



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502

SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT: HOLY COMMUNION

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 6, 2022

11:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

18TH CENTURY VOLUNTARIES GEORGE GREEN (18TH CENTURY BRITISH) AND JOHN TRAVERS (1703-1758)

JESU, MEINE FREUDE (JESUS, PRICELESS TREASURE)

AUGUST REINHARD (1831-1912)

JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

Reflective Text:

Hence, all fears and sadness!

For the Lord of gladness, Jesus, enters in:

God, who dearly loves us, from all trial saves us;

Gives us peace within;

I have borne worldly scorn; still in thee lies purest pleasure,

Jesus, priceless treasure.

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS

“HEINLEIN”

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild;

Forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled.

So shall we have peace divine; holier gladness ours shall be;

Round us, too, shall angels shine, such as served you faithfully.

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Jesus went to the mountaintop to pray.

Jesus went into the city to heal.

Jesus walked to Samaria to extend love.

Jesus went to the water's edge to teach.

Jesus went to places of peace and connection,

but Jesus also went to the wilderness.

There is nowhere we can go that God does not walk with us.

We are in God's house. Let us worship Holy God.

Let us pray -

God of the wilderness places in our lives, it can be hard to hear you in the desert. It can be hard to hear you in the city, in the midst of our calendar reminders, traffic, and notification alerts. It can be hard to hear you, so we ask: make everything quiet.

Pause the chaos. Still the rushing. Ease our racing thoughts. Give us ears to hear your Word for us today which promises that even in the desert you are full to the brim. We are listening. We ache for your good news. Gratefully we pray, amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, when we think that expansive life is about power—Teach us a new way. Gracious Creator, when we think that expansive life is about material wealth—Teach us a new way. Gracious Author, when we think that expansive life is about control—Teach us a new way.

Teach us to live as you live. Teach us to love as you love. Forgive us when we don't. Gratefully we pray, amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE #551

LORD, HAVE MERCY

“LAND OF REST”

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 God is love. We believe God's love is overflowing.

We believe Jesus is a river. We believe that river is running toward us.

We believe the Holy Spirit is a vessel. We believe that vessel holds mercy for you and for me.

We believe the wilderness is real. We believe the desert is lonely.

We believe that Jesus has been there. We know that we do not walk alone.

Even in the desert, we are loved.

Even in the desert, God is with us.

Even in the desert, this love overflows.

Thanks be to God, amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

DEUTERONOMY 26:1-11

26 When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.” ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the LORD your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

ANTHEM

ELIJAH, GET THEE HENCE

FOR HE SHALL GIVE HIS ANGELS TO WATCH OVER THEE
PATRICIA KELBY, MEZZO-SOPRANO; THE FESTIVAL CHOIR OF LARCHMONT
JUDITH BROWN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1810-1847)

An Angel: Elijah! Get thee hence, Elijah! Go now and turn thee eastward: and hide thee by Cherith's Brook.
There shalt thou drink its waters; and the Lord thy God hath commanded that the ravens there shall feed thee:
do Thou according unto His word.

For He shall give His angels to watch over thee; and they guard and keep thee in all the ways thou goest.
In their hands they shall lift and bear thee, lest thy foot should stumble against a stone and dash thee.
In their hands they shall lift and bear thee; They shall guard and keep thee in all the ways thou goest.

SECOND READING

LUKE 4:1-13

4 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

⁵ Then the devil^[a] led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil^[b] said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

⁹ Then the devil^[c] took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,'

¹¹ and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

¹² Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

SERMON

"FULL TO THE BRIM: EVEN IN THE DESERT"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #618

O LOVE, HOW DEEP, HOW BROAD, HOW HIGH

"DEO GRACIAS"

RECEPTION NEW MEMBER - ALAN CUPPETT

QUESTIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

Pastor You have come to this time and place to acknowledge Christ before others and serve Him as faithful disciples. To that end I ask you the following questions:

Do you confess Jesus Christ to be your Lord and Savior, and renouncing the powers of evil and trusting in God alone do you intend to be Christ's disciple, obeying His word and showing His love? **If so please answer "I do."**

Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, giving of yourself in every way and will you seek the fellowship of the church wherever you may be?

If so, please answer "I will."

QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION

Do we the members of First Presbyterian Church receive Alan and promise to welcome him, sharing his concerns and joys, supporting him as he seeks to follow and serve Jesus Christ?

If so, please answer "We do".

