

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET CUMBERLAND, MD 21502

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY:

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

APRIL 10, 2022

11:00 AM



OPENING VOLUNTARY

IMPROVISATION ON "CRUCIFER"

JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

11:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

HOSANNA TO THE KING OF KINGS

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Hosanna to the King of Kings,

Hosanna to our King!

Hosanna to the Lord of Lords,

Hosanna let us sing!

MARY PENNYCUFF

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

It is holy to gather.

It is holy to sing.

It is holy to be generous, to throw our coats on the road.

It is holy to celebrate justice when we see it.

It is holy to shout, "Hosanna!"

It is holy to remember.

It is holy to gather.

It is holy to sing. Here and now, let us do all of these things.

Let us pray -

Holy God, sometimes life feels like a parade rushing by us as we stand on the sidelines and try not to miss it! There are hundreds of things that catch our eye, but the thing we fear missing the most is you. So slow down the speed on this parade. Paint the colors of this world a little brighter. And dance through the words in our scripture passage until it is almost impossible for us to miss you there.

God we are here. We are trying to pay attention. Gratefully we pray, amen.

* HYMN #196

ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR

"VALET WILL ICH GEBEN"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of street parades and hosannas, we know that you are counting on us to speak out against oppression, to speak up for love and to speak hope to fear, but so often we are silent. We worry that we'll say the wrong thing, so we don't say anything at all. We worry that we'll offend, so we keep our convictions to ourselves. We worry that we'll speak up and won't be heard, so we stay silent. And meanwhile, the parade marches on. Unravel our fears. Spark conviction in us. Give us the courage to yell, "Hosanna!" 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 in a God of surprises.

We believe in a God with a sense of humor.

We believe that there are things we may never understand,
but we believe that even in the mystery, God is there.

We believe in giving what we have.

We believe that actions of generosity change us.

We dare to believe that these small acts can change the world.

We believe in a God who is a miracle-maker.

We believe in a God of good news.

We believe this good news is so good that we cannot help but sing.

We believe there will be forces that try to silence what is just, good, hopeful, and generous.

We do not believe those voices will have the last word.

We believe, at the end of the day, love will find a way.

We believe.

Help our unbelief.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM

HOSANNA

PAUL M. FRENCH

ALISON PETERS, MIKAYLA DODGE, SOPRANOS; ZACH DODGE, BARITONE

Hosanna, hosanna!

The children of Jerusalem welcome Christ the King.

They carried olive branches and loudly praised the Lord.

They spread their cloaks before Him and loudly praised the Lord.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

LUKE 19:28-40

²⁸ After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying,

"Blessed is the king

who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven,

and glory in the highest heaven!"

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰ He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

SERMON

"FULL TO THE BRIM: EVEN THE STONES CRY OUT"

REV. ALISON PETERS

* HYMN #200

A CHEERING, CHANTING, DIZZY CROWD

"CHRISTIAN LOVE"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

SURELY HE HATH BORNE OUR GRIEFS (MESSIAH)

G.F. HANDEL (1685-1759)

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR; JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.

He was wounded for our transgressions,

He was bruised for our iniquities,

The chastisement of our peace was upon Him.

* 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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - A LITANY OF THE PASSION

Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." In the name of Jesus, we pray:

Lord, help us to take up our cross and follow you.

You stood before Pilate, your life condemned, your word rejected, your innocence ignored:

Keep us from rejecting your word of truth and salvation.

You carried your cross on the wounded stripes of your back, for love of us and for all the world.

Help us to bear our cross, for love of you and for love of others.

The weight of your cross was the weight of sin which makes us stumble and fall.

In our weakness, we turn to you for strength.

Although you suffered, you still reached out to care for your mother.

May our cross-bearing never keep us from caring for our families.

As you struggled to bear your cross to Calvary, a passerby was drafted to help you.

Make us as willing as Simon to bear the burdens of those in need.

Others also took risks to comfort you.

Strengthen our faith to take loving risks for others in need.

Sin weighed heavily upon you as you stumbled along the way.

Forgive us, Lord, for the sins which make us fall.

Your suffering under the cross caused the women of Jerusalem to weep.

Make our suffering in life a share in your suffering.

The full burden of sin crushed you mightily to the earth.

Do not forsake us in our falling, but bring us to repentance and faith.

Stripped and jeered, you endured humiliation without complaint.

Humble us in our work and daily lives.

Nailed to the cross, you took your place among the condemned.

Take your place beside us sinners, and bring us through faith to the Paradise of God.

When your sacrifice was complete, you handed your life to the Father, and he did not forsake you.

Keep us close to your cross and death, now and at the hour of our death.

Faithful friends and loving women took loving care of your lifeless body.

Turn the darkness of death into the brightness of day for those we love.

In the tomb you were laid, but that is not the end of the story.

Be the Lord who death cannot keep bound - for us and for all your children.

We offer a prayer - familiar and strong to help us to remember:

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.

* HYMN #228

WERE YOU THERE

“WERE YOU THERE”

* 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

HERZLIEBSTER JESU
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

JOHANNES BRAHMS (1833-1897)

* 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
Director of Music Ministries.....Judith Brown
Musicians.....The Sanctuary Choir; Mikayla Dodge, Soprano; Zach Dodge, Baritone
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Bob & Sharon Kazary

Bulletin Artwork: “Even the Stones Cry Out” by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman - Inspired by Luke 19:28-40 - Digital painting with photo collage

MASK POLICY UPDATE: At the March session meeting, Session decided 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.

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

SESSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CLERK OF SESSION

Carolyn Mathews

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Carl Belt & Gary Hendrickson

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

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 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: CARL BELT

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of April 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	\$ 48,828.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 46,274.00
Over/(Under)	\$ 2,553.00

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.

MISSION

RULING ELDERS: AARON HENDRICKSON & BRENDA LUGER

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: This morning, we have the opportunity to contribute to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. Approximately 1/3 of our donations today will support the Presbyterian Hunger Program. This program strives to walk with people in moving towards sustainable choices that restore and protect all of God’s children and creation. As people of faith we seek to feed the hungry, especially during the pandemic. We also strive to serve and preserve God’s world. Please give generously.

Join us for our Holy Week Services

*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