



Care of Creation Sunday

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

APRIL 21, 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

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 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 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.

† Please rise in body or in spirit



CREATION CARE AT CATONSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN

Catonsville Presbyterian Church was certified as an Earth Care Congregation by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Presbyterian Hunger Program through February 2025. This is our ninth consecutive year of certification. The Earth Care Congregation certification is designed to recognize churches that make the commitment to take seriously God's charge to "till and keep" the garden.

This status speaks to the serious commitment that our congregation has made to care for God's earth. To become an Earth Care Congregation, this congregation affirmed an Earth Care Pledge to integrate environmental practices and thinking into their worship, education, facilities, and outreach.

Started in 2010 by the PC(USA), the goal of this program is to inspire churches to care for God's earth in a holistic way, through integrating earth care into all aspects of their church life. The Earth Care Congregation certification honors churches that make that commitment and encourages others to follow their example.

Our church is one of the 331 congregations in our denomination that formally chose to dedicate themselves to intentional care of God's earth this year. This congregation's activities and commitment is meant to bring hope to our community and to the world.

For more information on the denomination's Earth Care Congregations program visit pcusa.org/EarthCareCongregations.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Service for the Lord's Day

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth, Setting by James Kasen

English poet, Folliott Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917), penned the text to this hymn as he sat high on a hillside overlooking the English countryside and the winding river Avon, thinking about God's gifts in creation and God's gifts to the church. The original text, "Christ, our God, to thee we raise; This our sacrifice of praise" was meant for use during communion to portray Christ's sacrifice, as the host was lifted as an expression of God's gift to us, and our praise then lifted in return.

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Our Good Shepherd has led us to this place.

He leads us beside still waters; he restores our soul.

Even though we walk through dark valleys,
even though we are fearful and in need of comfort,

**our cup overflows with God's goodness and mercy;
we shall dwell in the house of the Lord our whole lives long.**

Come, let us worship God!

† HYMN # 15

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

Congregation and Choir: verses 1-4 and 6. Choir verse 5.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Savior God, you guide us, but we are slow to follow and stubborn. You welcome us to your fold, but we make others feel as if they don't belong. Forgive our life-alienating ways, our exclusion and judgment; the way we evaluate and compare, demean, and degrade. Redeem us. Restore us. Help us be faithful as your flock.

Silent prayer of confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

From 1 John 3:1

Hear the good news! Christ forgives. Christ transforms. Christ renews. Christ leads us down the path of new beginnings.

We are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

† RESPONSE OF PRAISE: HYMN # 591

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!”

Printed on following page.

Refrain



Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le -



lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!



Hal-le - lu-jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Verses

1. [Choir only] O God, to whom shall we go?
You alone have the words of life.
Let your words be our prayer and the song we sing:
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
2. [Choir only] My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord.
When I call them they follow me.
I will lead them to rest by the peaceful streams:
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Bernie Adjei

Fran Romain

Margina Luecking

Carissa Rodriguez

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Living God, with joy we celebrate
the presence of your risen Word.**

**Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit
so that we may proclaim the good news
of eternal and abundant life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 80:1-7

Pages 540-541 of the Old Testament

HYMN (Printed on following page)

"O God, Within the Psalms"

O GOD, WITHIN THE PSALMS



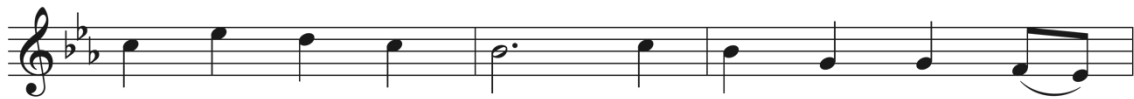
1. O God, with - in the Psalms are pic - tures of your love:
 2. And in the Psalms we see a Shep - herd's love ex - pressed.
 3. Yet as we look a - head, we fear the things we see.
 4. We see with - in the Psalms we fear the things we see.



There, young trees grow as wa - ters flow and
 Lord, you pro - vide and lead and guide, and
 As earth cries out through storm and drought, we
 Help us to share, and work, and care for



moun-tains rise a - bove. The crea-tures with their young, the
 we, — your sheep, are blessed. You give us food to eat, and
 won - der what will be. We take more than our share; we
 all your grow - ing things. O Shep-herd, we've been blessed; may



birds that fill the air, the gen - tle rain, the
 wa - ter safe and clear. Yes, we're re - stored, O
 plun - der and de - stroy. God, we con - fess we've
 we be bless - ings, too. This is our prayer: May



har - vest grain pro - claim your love and — care.
 Shep - herd Lord, by all you give us here.
 made a mess of things that bring you — joy.
 we take care of this — good earth with you.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

SCRIPTURE

John 10:11-18
Pages 103-104 of the New Testament

SERMON

“Handle With Care”
Ken Kovacs

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Opening Words

There are different gifts,
but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God,
but it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through different people in different ways,
but it is the same God who achieves God’s purpose through them all.

