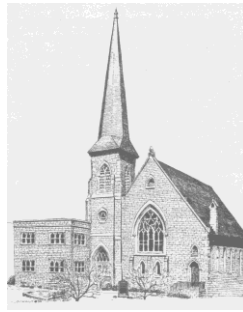


SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT: HOLY COMMUNION

SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

10:00 AM



OPENING VOLUNTARY

CANTABILE
(SONG FROM CELLO SONATA OP 14, NO 6)
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741)

10:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER OF THE DAY

-FROM PSALM 146

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

Happy are those whose help is in the Lord their God,

The God who made heaven and earth, the God who keeps faith forever.

The Lord God executes justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down and watches over strangers.

The Lord loves the righteous and upholds the widow and the orphan.

The Lord will reign forever, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

Let us pray...

Loving God, for your call to faith and service we are grateful, and so we have gathered to renew our commitments and to sing your praise. We celebrate the gift of love you have given us in Christ and ask that you grant us your Spirit that we may find both refreshment and encouragement as your people. Amen.

* HYMN #611

JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE

"HYMN TO JOY"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we confess that our good intentions have gone astray. We favor people who are like us and honor those whom we deem to be important. We ignore the poor and write off those with whom we disagree or dislike, and in so doing we help to sow injustice and give cover to hatred. The truth is that we would rather point fingers at others who are unfair than to give up our own advantages. Forgive us, we pray. Turn us back to your way and give us a depth of faith that will make a difference in us and in our world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* 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.

A TIME FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

JAMES 2:1-8, 14-17

My brothers and sisters,^[a] do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ?^[b] ² For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in,³ and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet,"^[c] ⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters.^[d] Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷ Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? ⁸ You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters,^[a] if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷ So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

ANTHEM

JESUS THANK YOU
(PREVIOUSLY RECORDED)

BY CHURCH FOLK

SECOND READING

MARK 7: 24-30

²⁴ From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre.^[a] He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶ Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷ He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸ But she answered him, "Sir,^[b] even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹ Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰ So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

SERMON

"SIDINGS AND WHISTLE STOPS"

REV. DR. WALT PETERS

* HYMN #515

I COME WITH JOY

"DOVE OF PEACE"

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

ECHOES
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

ENGLISH PLENO VOLUNTARY

* 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!

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER SUPPER

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for you sustain the world with your goodness. By your grace, kindness, and mercy you give bread to all flesh. Because of your goodness we lack for nothing. At this table you have put your life into our live, so guide us and bless us as we seek to our lives into yours. Take us, renew us, and remake us for faithful service in your world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* HYMN #754 *HELP US ACCEPT EACH OTHER* "BARONITA"

* 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 *TRUMPET VOLUNTARY* ANONYMOUS
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. Dr. Walt Peters
Liturgist.....Hans Killius
Organist.....Judith Brown
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Buck and Jane Belt

WORSHIP NOTES

The Confession of Sin in this morning’s order of worship was adapted from the “Led By Love” worship resource by Lavon Bayler, United Church Press, 1996.

THANK YOU CELEBRATION FOR REV. WALT PETERS: **This morning** we will 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.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED: The Church Office will be CLOSED on Monday, September 6th in observance of Labor Day!

REMINDER: OUR FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS on Sunday, September 12th with our Fall Kick-off at Rocky Gap State Park in the White Pines Pavilion. **Worship begins at 11:00 AM** during the fall months.

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

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

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 worshipers 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 and 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: The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God in loving memory of **Eugene D. Munro and Bernice L. Munro, by their family.** 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 29, 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	\$128,188.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$131,670.00
Over/(Under)	\$ (3,482.00)

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

✠ Sympathy and prayers to the family of Ray Yount on his death on Saturday, August 28th.

FALL KICK OFF WORSHIP & PICNIC: Please join us –rain or shine – **next Sunday, September 12th at 11:00 AM** under the White Pine pavilion at Rocky Gap State Park to kick off our fall worship services followed by our congregational picnic. The White Pine Pavilion is on the left on Pleasant Valley Road right after the little white Methodist church. The pavilion is accessible and restrooms are nearby. Dress for the weather, especially if rain or autumn temperatures are in the forecast.

Things to bring: a chair and your own lunch.

There are only picnic benches at the pavilion so for your comfort you may want your own chair with back support due to the unpredictable nature of Covid-19 we don’t feel comfortable sharing a buffet so bring what you want to eat for lunch and our Congregational Care & Outreach Committee will provide individual bags of chips, individually wrapped Debbie cakes, and canned/bottled drinks to round out the meal.

After our worship service, the Dodge’s will perform and there will be Giant Bowling, Corn hole and Hula Hoops for kids and kids at heart! We hope to see all of you there!

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.

APOSTLES’ CREED STUDY: Beginning on **Thursday, September 30th at 6:00 PM** and continuing each Thursday Evening though November 4th, join us as we explore the Apostle's Creed.

This study introduces the creed by discussing the meaning of its phrases. To recognize what the phrases mean and ways they have been understood in our Reformed theological tradition is to move more deeply into our faith. The creed's meanings can strengthen our understanding, deepen our devotion, and give a vision for Christian living and action in the church and the world.

Currently, we intend to offer this class in person and virtually through ZOOM for those who wish to join from home. However, we will continue monitoring the spread of the Delta variant and may switch to an entirely virtual class if necessary.

Please respond to Brittany Jackson to sign up for this class. Participant guides will be distributed at least one week before the start date.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

RULING ELDERS: SHARON KAZARY & BUCK BELT

COVID-19 UPDATE: As a directive from the Presbytery: For the time being, mask will now be **REQUIRED** at all church functions regardless of vaccination status.