



Matthew 25 Recognition

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

APRIL 28, 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

MATTHEW 25 IN THE PC(USA)

A BOLD VISION AND INVITATION

Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

Matthew 25:37-40

WE ARE A MATTHEW 25 CHURCH!

Our congregation has accepted the PC(USA)'s invitation to follow Jesus' teachings in Matthew 25:31-46 by becoming active disciples and making a difference in our community and the world.

As part of our Matthew 25 commitment, we pledge to embrace one or more of these three areas of focus:

- Building congregational vitality by deepening and energizing our faith and growing as joyful leaders and disciples actively engaged with our community as we share the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed.
- Dismantling structural racism by fearlessly applying our faith to advocate and break down the systems, practices, and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice, and oppression of people of color.
- Eradicating systemic poverty by acting on our beliefs and working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor.

To learn more and for ideas on how to get involved and do your vital part as a member of a Matthew 25 church, please visit pcusa.org/matthew25.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Service for the Lord's Day

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

The Peace May Be Exchanged, Dan Locklair

† CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to this place where God pours out love upon us,
we join our voices in praise, as our fears are left behind.

We gather with one another, with those who seek to follow Jesus
so we might walk the paths of service hand in hand.

We open our hearts to the gifts of the Spirit,
so that grace and peace might be the fruit we bear.

† HYMN # 755

"Alleluia! Laud and Blessing"

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, have mercy on us.

We talk about love, but our actions betray us.

We talk about love, but we neglect the poor.

We talk about love, but we fail to love one another.

Lord, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us, and abide in us by the power of your Spirit
so that our lives may show our love for Jesus Christ,
in whose body we live and in whose name we pray.**

Silent prayer of confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God abides in you! God is breathing, living, forgiving, restoring you in the moment, and in the days to come. This is the good news for us!

As God is in us, so we can live, work, care for others, so that love, hope and joy might touch all people. Thanks to be God, we are forgiven!

† **RESPONSE OF PRAISE: HYMN # 582**

“Glory to God, Whose
Goodness Shines on Me”

† **PASSING OF THE 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 catonsvillepres.org.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Come, Holy Spirit, that through your word we may be guided into the love of God for all the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

1 John 4:7-12, 19-21
Page 241 of the New Testament

MESSAGE

“It’s in our DNA”
Dorothy Boulton

HYMN (Remain seated, printed below)

"Jesus, Be With Us"

Refrain



Je-sus, be with us. Help us each day to fol-low the
 gos-pel and live as we pray. Send us your Spir-it and
 show us your way. Je-sus, be with us to-day.

Verses

1. [Choir only] Where there is hunger and thirst in the land,
 Shatter the systems of greed.
 Jesus, be with us; make use of our hands.
 Lift up your people in need.
2. [Choir only] Where there is hatred because of our skin,
 break down the walls of our fear.
 Jesus, be with us to save us from sin.
 In your great love, draw us near.
3. [Choir only] Where there are valleys of bones, dry as dust,
 Build up the body of Christ.
 Jesus, be with us, and help us to trust.
 Teach us a new way of life.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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

Stephanie Stevens, Ruling Elder, class of 2027

Questions for the Officer-Elect

Questions for the Congregation

Q: Do we, the members of the church, accept Stephanie as a ruling elder, 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 her, to encourage her, to respect her decisions, and to follow as she guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

A: We do.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS



OFFERTORY “As Pants the Hart for Cooling Streams,” K. Lee Scott

As pants the hart for cooling streams when heated in the chase,
so longs my soul, O God, for thee and thy refreshing grace.

For thee, my God, the living God, my thirsty soul doth pine:
O when shall I behold thy face, thou Majesty divine?

Why restless, why cast down, my soul? Hope still, and thou shalt sing
the praise of him who is thy God, thy health's eternal spring.

† **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**

Through our offerings, O God, give your life-giving Spirit to a world in need of comfort, of justice, of transforming love. Make our many gifts one offering for the world, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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 # 300

“They’ll Know We are Christians by our Love”

† BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Puer nobis nascitur, “Proclamation”
A setting by David Schelat

SOURCES

“Jesus, Be With Us,” a hymn for Matthew 25 churches in the PC(USA). TEXT: David Gambrell; MUSIC: David Gambrell, arr. Phillip Morgan, 2020.