Each one is given a different gift by the Spirit,
to use it for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ,
and individually members of him.

Though we have different gifts,
together we are a ministry of reconciliation led by the risen Christ.

Officers

Ruling Elders
Class of 2026

Nancy Burke*

Ruling Elders
Class of 2027

Rob Burriesci
Kevin Flis*
Keith Glennan
Amy Oaks
Stephanie Stevens

Deacons
Class of 2027

Patricia Chao*
Hollie Einolf

Officers marked with an asterisk are also being ordained.*

Questions for the Officers-Elect

Questions for the Congregation

Q: Do we, the members of the church, accept these people as ruling elders and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

A: **We do.**

Q: Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

A: **We do.**

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS



† Please rise in body or in spirit

OFFERTORY

“Morning Has Broken”

Traditional Gaelic melody, Arr. Mack Wilberg

Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,
praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning
God's recreation of the new day!

† **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**

**Eternal God, take and use these gifts
for your purpose in the world—
giving food to the hungry,
hope to the despairing,
and new life to the dead.**

Teach us to live each day for you,
so that future generations
will know your goodness
and praise your glory;
in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 # 22

“God of the Sparrow”

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Jesus Christ is Risen Today
Setting by Calvin Hampton

American composer and organist, Calvin Hampton (1938-1984) was educated at Oberlin Conservatory and Syracuse University. Erik Routley, an English authority on church music, called Hampton (before his death) “the greatest

living composer of hymn tunes.” Hampton’s “Friday at Midnight” organ recital series at Calvary Episcopal Church in the Gramercy Park neighborhood of Manhattan, ran from 1963-1983 and was one of the most popular and well-known organ recital series in American history.

SOURCES

“O God, Within the Psalms,” text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, © 2024, all rights reserved. Music by Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915; harm. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1926, alt.

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

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WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Dorothy Boulton

Associate Pastor

Kathy Glennan

Video production

Marcellous Dixon-Grant

Worship Technical Director

Wendy Johnston

Organist and Assistant

Director of Music

Mokube Ewane

Liturgist

Greg Knauf

Director of Music

Vickie Lord

Social media support

LEARNING & GROWING

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Next meeting on Thursday, April 18 | 10:30 a.m. in the Library

Thursday Morning Bible Study resumes for a special series that explores the Bible's understanding of death. The Bible does not speak with one voice on this subject. What we find in Judaism is a gradual unfolding of insights into the nature of death, God's relationship to death (and the dying), and speculations about life after death. Many of these ideas are present in the New Testament but take on new and deeper meanings after the accounts of Jesus' resurrection. Each week, we'll study a different passage of scripture and related theological themes, supported by additional articles and reflection pieces to inform our discussions. View the full schedule and readings at tinyurl.com/tmbs-death.

REALM WALKTHROUGH

Sunday, April 28 at 9 a.m. in the Library | Tuesday, May 7 at 7 p.m. on Zoom

These two identical sessions will cover the basics of Realm, like logging in, navigating around, signing up to serve, and accessing the directory. The May 7 session will be recorded and available for those who cannot attend either of the times synchronously.

YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, April 28 | 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Middle and high school youth will gather for games, snacks, and activities next Sunday, April 28.

ADULT EDUCATION: CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM

Sunday, May 5 at 9 a.m. in the Library | Led by Ken Kovacs

We take up an issue that we started to explore last November. 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 focus of our discussion will be Tim Alberta's article in *The Atlantic*, "My Father, My Faith, and Donald Trump" (November 28, 2023), adapted from Alberta's important new book *The Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory: American Evangelicals in the Age of Extremism* (Harper, 2023).

May 10 marks the 90th anniversary of the Barmen Declaration. Written primarily by Reformed theologian Karl Barth in 1934, Barmen was the manifesto of the Confessing Church during the Nazi period in Germany. Designed to prevent the capitulation of the churches to hostile cultural forces, it has been accorded authoritative status throughout the Protestant world, including the PC(USA), for its emphasis on the centrality and all-sufficiency of Christ. We will hold Alberta's article and Barmen in critical tension.