WELCOME

MISSION IN A MINUTE

JANE'S PLACE

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

WHEN WE ARE TESTED
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

"ANGELS OF HEALING"

When we are tested and wrestle alone,
Famished for bread when the world offers stone,
Nourish us, God, by your words and your way,
Food that sustains us by night and be day.

When in the desert we cry for relief
Pleading for paths marked by certain belief
Lift us to love you beyond sign and test,
Trusting your presence, our only true rest.

When we are tempted to barter our souls
Trading the truth for the power to control
Teach us to worship and praise only you,
Seeking your will in the work that we do

When we have struggled and searched through the night
Sorting and sifting the wrong from the right
Savior surround us with circles of care
Angels of healing, of hope and of prayer.

* DOXOLOGY #606

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

"OLD HUNDRETH"

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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER SUPPER

Holy One, you know us completely. You welcomed us to this table to be strengthened for this Lenten journey. May our joy overflow after encountering you this day. May our peace pass all understanding and help us to settle into your great love that sends us out from this bountiful table to the entire world. Amen.

* HYMN #712

AS THOSE OF OLD THEIR FIRSTFRUITS BROUGHT

"FOREST GREEN"

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION

SPIRIT

JOHN WIMBER

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

HEINLEIN
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.....Cathy Levitas
Organist.....Judith Brown
Musicians..... The Sanctuary Choir
.....Patricia Kelby, Mezzo- Soprano and The Festival Choir of Larchmont (previously recorded)
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Sharon and Bob Kazary

**Just a reminder that daylight savings time begins next Sunday, March 13th.
Be sure to turn your clocks forward one hour!**

Music Notes

We welcome the Sanctuary Choir back to contributing to Worship each Sunday as we appreciate the gift of singing and music even more! As the Sanctuary Choir offers two hymns reflecting first Sunday in Lent through God's Light and the Angels, the Lectionary for the past few Sundays has also reflected directly on the Prophet Elijah and God's Angels. "He Shall Give His Angels to Watch Over Thee" is certainly one of the most beautiful choruses from Mendelssohn's "Elijah." Composed for eight separate voice parts, the fullness and richness of the harmony soars as it reflects God's all enveloping Love.

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: 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 27, 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	\$ 30,265.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 29,747.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 517.00

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.

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.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & OUTREACH

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

✠ Paul Aber

FAITH FORMATION
RULING ELDERS: JOSH GILHART & KATIE ROSS

AN EVENING WITH ANNE LAMOTT ON MARCH 18TH AT 8:00PM IN NORTH BETHESDA MD!
Faith Formation is excited to offer this opportunity to anyone in the congregation who is interested. Tickets and travel will be covered by the committee. *(We will be departing from the church parking lot at 4:30pm. We will be stopping for dinner)* **Masking and Proof of FULL Vaccination is required by this venue.**

Anne Lamott writes about things that begin with capital letters: Alcoholism, Motherhood, Jesus. But armed with self-effacing humor—she is laugh-out-loud funny—and ruthless honesty, Lamott converts her subjects into enchantment. In all her novels, Lamott writes about loss—loss of loved ones and loss of personal control. She doesn't try to sugar-coat the sadness, frustration, and disappointment, but tells her stories with honesty, compassion, and a pureness of voice. Lamott is the author of 7 novels and she has also written several best-selling nonfiction books, including: *Operating Instructions*, about motherhood, and the classic book on writing, *Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life*.

Please sign up with the secretary (firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com) or Josh Gilhart (240-920-9395) by Wednesday March 9th!

WORSHIP & MUSIC
RULING ELDERS: SHARON KAZARY & BUCK BELT

COVID-19 UPDATE: The Worship and Music Committee met last Sunday. Dr. Levitas reviewed the latest Covid data, indicating still-high, but steadily decreasing rates of Covid illness in our region. He felt that it is appropriate to ease up on our recent precautions. Local hospitalization rates are much lower, indicating that risk of serious illness is decreasing. Therefore, we will now allow singing in church, but still while wearing masks, for both the choir and our congregation members. The liturgist may now return to the chancel. Both the pastor and liturgist will be masked, but should unmask when speaking at the microphone. Time for Children may also resume. Our committee voted unanimously for these changes.

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 1:30 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

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.

Bulletin Artwork: "Temptations" by Hannah Garrity - Inspired by Luke 4:1-13 - Paper lace Prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org