Where the Broken Gather, Year B, Thom M. Shuman, 2014.

Feasting on the Word, Year B, vol. 1, Kimberly Bracken Long.

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

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WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Dorothy Boulton

Associate Pastor

Wendy Johnston

Organist and Assistant

Greg Knauf

Director of Music

Kathy Glennan

Video production

Director of Music

Vickie Lord

Social media support

Marcellous Dixon-Grant

Worship Technical Director

David Hutton

Liturgist

LEARNING & GROWING

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Next meeting on Thursday, May 2 | 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. 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 this evening.

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. 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. Designed to prevent the capitulation of the churches to hostile cultural forces in the Nazi period of Germany, 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/AdultEducation to find the articles.

ADULT EDUCATION: BELONGING

Sunday, May 12 at 9 a.m. in the Library | Led by Ken Kovacs

Last fall, we kicked off our theme for the year: Connection and Belonging. This Sunday, we bring our adult ed program to a close with a look back and reflection upon our theme. We will focus on David French's piece in the NYTimes from several weeks ago on friendship and learning to be present to those in need.

Read the article at catonsvillepres.org/AdultEducation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship Hour

Thank you to the Mission Committee for hosting today's Fellowship Hour!

Ministry in the Presbytery

This morning, Ken Kovacs is preaching at Dickey Memorial Presbyterian Church (DMPC). The congregation is beginning to search for a part-time transitional minister to help the congregation discern its future. Ken is on the Presbytery's Commission on Ministry and serves as the liaison to DMPC.

Realm Signups Continue

Today is a Realm signup and picture day! Head over to the France Room following worship to update your contact information, receive your signup link, and take a photo for the pictorial directory. Blue fliers with additional information are in the front and rear of the sanctuary.

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.

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.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Day	Event	Location/Time	Contact
Today	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
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
Wed.	Session Meeting	Library, 7 p.m.	David Hutton dhutton1@verizon.net
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
Sat.	Church Grounds Workday	Parking lot, 9 a.m.	Ron Gunderson cinron.md@gmail.com
Next Sun.	Adult Education	Library, 9 a.m.	Ken Kovacs kkovacs@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

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!

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.

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

Per capita contributions . \$855

Catonsville Presbyterian Church
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Please note today's service is streamed.



**COVENANT NETWORK
OF PRESBYTERIANS**

755 Alleluia! Laud and Blessing

(Psalms 111 and 112)



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Laud and bless - ing to our God, whose Word is sure;
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! God sus - tains us; match - less are the gifts we share;
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Ho - ly Par - ent, all your chil - dren now re - claim;



by whose grace we find re - demp - tion, in whose love we live se - cure.
 light in dark - ness, hope in con - flict, an - swers to our deep - est prayer.
 may our lives re - flect your jus - tice, heirs to your most sa - cred name.



Righ - teous - ness and rich com - pas - sion shall at - tend us all our days;
 Ours to give as we are giv - en: arms to lift when oth - ers fall;
 Fill our hearts with un - der - stand - ing, brace our weak - ness by your might;



may God's prom - ise to be faith - ful ech - o through our songs of praise!
 im - ag - es of God's great good - ness, faith - ful ser - vants to God's call.
 awe - some hon - or, born in wis - dom; your great glo - ry, our de - light!




Psalms 111 and 112 are appropriately brought together in this paraphrase. Both form acrostics: each poetic line begins with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet in order. In addition, both psalms begin with "hallelujah," and they share much vocabulary as well as a theme of praise.

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.

We Are One in the Spirit 300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Capo 1: (Em) (Bm) (Em)
Fm Cm Fm

1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,

(Am) (Em)
B^bm Fm

we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,

(Am) (Em)
B^bm Fm

and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain (C) (Em)
D^b Fm

And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our

(Am) (Em) (Am) (Bm) (Em) (Am/E) (Em)
B^bm Fm B^bm Cm Fm B^bm/F Fm

love; yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.