



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 20, 2022

11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARY

KYRIE (FROM "REQUIEM")

KARL JENKINS (1944 -)

JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

Reflective text:

Eternal rest grant them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine on them

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

HO, ALL WHO THIRST

JACOB'S WELL

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Ho, all who thirst, come now to the water,
And all whose souls are parched and weary, come and drink!
Why forsake the Lord, the fount of living water,
Choosing broken cups that cannot be filled?

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Come, all who are thirsty.

Come, all who are seeking.

Come, all who are waiting.

Come, all who labor.

Come, all who need rest.

Come, all who dream dreams.

Come— whether you're young or old, confident or curious, lonely or hopeful.

This is God's house. All are welcome here. Let us worship holy God.

Let us pray -

God of fig trees and foxes, of today and tomorrow, we would like to ask that you scoop us up. Pick us up like a great gust of wind. Startle us awake like a first love. Light a fire in us like tomorrow depends on today.

Do all of this to get our attention and then turn us toward you. We are a scattered people, God. The world is moving faster than we can keep up. So we pray—scoop us up. Catch our eye. Open our ears. Capture our attention. We are here. We long to be close to you. Amen.

* HYMN #307

GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY

"CWM RHONDDA"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we treat our self-worth like something that can be bought at a store; but you know this even better than we do. Instead of trusting that we are made good, instead of trusting that we are loved exactly as we are, we stockpile our value in earthly things— in trophies and awards, in likes and follows, in wealth and power. Forgive us for creating our own measuring stick. Heal our open wounds and tell our hearts that we won't be forgotten if we slow down. We won't be forgotten if we rest. Gratefully we pray, amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #551

LORD, HAVE MERCY

“LAND OF REST”

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that the God of the cosmos is at work here.

We believe that God is fertilizing the soil.

We believe that God is planting roots.

We believe that God is growing fruit that is yet to be tasted.

But until that promised day when the fig tree stands tall and swords are beaten into plowshares, we believe: when our work does not bear fruit,

God still loves us.

When our soil grows dry and cracked,

God still longs for us.

When all seems hopeless here on earth,

God holds hope for us.

The God of the cosmos is at work here. We believe. Help our unbelief.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 55:1-9

⁵⁵ Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;

⁷ let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

ANTHEM

LIKE AS THE HART DESIRETH THE WATERBROOKS
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

HERBERT HOWELLS (1892-1983)

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks,
So longeth my soul after thee, O God.
My soul is athirst for God, yea, even, for the living God.
When shall I come to appear before the presence of God?
My tears have been my meat day and night,
While they daily say unto me, "Where is thy God?"

SECOND READING

LUKE 13:1-9

13 At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?" ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

SERMON

"FULL TO THE BRIM: YOU ARE WORTHY"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #442

JUST AS I AM, WITHOUT ONE PLEA

"WOODWORTH"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

BENEDICTUS (FROM "REQUIEM")

JENKINS

MIKAYLA DODGE, SOPRANO; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domine.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

* DOXOLOGY #606

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

"OLD HUNDREDTH"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* 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 #816

IF THOU BUT TRUST IN GOD TO GUIDE THEE

"WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT"

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION

SPIRIT

JOHN WIMBER

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR, THE CONGREGATION, AND BRENDA LUGER, FLUTE

O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love,
Let him fill your life and satisfy your soul.
O let him have the things that hold you and his Spirit,
like a dove, will descend upon your life and make you whole.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

POSTLUDE

VOLUNTARY IN G
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

HENRY HERON (18TH CENTURY)

* 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.....Robin Bissell
Director of Music Ministries.....Judith Brown
Musicians..... The Sanctuary Choir and Mikayla Dodge, Soprano
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....John Mullan and Sharon Squires

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

Bulletin Artwork: "You Are Worthy" by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman - Inspired by Luke 13:1-9 - Block print with oil-based ink

MASK POLICY UPDATE: At the session meeting on Thursday, Session came to the decision that masks will now be optional throughout the building and in worship. However, masks will still be required for choir members and aerosol producing instrumentalists when making music during worship.

SESSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CLERK OF SESSION

Carolyn Mathews

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Carl Belt

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Bob Courtney & Evan Swanger

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & OUTREACH

Mikayla Dodge & Susan Mills

FAITH FORMATION

Josh Gilhart & Katie Ross

MISSION

Aaron Hendrickson & Brenda Luger

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Sharon Kazary & Mike Levitas

A Congregational Meeting is called by the Session for Sunday, April 3rd, immediately following the worship service for the purpose of electing Gary Hendrickson to the class of 2023 to serve on the Administration and Finance committee. Please plan to attend.

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 worshiping 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: CARL BELT

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of March 13, 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	\$ 36,698.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 33,053.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 3,644.00

ORGAN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: We are raising money to replace our organ's 50-year-old console with a new solid-state relay and control system. The upgrade will provide numerous benefits: we will no longer worry about the organ's reliability, wiring in the console will be brought up to code, the new control system will reduce the number of moving parts in the console and will be less susceptible to changes in temperature and humidity, the new control system will have numerous levels of memory so that each organist will have many preset combinations available, and the new control system will have the ability to record, store and playback performances. Session has approved this project, and Buck and Jane Belt are offering to match the first \$15,000 of gifts received from members and friends of First Presbyterian Church. All gifts are welcome. You can make a one-time gift or pay in four installments over the next 12 months. Pledge Cards can be found in your pews this morning and can be dropped in the offering plate or placed in the church office.

FAITH FORMATION

RULING ELDERS: JOSH GILHART & KATIE ROSS

NEW SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITY: Don't walk the Christian journey solo! Gain new friends and meet others who would like to travel their Christian journey together with other single Christians. Let's have lunch after church on Sunday, March 20 at Café Mark to discuss the possibilities. Weather permitting, we will meet at the front of the church and walk to lunch together.

Holy Week Services

*Palm/Passion Sunday, April 10th:

10:15 AM Churches on the Hill Gathering on Washington Street

11:00 AM Traditional Service at First Presbyterian

*Easter Egg Blessing Milestone at 1:00 PM at First Presbyterian Church - all families are invited to attend!

*Maundy Thursday, April 14th at 7:00 PM at First Presbyterian

*Good Friday Walking Stations of the Cross, April 15th at 12:00 PM
beginning at The Shrine of Saints Peter & Paul

*Easter Sunday, April 17th:

Sunrise Service at Rocky Gap at 7:00 AM

Traditional Service in the Sanctuary of First Presbyterian at 11:00 AM

**First Presbyterian Church
Invites you to an
Easter Egg
Blessing Milestone**

April 10, 2022 at 1:00 PM

**First Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall**



**A Milestones Ministry Moment for young children,
grandchildren, their families and friends!**

Activities include:

Light lunch, egg coloring, egg hunting, and Easter storytelling.

Please RSVP to Brittany by Wednesday, April 6th.

EASTER FLOWERS 2022

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 Sunday, April 3rd.**

	Price Each	Quantity	Total
Lily	\$7.00	_____	\$_____
Tulips	\$7.00	_____	\$_____
Hyacinths	\$7.00	_____	\$_____
Chrysanthemums	\$7.00	_____	\$_____
	Total	_____	\$_____

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 2022

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 Sunday, April 3rd if you want your dedication listed in the bulletin.