

World Communion Sunday Service for the Lord's day

OCTOBER 1, 2023

10:30 A.M.

PEACE BE WITH YOU

As pastors of Catonsville Presbyterian Church, we know that this is a community of love, care, and true welcome. We pray that you will experience our hospitality and our delight in your presence.

Not only do we welcome you and your family, but we seek to welcome the full range of experiences, identities, and feelings that you carry. Our life together is often marked by a desire to thoughtfully engage God's world and our own humanity. We're compelled by the reality that the Christian life is often full of doubt, fear, loneliness, shortfalls, and uncertainty, in the same way that it can be full of beauty, belonging, love, and hope.

Whoever you are today, whoever you have been, and whoever you have yet to be: you are welcome in this space. We hope to meet you this morning, and if not, we hope to say hello in the coming days. If you are interested in learning more about our ministry at Catonsville Presbyterian Church, consider opening your phone's camera and following the QR



code on this page. We'll send a short email with some ways to get connected this week and in the weeks to come.

Once again, welcome. You are a beloved child of God.

Ken Kovacs Pastor • kkovacs@catonsvillepres.org

Dorothy Boulton

Associate Pastor · dboulton@catonsvillepres.org

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

ABOUT OUR CONGREGATION

We actively engage our intellects and our hearts in what we believe to be true: that God's peace, justice, and radical love are good news for every corner of our lives. We seek to be a place of freedom and liberation, where people of all ages and backgrounds deepen their connection to God and others while making a tangible difference in our Catonsville community and throughout the world.

Rooted in this faith, our congregation proudly affirms the gifts, callings, and Godgiven identities of LGBTQIA+ members, friends, and guests. God invites all of us to explore and discover the person God has created and known before all time.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

Educational ministries are currently held on the second week of each month. These Second Sundays include childcare and youth programming beginning at 10:00 a.m. and multi-age church school for those in kindergarten through fifth grade. Visit <u>catonsvillepres.org/ministries/families</u> to learn more.

Today, you can find children's bulletins, books, and activities in the back of the sanctuary. The Fellowship Hall is available for families to use if desired. The service can be heard in the room and there's plenty of space for active children.

WELCOMING ALL GOD'S PEOPLE

Catonsville Presbyterian Church recognizes that people of all ages have varying abilities and needs. If you meet or see someone with differing needs, whether an adult or a child, please recognize that underlying conditions may occasionally cause behavior that might be misrepresented as inappropriate. Please reach out. Ask if there is a way you might assist and otherwise be understanding and supportive.

If you or a family member has special needs, please speak to one of the pastors or the Deacon of the Day. We want to full appreciate each individual's gifts and talents and help you to feel a part of this faith community.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Service for the Lord's Day

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

Neno Lake Mungu, setting by Anne Krentz Organ

Neno Lake Mungu, or "Listen, God is Calling," is a Swahili hymn from Kenya that uses the traditional African musical pattern of call and response. "Listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting, offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy." The complete text is #456 in the *Glory to God* hymnal.

INTROIT

"Oh, Qué Bueno es Jesus" Puerto Rican folk hymn

Translation:

Oh, how good is Christ the Lord! On the cross he died for me. He has pardoned all my sin. Glory to his name! In three days he rose again. Glory to his name!

[†]CALL TO WORSHIP

(The congregation responds aloud with the bold text)

We gather from the west and the east, **from the south and the north**,

to sit at the table in the Kingdom of God,

to dwell in the presence of the Living God, to praise the God of peace.

How good and pleasant it is **when God's people live together in harmony.**

Come, let us worship God!

⁺HYMN #340

PRAYER OF ADORATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

"This Is My Song"

Please rise in body or in spirit [†]

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious Lord, creator of this universe, in your generosity you have given us a world of abundance and diversity, yet we live guided by greed and selfishness.

We confess that we have defaced your creation and poisoned our environment through our consumerist behavior and desire for personal gain.

In Christ, you made us siblings and intended for us to be together, yet we have built walls to separate us from those who are different.

Silence

You gave us wisdom and creativity, yet we have used them to trick each other and to develop weapons of destruction and death.

You gave us laws to order our lives, yet we have abused them to take revenge and punish our enemies.

Silence

We love war rather than strive for peace. We ignore the poor and the weak and honor the rich and powerful.

In all this, we have not lived according to your will.

Forgive us, Lord, for daring to boast in our human achievements and for failing to recognize that you alone are worthy of praise.

In your mercy, forgive us our sins.

Silent prayer of confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

⁺**RESPONSE OF PRAISE: HYMN #753** "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

LIFE IN COMMUNITY



Come in your faith, and in your doubt! If you are joining us for the first time, we invite you to share your information by scanning the QR code. We would love to connect.