Visit catonsvillepres.org/belonging to find the articles.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship Hour

Thank you to Betsy Hall and Connie Renner for hosting today's Fellowship Hour!

Office Schedule

The church office will be closed this Friday, April 26.

Memorial Service for Fred Wolf

A Service of Witness to the Resurrection for Fred Wolf will be held on Saturday, April 27 at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary. Inurnment at the Columbarium will follow immediately after. Please remember his son, Dave, and his extended family in your prayers.

Baltimore International Seafarers Center (BISC)

As recovery efforts continue in the aftermath of the Key Bridge collapse, the Baltimore International Seafarers Center is responding to heightened needs. We're grateful for the Mission Committee's recent decision to give \$4,000 to assist with recovery efforts.

Catonsville Concerts at 3

Today at 3 p.m. in the sanctuary, Charlie Zahm will perform a concert of Celtic, Maritime, and American Traditional music. He will be joined by noted fiddler Tad Marks and guitarist Steve Hobson. Like all Catonsville Concerts at 3, this performance is nonticketed and completely free.

Bridges to Housing Stability: Beans & Bags for Bridges

Join us on May 5 in a day of fun and community as we work to end homelessness through Bridges to Housing Stability's *Beans & Bags* fundraiser! Enjoy chili, cornhole, a silent auction, and live music by local musicians. Chili tickets and cornhole registration are now available at tinyurl.com/beans-bags-24.

Remembering Loved Ones

We remember this Eastertide that “in life and in death we belong to God,” (*A Brief Statement of Faith*). The Columbarium ministers and bears witness of this truth to us and our community. This Eastertide and into Pentecost, consider spending time in contemplation and remembrance at the Columbarium. For those who feel led to help create this sacred space, engraved pavers can be purchased and embedded in the garden for \$170. If you’d like to explore adding a poem, Bible verse, quotation, or remembrance of a loved one through an engraved paver, contact columbarium@catonsvillepres.org.

Worship Flowers

If you would like to dedicate the flowers for a service in memorial, recognition, or celebration of a loved one or special event, please email Virginia Fairman (v.fairman@comcast.net). The cost is \$55. A short message will be published in the bulletin, and you can take one or both bouquets home.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Day	Event	Location/Time	Contact
Today	New Members Breakfast	Library, 9 a.m.	Debbie Davis ddavis1069@yahoo.com
	Worship	Sanctuary, 10:30 a.m.	Church office office@catonsvillepres.org
	Realm Sign Ups	France Room, after worship	Michael Cuppett mcuppett@catonsvillepres.org
	Concerts at 3	Sanctuary, 3 p.m.	David Hutton dhutton1@verizon.net
	Confirmation Dinner	Library, 5:30 p.m.	Dorothy Boulton dboulton@catonsvillepres.org
Mon.	Contemplative Prayer	Zoom, 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.	Food ministries meeting	France Room, 4:30 p.m.	Jenny Hutton jenhutton2010@gmail.com
	Deacons' Meeting	Library and Zoom, 7 p.m.	Tom Enokian taenokian@gmail.com
Thurs.	Bible Study	Library & Zoom, 10:30 a.m.	Ken Kovacs kkovacs@catonsvillepres.org
	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary, 7 p.m.	Greg Knauf gknauf@catonsvillepres.org

Day	Event	Location/Time	Contact
Sat.	Memorial service	Sanctuary, 11 a.m.	Church office office@catonsvillepres.org
Next Sun.	Realm Walkthrough	Library, 9 a.m.	Michael Cuppett mcuppett@catonsvillepres.org
	Worship	Sanctuary, 10:30 a.m.	Church Office office@catonsvillepres.org
	Realm Sign Ups	France Room, after worship	Michael Cuppett mcuppett@catonsvillepres.org
	Youth Group	Fellowship Hall, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Jenny Hutton jenhutton2010@gmail.com

GIVING UPDATE

As of 03/31/2024

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

Actual income \$250,450
 Actual expense - \$194,085
Total \$56,365

Per capita is set by the Presbytery of Baltimore at \$40 per member. Based on our 2022 membership roll, our responsibility is \$16,400. Any contribution toward per capita is greatly appreciated.

Per capita contributions . \$855

Catonsville Presbyterian Church
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**COVENANT NETWORK
OF PRESBYTERIANS**