



# Baptism of the Lord

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

JANUARY 7, 2024

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](mailto:kkovacs@catonsvillepres.org)

### **Dorothy Boulton**

Associate Pastor • [dboulton@catonsvillepres.org](mailto: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 God-given 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 [catonsvillepres.org/ministries/families](https://catonsvillepres.org/ministries/families) 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.

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† Please rise in body or in spirit

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Service for the Lord's Day

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

### PRELUDE

*Das alte Jahr vergangen ist*  
("The Old Year is Past and is No More")  
BWV 614, Johann Sebastian Bach

The text for this chorale represents both a lament for the old year and a prayer for the coming year.

*The old year's past and is no more,  
now thanks to Jesus Christ our Lord,  
for shielding us when danger's near,  
protecting us throughout this year.*

Bach employs both dissonance and chromaticism in this setting, vividly depicting a sense of sorrow and grief. Some think that he may have written this chorale following the death of his newborn twins in 1713.

### † CALL TO WORSHIP

God spoke the creative Word into the formless void.

**The cosmos cries, "Glory!"**

From the wilderness, God brought forth new life and liberation.

**The plants and animals that inhabit the wild places cry, "Glory!"**

A messenger in the wilderness brings good news. God's people cry, "Glory!"

**In baptism, we are united to God through Jesus Christ.**

**With all of creation, we cry "Glory!"**

Come, let us worship God!

† HYMN # 401

“Gather Us In”

**PRAYER OF ADORATION**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Creating God, we cannot look at our lives, our communities, or the world around us without seeing the fractures and brokenness that reflect the reality of sin.

**You created the earth and called it good, but it now groans under the weight of our greed, abuse, and carelessness, awaiting redemption and re-creation.**

You created humanity in your image and called us very good, but we have ignored the image of God in each other. We have created, maintained, and benefitted from unjust systems built on divisions based on race, gender, sexuality, ethnicity, and more.

**You poured out your love in Jesus Christ, who showed us how to live and how to love, but we continue to make our own path, follow our own desires, and neglect to love others as Christ loves us.**

Lord, have mercy. Rend the heavens. Re-create us now.

*Silent prayer of confession*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The heavens part, the waters swirl, and the dove descends, reminding us that we, too, are God’s beloved children. We are covered by God’s grace and forgiven in Jesus Christ.

**Thanks be to God!**

† **RESPONSE OF PRAISE: HYMN # 582**

“Glory to God,  
Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

**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 [catonsvillepres.org](http://catonsvillepres.org).

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

Cheryl Thurber

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Send down your Holy Spirit, O God—tear open the veil of heaven and speak to us as beloved children so that we may hear and believe the good news of your Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE**

Genesis 1:1-5  
*Page 1 of the Old Testament*

**SCRIPTURE**

Mark 1:4-11  
*Pages 34-35 of the New Testament*

**SERMON**

“Beginning Again”  
*Ken Kovacs*

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### CALL TO OFFERING

### OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

### OFFERTORY

#### † 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

**Holy God, we trust in the provisions of your love and the abundance of your grace. May the gifts we offer bring glory to you in the ways they bear your love into the world. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.**

#### HYMN # 482 (VERSES 1-2)

“Baptized in Water”

### REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

#### Sentence of Scripture

#### † Profession of Faith

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

**I renounce them.**

Who is your Lord and Savior?

**Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

**I will with God's help.**

† **The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the  
Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day  
he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on  
the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come  
to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of  
saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the  
life everlasting. Amen.**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

**HYMN # 482 (VERSE 3)**

“Baptized in Water”

**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.**

Let us open our hearts.

**We open them to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Holy One.

**It is right to lift up thanks and praise.**

On this day we remember our baptism...



...So hear us now, holy one, as we pray as Christ taught us saying:

**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.**

## **Communion of God's People**

### **Prayer of Gratitude**

**We give you thanks and praise, O God, that you have fed us with your mercy and poured out your Spirit in this place. Continue to nourish and fill us each day, that we may live as your beloved people; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **† Passing of the Peace**

**† HYMN # 543**

**“O Christ, Surround Me”**

### **† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Hear the good news: God is doing a new thing! Refreshed and renewed by the waters that unite us to God and to each other, let us go into the world, empowered by the Holy Spirit, following the way of Jesus Christ.

May the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of our parent God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us, today and always. **Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

*In dir ist Freude* (“In Thee is Gladness”)  
BWV 615, Johann Sebastian Bach

Bach’s setting of *In Thee is Gladness* is pure exuberant joy and represents hope for the year to come:

*In Thee is gladness amid all sadness,  
Sweetest Jesus Christ our Lord.*

This is the most flamboyant and virtuosic of all the chorales in the collection known as the *Orgelbüchlein*. Listen for the fragmented melodic line as it reappears multiple times in various registers and voices.