Upcoming events and recent announcements are available in the back of the bulletin and on our website at <u>catonsvillepres.org</u>.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN #774

"There Is Now a New Creation"

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 2:11-22 Pew Bible, page 192 of the New Testament

SERMON

"The Table of Peace" Ken Kovacs

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

We give out of abundance, whatever that may be. If you would like to contribute financially to Catonsville Presbyterian Church, scan the QR code or use the offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary.



Peace and Global Witness Offering

Through this special offering of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), congregations and individuals are empowered to become peacemakers themselves.



Weekly Giving

Point your smartphone's camera at this QR code to give to the general fund, Deacons' fund, Adopt a Turkey, or other ministries.

OFFERTORY

"Ngothando," Mbuso Ndlovu

Translation:

Through love, only, we will conquer everything, All situations cannot swallow (devour us) Let us open our hearts, and let us fear nothing, Through love...

Composer's note: *Ngothando* is a song written in IsiZulu, a language spoken by the Zulu people (*AmaZulu*) in South Africa. The song is a message to the rest of the world that it is only through love that we can conquer the barriers that stand

between us, the poverty and disease that surround us. Let's open our hearts and not fear the unknown. Let's search deep within ourselves, knowing that we do have enough resources.

† DOXOLOGY # 607 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

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

⁺ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, we bring these our gifts to you as a symbol of our commitment to continue the work you have called us to do in your name — the work of reconciliation and peace and justice in the world and in our community. We offer our resources confident that you are the God of peace at work in the world. Transform these gifts so that your peace may be experienced at all times and in all ways. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

HYMN #526

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

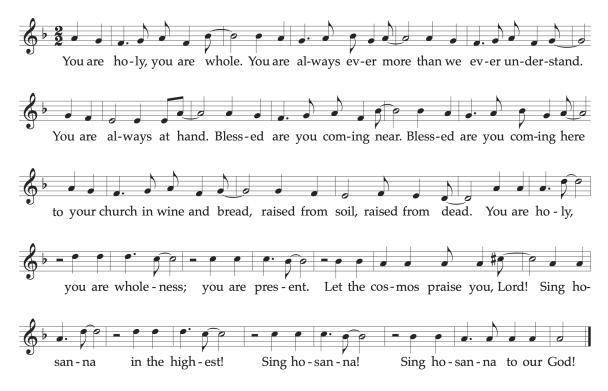
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise. Creating God, source of our being, we give you thanks and praise, for you have brought forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.

In the beginning you created people in your likeness. In your likeness, you created people who multiplied and became many– people of many genders, races, nationalities, and abilities.

You created the world and all that is in it without borders or walls and you called it "good."

For this we praise you.



Jesus, our sibling, born of Mary in a stable in Palestine, you confronted the powers and principalities of your time, and welcomed those who society had cast aside as your friends. For love and the liberation of your people,

you risked your life and were executed by the brokenness of empire,

yet even death could not put an end to the love you embody.

Out of death, you arose to new life and to live again among your people.

With joy we celebrate what you have done

and with dedication we follow you, transformed by your love, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ has risen; Christ will come again.

Boundless God,

Pour out your Spirit on this bread and this cup.

Through these ordinary gifts that sustain us our bodies,

nourish us and transform us,

that we might remember that we belong to each other and to you.

Through this remembering, Let us be reconciled to each other and to you.

Through this remembering, May we tear down all boundaries and walls that we have built,

Through this remembering,

May all peoples in all places and times be united in you as we share this meal and pray the words you taught us to pray:

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.

10

Breaking of the Bread

Music During Communion

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele, ("Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness") Johannes Brahms

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

Gracious God, how can we thank you for such a gift? For you have met us, fed us, drawn us to you, bound us to one another. Now send us out to share your love, embody your peace, and live with hope until that day when you make all things new.

[†] PASSING OF THE PEACE

⁺ HYMN #318

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

⁺ BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all from now and forevermore.

Amen.

⁺ HYMN #765

"May the God of Hope Go With Us"

⁺ POSTLUDE"

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus," setting by Robert Hobby

The text to "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" by Irish poet Joseph Scriven was written to comfort his mother when he learned that she was suffering from illness. Scriven himself was not unfamiliar with heartache and grief. In 1843, his fiancée accidentally drowned on the eve of their wedding. He decided to dedicate his life

⁺ Please rise in body or in spirit

to preaching and serving God, ultimately moving to Canada to serve through his Plymouth Brethren faith. In 1860, he was engaged to marry again, but his fiancée contracted pneumonia and died before the marriage could take place. Joseph Scriven drowned in 1886 at the age of 66. His poem, "Pray Without Ceasing," was set to music by Charles Converse and renamed "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." Scriven never dreamed that his poem would become a favorite hymn for millions.

