup>And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD, <sup>11</sup>so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.

<sup>22</sup>Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. <sup>23</sup>He said, "O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, <sup>24</sup>the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. <sup>25</sup>Therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' <sup>26</sup>Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

<sup>27</sup>"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! <sup>28</sup>Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O LORD my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; <sup>29</sup>that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. <sup>30</sup>Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive.

<sup>41</sup>"Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name <sup>42</sup>—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays toward this house, <sup>43</sup>then hear in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.

#### ANTHEM

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME- THE SUMMONS

BY JOHN BELL

ZACH DODGE, MIKALA DODGE AND ERIC RINGLER, TRIO AND NANCY HODGES, PIANO

#### SECOND READING

EPHESIANS 6:10-20

<sup>10</sup>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For our<sup>[a]</sup> struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. <sup>15</sup>As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>With all of these,<sup>[b]</sup> take the shield of faith,

with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup>Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. <sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,<sup>l</sup> <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

SERMON

REV. ALISON PETERS

\* HYMN #2

COME, THOU ALMIGHTY KING

"ITALIAN HYMN"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

*(We are now passing the offering plates.*

*Please place all tithes and offerings as well as any orange prayer request cards in the offering plate.)*

MUSICAL OFFERING

FLUTE VOLUNTARY

BENJAMIN CARR (1769-1831)

JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

\* DOXOLOGY #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!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 #295

GO TO THE WORLD!

"SINE NOMINE"

\* BENEDICTION

\* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION #306

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS

"DENNIS"

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

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

POSTLUDE

TOCCATA IN C

JOHANN PACHELBEL (1653-1706)

JUDITH BROWN, 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.Alison Peters  
Liturgist.....Josh Gilhart  
Organist.....Judith Brown  
Musicians.....Zach Dodge, Mikayla Dodge and Eric Ringler, Trio; Nancy Hodges, Piano  
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler  
Ushers.....David Stickler and Carolyn Mathews

## WORSHIP NOTES

**CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** In accordance with G-1.0502 in the Book of Order, Session has approved a Called Congregational Meeting for **today** immediately after the 10:00 A.M. worship service at the request of the Pastor Nominating Committee. The purpose of the Called Congregational Meeting is to hear the report of the PNC and their recommendation to elect a pastor to serve this church. Please make every effort to attend this meeting as the vote will have a significant influence on the worship and work of our congregation.

### SESSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

#### CLERK OF SESSION

David Stickler

#### ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Cindy Corley & Gary Hendrickson

#### BUILDING & GROUNDS

Bob Courtney & Evan Swanger

#### CONGREGATIONAL CARE & OUTREACH

Jan Layman & Mikayla Dodge

#### FAITH FORMATION

Josh Gilhart & Katie Ross

#### MISSION

Aaron Hendrickson & Judy Stern

#### WORSHIP & MUSIC

Sharon Kazary & Carl Belt

### 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

**WELCOME:** A very warm welcome to everyone who comes to worship with us here at First Presbyterian Church! We are proud of being a "Big Tent Church" where everyone is welcome to join us in worshipping and serving our Lord, Jesus Christ. We welcome and encourage worshippers of all races, all women, men, and members of the LGBTQ+ community, all political parties, and all walks of life. We welcome you to worship with us.

**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](http://www.fpc-cumberland.org) and [www.facebook.com/First.Pres.Cumberland](http://www.facebook.com/First.Pres.Cumberland).

**CHILDREN IN WORSHIP:** We 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.

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS:** Our bouquets in the sanctuary today are given in honor of Rev. Alison Paden Peters as she leads us in worship and we move with God's wisdom and grace to accept and welcome her into our midst for the glory, honor and work of God with this congregation. 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.

**SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS:** Please use orange prayer request cards in the back of the sanctuary by the bulletins to share any joys and concerns. Place the card in the offering plate once you have completed your request. The ushers will bring them to the pastor during the offering.

## ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

RULING ELDERS: GARY HENDRICKSON & CINDY CORLEY

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of August 15, 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	\$126,581.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$124,146.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 2,435.00

**STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN:** Planning for this year's stewardship campaign has been delayed with the hope of including our new pastor in the planning process.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE & OUTREACH

RULING ELDERS: JAN LAYMAN & MIKAYLA DODGE

**THANK YOU CELEBRATION FOR REV. WALT PETERS:** On Sunday, September 5th we take time to honor the Reverend Walt Peters for his constant dedication, care and love for all of us! We thank and praise God for Walt's continued care of our congregation and we pray God will continue to bless him. Following worship service, we will meet in the Gathering Room to visit with Walt and share light refreshments celebrating him! Prior to the service, there will be a basket in the back of the church where you may place a card or note with best wishes, thanks and all that is good for Walt which will be presented to him in the Gathering Room.

So, please remember to bring a card for Walt, place it in the basket in the back of the church and join us on Sunday, September 5th while we honor our beloved Walt!

**FALL KICK OFF WORSHIP & PICNIC:** Please join us on September 12th at 11:00 AM at Rocky Gap to kick off our Fall Worship Services followed by the Fall Kick Off Picnic! Worship will be at the White Pine Pavilion. A reminder to bring a chair with back support if need be, as there are benches at the pavilion.

Everyone will be asked to bring their own lunch due to the unpredictable nature of Covid-19. The Congregational Care & Outreach Committee will provide individual bags of chips, individually wrapped Debbie cakes, and canned/bottled drinks.

The Dodges will perform and there will be Giant Bowling, Cornhole and Hula Hoops for kids and kids at heart! We hope to see you there!

## MISSION

RULING ELDERS: AARON HENDRICKSON & JUDY STERN

### FRIENDS OF PEB PRAYERS AND PRAISES:

- Tim Roach - For PEB staff, students & families as they endure the continuing challenges posed by the pandemic, on top of their usual life circumstance.
- Veda - For litigation and legal matters of properties of PEB.
- Veda - For the return of three remaining schools from the Government.
- Veda - For the progress of PEB schools, boarding houses and projects.
- Saba Riaz from Rawalpindi - For school academic growth and increase in enrollment.
- Rebecca Faran from EMS Sialkot prayer request:
- For the progress and safety of PEB schools.

## WORSHIP & MUSIC

RULING ELDERS: SHARON KAZARY & BUCK BELT

**COVID-19 UPDATE:** Based on our communication with medical professionals, the Session and the W&M chairs are recommending that we that we continue to worship in person, but that we encourage mask use indoors again to decrease risk of inadvertent spread of the virus. While quiet singing or humming **while masked** should not present a big risk, we should continue to refrain from holding hands after the benediction.

**SUMMER GARDEN HARVEST:** On **Sunday, August 29, 2021**, our congregation will be celebrating our Summer Garden Harvest. Please bring examples of your produce to church. We are hoping to decorate the sanctuary with our own fruits, vegetables, and flowers. Following the service, depending on the volume of vegetables and flowers, we could donate our produce to the Union Rescue Mission, the Food Bank, or our shut-ins.

## FAITH FORMATION

RULING ELDERS: JOSH GILHART & KATIE ROSS

During our Fall Kick-Off on September 12th, we will be holding a "Blessing of the Backpacks." This blessing is for all those students, teachers, parents, and anyone resuming their hectic schedules this fall. We look forward to seeing you there!

In conjunction with this blessing, we have reached out to the Mission committee to discuss opportunities in the community to help students. The Cumberland YMCA is organizing a new program, **At Risk After School**, which offers an afterschool meal for children who qualify for reduced lunches in the Allegany County School System. Currently, 30 to 35 children participate in this program and meals are offered five days a week.

The Faith Formation Committee would like to encourage you to give towards this good cause to help feed the children of our community. Donations may be placed in the offering plate in an envelope marked "At Risk After School" or mailed into the church. **Please make any checks out to First Presbyterian Church Cumberland, MD with a note of: At Risk After School YMCA.**

1 John 3:18 says "Dear Children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." We hope you will take the time to give to this worthy cause today.

