

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY:
BAPTISM OF THE LORD
JANUARY 9, 2022 11:00 AM



OPENING VOLUNTARY

BAPTIZED IN WATER
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

“BUNESSAN”

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

BAPTIZED IN WATER
BRENDA LUGER, FLUTE

“BUNESSAN”

Reflective text:

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
Heirs of salvation, trusting the promised
Faithfully now God's praises we sing.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

God's voice speaks to our chaos, echoing in our empty hearts.

Gathering us together to remember our baptism.

God's voice flows like the living waters of grace,
our new name, 'Beloved,' resounding in our souls.

God's voice stirs the waters of baptismal hope,
calling us to be bearers of peace to a world of broken hopes.

Let us pray -

God, you have formed us from the dust, redeemed us from our brokenness, and led us through the waters of the Red Sea, and we have arrived safely on the other side. May our worship of you reflect the awe we have at your watery grace, the grace that sustains us when the waves rise around us. Amen.

* HYMN #724

O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED

“ANGEL'S STORY”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus Christ, yours is the baptism of Spirit and fire, but we confess we are not worthy of you. We have failed to bear the fruit of repentance, but have been worthless chaff, good for nothing. Forgive our sins, Lord Jesus, and call us anew. See us through every trial, whether of water or flame, that we might give you glory and tell the coming generations of the greatness of your redemption. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUNG RESPONSE #431

FORGIVE US, LORD

“CONFESION”

PASSING OF THE PEACE AND CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY

We recognize how important we are to each other - as we worship, we pass the peace of Christ from our seats and wave to those who are joining us via Livestream. We belong to each other and are stronger together.

CELEBRATION AND REMEMBRANCE OF OUR BAPTISM

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 43:1-7

⁴³ But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

³ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴ Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you,

I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you;

⁶ I will say to the north, “Give them up,” and to the south, “Do not withhold;

bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—

⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

SOLO

SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER

MIKAYLA DODGE, SOPRANO; JUDITH BROWN, PIANO

“HANSON PLACE”

ARR. W.F. SCHMIDT

Shall we gather at the river where bright angel feet have trod,
With it's crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God.
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

E'er we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down,
Grace our spirits will deliver and provide a robe and crown.
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease.
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

SECOND READING

LUKE 3:15-22

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with ^[b] the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. ¹⁹ But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰ added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

The Baptism of Jesus

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

SERMON

"DANGEROUS BUSINESS"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #163

WILD AND LONE THE PROPHET'S VOICE

"ABERYSTWYTH"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

DO NOT BE AFRAID
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

"ISAIAH 43"

Reflective text:

Do not be afraid, for I am with you.
Chosen and beloved, you are my own.
Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you:
By your name I called you for my own.

* DOXOLOGY #609

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

"LASST UNE 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!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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.

* HYMN #475

COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

"NETTLETON"

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION #547

GO, MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING (VS. 1)

"AR HYDY NOS"

POSTLUDE

IMPROVISATION ON "NETTLETON"
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**.

COVID-19 UPDATE: The Worship and Music Committee and Staff are closely monitoring the rise in COVID-19 cases as a result of the Omicron variant.

To care for our members, we are putting a few extra precautions in place to keep our community safe:

- We will continue to mask in our buildings: we recommend using N-95, KN-95, or medical-grade masks if you have them
- We will continue to spread out our seating by family units in our sanctuary
- We will return to humming during the hymns

Please stay home and worship online if you are not feeling well.

This Morning's Worship Leaders

Preacher..... Rev. Alison Peters
 Organist.....Judith Brown
 Musicians.....Brenda Luger, Flute and Mikayla Dodge, Soprano
 Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
 Ushers.....Carolyn Mathews and Linda Mellon

OUR STAFF

Teaching Elder/Pastor.....Rev. Alison Peters
 Director of Music MinistriesJudith Brown
 Executive Administrative Assistant.....Brittany Jackson
 Sexton.....Zach Dodge
 Sound Tech/Security.....Joe Aurigemma
 Audio/Video Technician.....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

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 in loving memory of Art and Jean Ennis, Al and Anna May Kazary, and Lee Ennis Rosenblath, by Bob and Sharon Kazary. 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 January 3, 2022
Total 2022 Pledges Promised	\$202,976.00
Pre-paid pledges	\$ 31,100.00
<u>2021 Pledge Balance Promised</u>	<u>\$171,876.00</u>
Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date	\$4,157.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$3,305.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 851.00

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2022 are now available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. If you do not see a box with your name on it, please contact the church office.

BUILDING & GROUNDS
RULING ELDERS: BOB COURTNEY & EVAN SWANGER

FPC SNOW POLICY

Sunday School – The Pastor and the Co-chairs of the Faith Formation and Buildings & Grounds committees will consult by phone and make a decision by 8:00 AM. If Sunday School is canceled, announcements will be made on radio stations including WCBC 1270 AM (and on their website Snow Watch list) and by e-mail to church members, Facebook, and the church website.

Worship – Worship will be canceled only in the most extreme weather conditions. If indicated, the Pastor and the Co-chairs of the Worship & Music and Buildings & Grounds committees will consult and make a decision. If worship is canceled, announcements will be made on radio stations including WCBC 1270 AM (and on their website Snow Watch list) and by e-mail to church members Facebook, and the church website.