SOURCES

"2023 World Communion Sunday Liturgy," *PC(USA) Special Offerings* (Louisville, KY: 2023).

Today's Great Prayer of Thanksgiving was written by Emily Brewer for the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-734388; CCLI Copyright License B 20481088 + Streaming License B 481071

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Dorothy Boulton Associate Pastor

Mo Ewane Liturgist

Keith and Kathy Glennan Video Production Wendy Johnston Organist and Assistant Director of Music

Greg Knauf Director of Music

Kenneth E. Kovacs Pastor Vickie Lord Social media support

LEARNING AND GROWING

Christian Nationalism

October 8 and 22 | Led by Ken Kovacs | 9:00 a.m. in the Library

Christian nationalism is a political ideology and cultural framework that seeks to merge American and Christian identities. In this day when both American identity and Christian identity are undergoing massive shifts in definition and meaning, the reappearance and rise of Christian Nationalism (CN) is an alarming, reactionary response. The subtitle of Andrew L. Whitebread's new and important work, *American Idolatry*, gets at the heart of the issue: *How Christian Nationalism Betrays the Gospel and Threatens the Church* (Brazos, 2023). CN subscribes to a particular understanding of who is "in" and who is intentionally left out or pushed to the margins, who belongs, and who doesn't.

Prepare for the session with the resources and articles available at <u>catonsvillepres.org/belonging</u>

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Every Thursday | 10:30 a.m. in the Library

This fall, we're exploring the Letter to the Ephesians. Written by the apostle Paul, or one of his disciples, to Christians living in and around Ephesus, this letter celebrates the life of the church, a unique community established by God through the work of Jesus Christ.

Just bring your Bible and join us at 10:30 a.m. (in the library or via Zoom). We finish promptly at noon. Visit <u>catonsvillepres.org/belonging</u> to view the schedule or access the Zoom meeting.

Youth Group

October 22 | 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Youth group for grades 6-12 is typically held on the third week of each month. Contact Dorothy Boulton (<u>dboulton@catonsvillepres.org</u>) with any questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to the Columbarium Committee!

Thank you to the Columbarium Committee for hosting today's Fellowship Hour. The committee is available after worship with information about the columbarium and are eager to share about its ministry.

Accessing the Belonging Portal

Articles, resources, and a connect form are all available at <u>catonsvillepres.org/</u> <u>belonging</u>. The portal is pinned at the top of the private Facebook group, listed in the weekly email, and in the "Learning and Growing" section of the bulletin. You can also type the link directly into your web browser.

Exploring our Facilities

As we focus on our fall theme of connection, do you ever wonder what CPC looks like beyond the sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall? As part of our presence in the community and overall stewardship responsibilities, Catonsville Presbyterian Church is blessed with a large amount of space and buildings. The oldest buildings are over 100 years old!

Want to learn more? On Sunday, October 1, the Buildings and Grounds Committee will conduct a walk-around of the facility, including highlights such as our gym, the organ, our heating and air conditioning, our cell tower space (no ladder climbing), and our child care center. We will also visit the church house, and weather permitting, the gardens and woodlands. It should take about 30-45 minutes and involve climbing stairs. Wear comfortable, closed-toe shoes.

We hope you can join us for the walk-around, and that it can answer your questions and maybe spark further curiosity.

Confirmation Meeting

Ninth- and tenth-grade students and their families are invited to a confirmation interest meeting next Sunday, October 8, in the Library following worship. Jeff Bolognese and Dorothy Boulton will explain the confirmation process and describe the fun, growth, and discovery that's planned.

Fall Event for Contemplative Prayer and Meditation

You're invited to a fall in-person gathering with the Contemplative Prayer and Meditation group on Monday, October 2, at 7:00 p.m. in the France Room. After an introduction to silent meditation (or "centering prayer"), there will be a short practice session. Current members will share why they continue to be practitioners of this spiritual practice and how it has impacted them. If you're curious or feel drawn to a deeper connection with oneself and God, please join us! Contact Brenda Logue (naylogue@aol.com) with any questions.

Second Sunday

Next Sunday, October 8, is a Second Sunday. In the lower level, child care for infants to age five will begin at 10:00 a.m., along with multi-age church school beginning at the conclusion of the children's message. Use the stairs between the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. At 10:00 a.m. the youth will gather in the upstairs rooms above the Library and France Room for Cocoa and Conversations.

Food Collection

The next Friday food collection is this coming week on October 6. Between 4-6 p.m., bring a few items to the small parking lot off Frederick Road to support our neighbors!

Trick or Treat Trail

Children are encouraged to wear costumes and visit the Woodlands for fun, fellowship, and candy after worship on October 29! Everyone is welcome to provide candy and/or volunteer for the event by signing up at <u>tinyurl.com/cpc-trick-or-treat</u>. Contact Jenny Hutton (<u>jenhutton2010@gmail.com</u>) or Jeff Bolognese (<u>jabolognese@gmail.com</u>) with any questions.