## SOURCES

Image: Baptismal Font, San Millan de Yuso (11th century), in the village of de la Cogolla, La Rioja, Spain. (Photo: K.E. Kovacs)

*Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts*, Presbyterian Church (USA) Office of Theology and Worship (Louisville: Presbyterian Publishing Corporation, 2023).

*Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2013).

Thom M. Shuman, *Where the Broken Gather: Lectionary Liturgies* for Year B, 2014.

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## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Dorothy Boulton

*Associate Pastor*

Keith and Kathy Glennan

*A/V Production*

Wendy Johnston

*Organist and Assistant Director of  
Music*

Greg Knauf

*Director of Music*

Ken Kovacs

*Pastor*

Melissa Lambdin

*Liturgist*

Vickie Lord

*Social media support*

## LEARNING & GROWING

Access the articles for Adult Education at [catonsvillepres.org/belonging](https://catonsvillepres.org/belonging)

### PERILS AND PROMISE OF THE PULPIT

**Sunday, January 21 | Led by Ken Kovacs | 9:00 a.m. in the Library**

Thomas Long, the “dean” of American Protestant preachers, former professor of preaching at Princeton Seminary and Candler Divinity School at Emory, wrote an essay in *The Presbyterian Outlook*, which has received a lot of attention: *The Perilous and Promising Pulpit*.

Long believes, “In a new and disturbing way, preaching has become perilous.” But there’s room for promise when we remember what is really going on when a congregation faithfully and courageously listens for the Word of God.

### THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

**January 11, 18, and 25 | Led by Ken Kovacs | 10:30 a.m. in the Library**

TMBS returns on January 11. For three weeks, our text will be the scripture readings for each upcoming Sunday. Join us on January 11, 18, and 25, at 10:30 a.m. in the library. We’ll take a break for several weeks and then resume with a new study for Lent. Look for details.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Called to Serve

Our highly-rated Family Child Care Center has immediate openings for enrollment for spring 2024!

- 3 year old preschool: 1 opening
- 4 year old preschool: 1 opening
- Before-care (7 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.): multiple openings
- Aftercare (3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.): 3 openings

Contact Ashley Graham ([agraham@cpcfccc.org](mailto:agraham@cpcfccc.org)) for more information on these registration spots.

Be sure to save the dates to register for summer camp 2024 and school year 2024-25. Current families register any day from Monday, January 22 through Sunday, January 28. Church members, returning campers, and new families register on Monday, February 12. After current families have re-registered, church members get priority for remaining spaces.

## Church Library

The Peace & Justice and Dismantling Racism committees are pleased to announce that we now have a new resource library. This is similar to a “little free library,” so continue to bring in books and put them on the shelves. You’re also invited to take books and begin circulating ideas. When contributing, please donate books that fit the broad theme of education on diversity, dismantling racism, social and structural change, environment, community building and revitalization. There are books for all ages.

## Congregational Meeting

The annual meeting of the congregation will be held on Sunday, January 28, in the sanctuary following worship. The congregation will receive reports from the Session and vote on terms of call for our pastors. Please mark your calendar to attend this important meeting.

## You're Invited: Plant-based Potluck

The Creation Care team invites you to a plant-based potluck dinner on Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.! Plant-based meals are made solely of vegetables, beans/legumes, and grains (including pasta) and usually do not contain dairy. Please bring a side dish or main dish to share. Try a few recipes in the weeks before to find your signature dish! Set up and clean up volunteers are needed as well. Come have a tasty meal that benefits the planet and experience the power (and tastiness) of plants on January 27, 2024! Contact Laurie White ([thewhites@brickhouse112.com](mailto:thewhites@brickhouse112.com)) with questions.

## Submission to *The Messenger*

The next edition of *The Messenger* will be published on Ash Wednesday (February 14). It will span Lent and Eastertide. If you intend on submitting a piece, please contact Michael Cuppett and send it before Monday, January 29. Please remember that *The Messenger* is centered on reflection and personal perspective rather than announcements or calendar events.

## Christmas Joy Offering

Thanks to the generosity of members and friends, \$1,986 was raised for the Christmas Joy Offering. This offering supports the Assistance Program of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and colleges that equip communities of color.

