



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FEBRUARY 27, 2022

11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARY

COME! LIVE IN THE LIGHT!

"WE ARE CALLED" ARR. M. HAYES

MIKAYLA DODGE, SOPRANO; JUDITH BROWN, PIANO

Reflective Text:

Come, live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
To live in the freedom of the city of God.

INTROIT

SIYAHAMBA

"SIYAHAMBA" ARR. JBROWN

BRENDA LUGER, FLUTE; MIKAYLA DODGE, SOPRANO; ZACH DODGE, BARITONE

Reflective Text:

We are marching in the light of God.

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

We have seen the light of God:

on the lofty mountain in joy and in the valleys that have been made fertile.

We have witnessed the light of Christ:

in the resurrection of the body and in the hope of reconciliation.

We have known the light of the Spirit:

with eyes that have been opened;

with ears that have been unstopped.

Our tongues have been loosened. We have seen the light of the Lord!

Let us pray -

God of all Brilliance, we follow you to the mountain and stand in awe of your presence. The Son that has been born to us is now the King that shines before us. Gather us as your people that we might worship within your light. May that light illuminate our journey that we may follow with sure feet and prepare for the Lenten journey ahead. Amen.

* HYMN #12

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

"ST. DENIO"

(Pastor Alison will be singing the verses, we invite you to hum along and reflect on the lyrics.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord our God, you are a forgiving God, and we are a people in need of forgiveness, for we often fail to see your glory in our midst. We see the dreadful consequences of wrongdoing in this world, but we often fail to renounce shameful things until we ourselves have done them.

We would rather confess our sin than falsify your word, and since we cannot cunningly justify ourselves, we are bold to hope in your mercy, and we long to see you in your radiance. Forgive us, O God of glory.

Grant us a clean conscience, the clear vision of faith, and the great gift of freedom in your Spirit; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE #576

LORD, HAVE MERCY

“SINGAPURA”

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

PSALM 99

¹The LORD is king; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

²The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.

³Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he!

⁴Mighty King,^[a] lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

⁵Extol the LORD our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!

⁶Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called on his name.

They cried to the LORD, and he answered them.

⁷He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept his decrees, and the statutes that he gave them.

⁸O LORD our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings.

⁹Extol the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the LORD our God is holy.

ANTHEM

AND THEN SHALL YOUR LIGHT BREAK FORTH (ELIJAH)

FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1810-1847)

THE CUMBERLAND CHORAL SOCIETY; JUDITH BROWN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Reflective Text:

And then shall your light break forth as the light of morning breaketh;

and your health shall speedily spring forth then;

and the glory of the Lord ever shall reward you. (Isaiah 58:8)

SECOND READING

LUKE 9:28-43

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” ³⁶When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

Jesus Heals a Boy with a Demon

³⁷On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸Just then a man from the crowd shouted, “Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. ³⁹Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he^[d] shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. ⁴⁰I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.” ⁴¹Jesus answered, “You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.” ⁴²While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. ⁴³And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

Jesus Again Foretells His Death

While everyone was amazed at all that he was doing, he said to his disciples,

SERMON

“BUT WAIT, THERE’S MORE”

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #529

DRAW US IN THE SPIRIT’S TETHER

“UNION SEMINARY”

(Pastor Alison will be singing the verses, we invite you to hum along and reflect on the lyrics.)

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

MORNING SONG
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

ARR. JUSTIN MCCARTHY

Reflective Text:

Give us, O God, the strength to build the city that has stood
Too long a dream;
whose laws are love, whose ways are servanthood,
And where the sun that shines becomes your grace for human good.

* DOXOLOGY #608

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

“PRAISE GOD (HOPSON)”

(Pastor Alison will be singing and we invite you to hum along and reflect on the lyrics.)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

* 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 #190

SWIFTLY PASS THE CLOUDS OF GLORY

“GENEVA”

(Pastor Alison will be singing the verses, we invite you to hum along and reflect on the lyrics.)