GIVING UPDATE

We publish these numbers every week out of our gratitude for your financial giving. Thank you for your generosity towards our ministry and life together!

Actual income\$	603,390
Actual expense \$ -	615,576
Total\$	-12,186
Per capita\$	1,780

EVENTS THIS WEEK

The most accurate and up-to-date calendar is available on our website at <u>catonsvillepres.org/events</u>. Be sure to follow us on Instagram and Facebook for event updates, schedule changes, and corrections throughout the week.

Date	Event	Location/time	Contact
Mon.	Presbyterian Women	Zoom, 9:30 a.m.	Brenda Logue naylogue@aol.com
	Contemplative Prayer: Fall Welcome Event	France Room, 7 p.m.	Brenda Logue naylogue@aol.com
Tues.	Needlework group	Zoom, 10:30 a.m.	Cindy Gunderson cinron.md@gmail.com
	Staff Meeting	Church House, 1 p.m.	Church Office office@catonsvillepres.org
Wed.	Session Meeting	Library, 7 p.m.	David Hutton dhutton1@verizon.net
Thurs.	Bible Study	Library and Zoom, 10:30 a.m.	Ken Kovacs kkovacs@catonsvillepres.org
	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary, 7 p.m.	Greg Knauf gknauf@catonsvillepres.org
Fri.	Food Collection	4-6 p.m.	Jenny Hutton jenhutton2010@gmail.com

Catonsville Presbyterian Church

An Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

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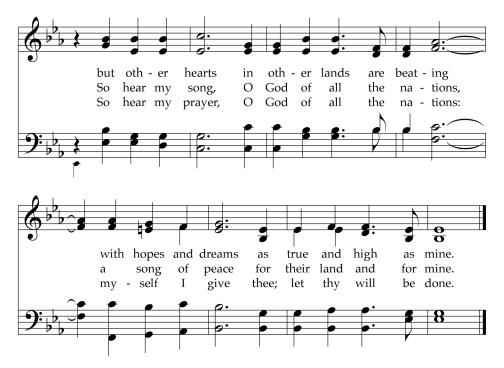
The first two stanzas of this hymn were written between the 20th century's two world wars and focus on the theme of international peace. The third stanza, by another author and added later, uses the language of the Lord's Prayer to voice a distinctly Christian perspective.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–2, Lloyd Stone; stanza 3, Georgia Harkness, alt. MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. *The Hymnal*, 1933, alt. FINLANDIA 11.10.11.10.11.10

Text St. 1–2 \odot 1934, ren. 1962 The Lorenz Corp.; St. 3 \odot 1964 The Lorenz Corp.

Music Arr. © 1933, ren. 1961 The Presbyterian Board of Christian Education (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

THE LIFE OF THE NATIONS





Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Though popular opinion credits this prayer to Francis of Assisi, the earliest known printing was in a French religious magazine in 1912. Yet that gentle saint's spirit seems evident in these words, a quality that has spurred many paraphrases and musical settings such as this one.

TEXT: Anon., c. 1912; adapt. Sebastian Temple, 1967 MUSIC: Sebastian Temple, 1963; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011 *Text and Music* © *1967 OCP*

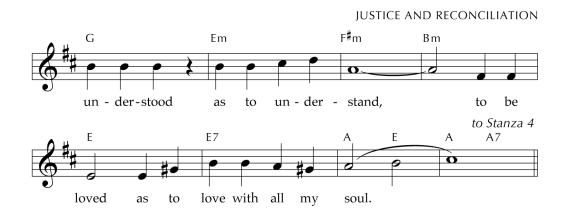


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(#753, continued)



JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION



At the center of this text stands a reference to the well-known parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11–32), and the fourth stanza forms an effective bridge between that gospel story and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The first and last stanzas draw on 2 Corinthians 5:17.

LORD'S SUPPER



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Maracas and other rhythm instruments may be used.

This "communion calypso" (as the author called it) affirms the continuing presence of Christ both in the sacramental meal and in the lives of Christians. Because this text was written to fit a pre-existing tune, it has a rather telegraphic style that encourages pondering.



This text formed a very small part of an elaborate Christian missionary pageant in the early 20th century, yet it has endured while the grander aspects of that production have faded away. It is set to a simple 19th-century tune that does not get in the way of its message.



This Argentine folk melody sets Spanish and English words, both created by a PC(USA) missionary with much Latin American experience. The two versions complement each other: the Spanish text offering a prayer to God, and the English one providing inspiration for the singers.

TEXT: Alvin Schutmaat, 1984 MUSIC: Argentine folk melody ARGENTINA 11.11.11.11 with refrain