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## EVENTS THIS WEEK

Day	Event	Location/Time	Contact
<b>Today</b>	Adult Education	Library, 9 a.m.	Ken Kovacs kkovacs@catonsvillepres.org
	Confirmation	France Room, after worship	Dorothy Boulton dboulton@catonsvillepres.org
<b>Mon.</b>	Presbyterian Women: Zoom Circle	Zoom, 9:30 a.m.	Brenda Logue naylogue@aol.com
	Presbyterian Women: Bridges Circle	Pritchard home, 4 p.m.	Tracy Lantz tklantz@verizon.net
	Stephen Ministry Meeting	Nesbitt Room, 5 p.m.	Dorothy Boulton dboulton@catonsvillepres.org
	Contemplative Prayer	Zoom, 7 p.m.	Brenda Logue naylogue@aol.com
<b>Tues.</b>	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
<b>Wed.</b>	Presbyterian Women: Wednesday Night Circle	7 p.m.	Vickie Lord lord.victoria@gmail.com
	Session Meeting	Library, 7 p.m.	David Hutton dhutton1@verizon.net
	Child Care Council Meeting	Zoom, 7 p.m.	Richard Johns richardwjohns@msn.com

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Day	Event	Location/Time	Contact
Thurs	Bible Study	Library, 10:30 a.m.	Ken Kovacs kkovacs@catonsvillepres.org
	Finance Committee	Library, 7 p.m.	Bill Henderson henderrath1@verizon.net
	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary, 7 p.m.	Greg Knauf gknauf@catonsvillepres.org
	Christian Ed Committee	Zoom, 7 p.m.	Jeff Bolognese jabolognese@gmail.com
Next Sun.	Second Sunday Programs	Beginning at 10 a.m.	Dorothy Boulton dboulton@catonsvillepres.org
Next Sun.	Worship	Sanctuary, 10:30 a.m.	Church office office@catonsvillepres.org

## PLEDGE UPDATE

	2024	2023		2024	2023
“Thank you for your amazing response to the 2024 stewardship campaign. We are so grateful for your generosity.” – Jadie Mayes and Keith Glennan, <i>pledge secretaries</i>			Less than \$1,000	12	19
			\$1,000 - \$2,000	13	21
			\$2,000 - \$3,000	13	21
			\$3,000 - \$5,000	10	9
	Number of pledges	70	92	\$5,000 - \$7,500	9
Total amount pledged	\$350,557	\$371,594	\$7,500 - \$10,000	6	3
Average pledge amt.	\$5,008	\$4,039	More than \$10,000	7	7

### Catonsville Presbyterian Church

1400 Frederick Rd., Catonsville MD 21228

catonsvillepres.org • (410) 747-6180

@CatonsvillePres on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube  
Please note that today's service is streamed.



STEPHEN  
MINISTRY



COVENANT NETWORK  
OF PRESBYTERIANS



## Here in This Place

401

## Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,  
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.  
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the  
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;  
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion  
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,




we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.  
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

## 582


# Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)  
 B $\flat$  F B $\flat$  F B $\flat$  F Gm F




1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,  
 2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)  
 F B $\flat$  E $\flat$  B $\flat$  Gm7 C7




and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,  
 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)  
 C7 F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.  
 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)  
 Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



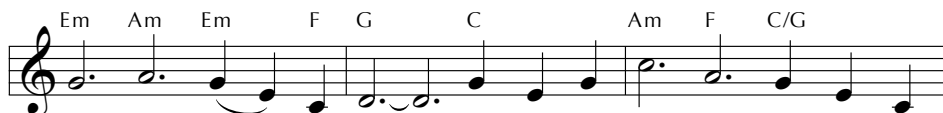
As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

## 482

## Baptized in Water



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the  
 2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the  
 3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our King; heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing the  
 tomb with Christ our King; one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
 sign of Christ our King; born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.  
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.  
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

Each stanza of this compact and carefully constructed text about baptism begins with allusions to John 3:5 and Ephesians 1:13. The interplay of constant and changing lines accentuates each added image. It is set here to a Gaelic tune first transcribed in the 19th century.

# God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

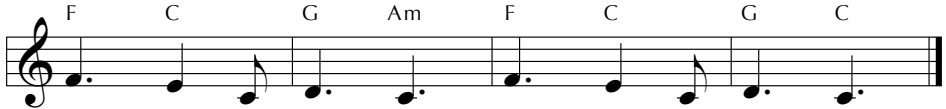
## O Christ, Surround Me



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
 2 Bind to my-self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness-  
 3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light-ning,  
 4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to  
 5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:  
 es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:  
 strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:  
 light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:  
 hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

This hymn is a 21st-century adaptation of the traditional Celtic prayer style known as a *lorica* (Latin for "armor" or "breastplate"). Many such petitions for God's presence and protection were never written down, but this one is based on an example attributed to St. Patrick.