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION

INSTRUMENTAL “AMEN”

POSTLUDE

FANFARE FOR THE COMMON MAN
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

AARON COPLAND (1900-1990)

* 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.....Mikayla Dodge, Soprano; Zach Dodge, Baritone; Brenda Luger, Flute
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Jeff and Kathy
Getty

Music Notes

The Anthem this morning is the final movement from the oratorio “Elijah” by Felix Mendelssohn. Based on scripture from Isaiah, this movement brings the Light of God to the human realm as it concludes this monumental oratorio of the Prophet Elijah, premiered in 1846. As The Times said in its review: “Never was there a more complete triumph – never a more

thorough and speedy recognition of a great work of art.” The performance—heard this morning was recorded in the Sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church by The Cumberland Choral Society, May 16, 2016.

The Postlude is an organ arrangement of the now infamous “Fanfare for the Common Man,” composed by American composer Aaron Copland in 1942. Originally composed for a brass choir, Copland composed this gem in response to a solicitation from Eugene Goosens for a musical tribute honoring those engaged in World War II and after hearing a speech from then Vice President Henry A. Wallace. The stunning piece translates beautifully to our King of Instruments here at First Presbyterian.

OUR STAFF

Teaching Elder/Pastor.....	Rev. Alison Peters
Director of Music Ministries	Judith 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: 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 February 20, 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	\$ 25,618.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 26,442.00
Over/(Under)	\$ (824.00)

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 Co-Chairs of the Faith Formation committee will monitor the forecast and come to a decision by Friday evening. If Sunday School is canceled, announcements will be sent out via email, Facebook, and, if possible, text message.

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.

MISSION

RULING ELDERS: AARON HENDRICKSON & JUDY STERN

SOUTH DAKOTA SOUP SALE: Robin Bissell and Aaron Hendrickson would like to thank our church members and friends for the amazing support of the Dakota Camp during the Soup Sale. Special thanks go to Ann Kellermeyer, Amy and Bill Workman, Julie Courtney, Robin Ayers and Cynthia Speis for making delicious food to sell. We are very grateful to our community supporters **Caporales Bakery and Berry Plastics**. Finally, many thanks to those of you who purchased food, especially those who made very generous donations (including Billy Kohl in South Dakota) to support our summer trip to South Dakota.

AN UPDATE FROM UKRAINE: I'm in a small city in the western and southernmost part of Ukraine. It is called Izmail and sits on the Danube; across the river is Romania. It's a safe place to be, far from the paths of any Russian troops. Everything seems to be changing; now I believe there will be an invasion.

I don't fear for my life. I fear for the lives of people I know in the east because that's where war is already happening. This is the truth not everyone remembers: Ukrainians are living with the threat of an escalation of war. "The action of threatening a person," is the legal definition of assault. This is already a crime.

Last night, Putin recognized the two regions of Ukraine already taken by Russia, as independent countries. Following this he sent in more Russian troops as "peacekeeping forces." This allows tens of thousands of troops to gather within 2km of Ukraine's border. I've looked across those 2km and seen the ruins of the Donetsk Airport, now a shell of rusting metal. I have no doubt that tanks and troops will sweep into Ukraine, taking land villages and cities to give them access to Crimea and beyond.

For weeks, I was optimistic, but now I feel like a fool for believing in prospects for peace. All Putin's talk about fear of NATO is just smoke to cover the dirty plan to take more of Ukraine. People here are hoarding food. Those with dual citizenship to Romania and Bulgaria are crossing the border.

It seems unthinkable that Russian troops would destroy the livelihood of and even kill Russian people who live in Ukraine (Millions do), but that's what will happen. Friends of mine here are now receiving emails from friends in Russia (Russians) who are shocked and saddened by what the Russian government is doing.

Regardless of what happens here, visa rules require me to leave. I have tickets to fly on March 4th back to the states from Bucharest, Romania instead of Kiev, Ukraine.

Dr. Robert Gamble D.Min, PC(USA)
Executive Director, thischildhere.org

WORSHIP & MUSIC

RULING ELDERS: SHARON KAZARY & BUCK BELT

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.

WORLD ARTISTS EXPERIENCES (WAE) will be hosting Italian pianist/composer/conductor **Federico Longo** on **Sunday March 13th, at 3:00 PM at First Presbyterian Church, Washington St., Cumberland** with his original composition, "Notte di Luce" (Night of Light). . .a story told with live piano, violin, electronic keyboard, and recorded narration with dance video . Lyric introduction by Mezzo-soprano Mariella Guarnera who will sing works by Bach, Saint-Saëns, Werther, and Webber.