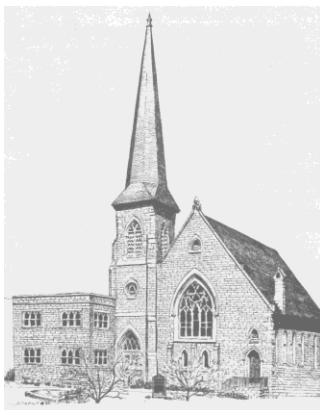


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 WASHINGTON STREET

CUMBERLAND, MD 21502



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY AUGUST 14, 2022 10:00 AM

OPENING VOLUNTARY

WHISPERING HOPE
JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

ALICE HAWTHORNE

Reflective text:

Soft as the voice of an angel, breathing a lesson unheard.
Hope with a gentle persuasion, whispers her comforting word.
Wait till the darkness is over, wait till the tempest is done.
Hope for the sunshine tomorrow, after the shower is gone.
Whispering hope, Oh, how welcome thy voice.
Making my heart in the sorrow rejoice.

10:00 AM

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

TAKE ME, TAKE ME AS I AM
Take me, take me as I am,
Summon out what I shall be;
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me. (repeat)

(CONGREGATIONAL)

* CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER FOR THE DAY

The Israelites crossed the Red Sea —

by faith!

The walls of Jericho fell —

by faith!

Knowing that we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses —

We walk by faith!

In faith, let us praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised!

Let us pray -

Holy Guide, we know that your faithfulness endures throughout the generations. We enter into your presence in awe of the mighty deeds you have already performed in our midst. Help us to keep alert to the wonder and to pay attention to the next thing you are about to do. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

As for me, it is good to be near God. Psalm 73:28

> 1. There is a place of qui - et rest, Near to the heart of God;
 > 2. There is a place of com - fort sweet, Near to the heart of God;
 > 3. There is a place of full re - lease, Near to the heart of God;

A place where sin can - not mo - lest, Near to the heart of God.
 A place where we our Sav - ior meet, Near to the heart of God.
 A place where all is joy and peace, Near to the heart of God.

Refrain

O Je - sus, blest Re - deem - er, Sent from the heart of God, Hold us, who

wait be - fore Thee, Near to the heart of God. *Optional transition to "In His Presence"*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we confess that though you have done everything well, we have not borne the good fruit you have a right to expect. Righteousness and justice are neglected, while violence ravages our cities, and bloodshed defiles the very ground beneath our feet! We have sown division where you would have unity, and forged a false peace where you would make a separation.

Forgive our reluctance to set aside the weight of sin, and give us courage to cast it off entirely. Renew our resolve to live to completion the cross-shaped life of baptism, in obedience to Christ Jesus, who has gone this way before us. Amen.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

RESPONSE #187

SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US (Verse 3)

"TRENTHAM"

You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
 you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
 Blessed Jesus, blesses Jesus, early let us turn to you.

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM 80:1-2, 8-19

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou who ledest Joseph like a flock! Thou who art enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth ² before E'phraim and Benjamin and Manas'seh! Stir up thy might, and come to save us!

⁸Thou didst bring a vine out of Egypt; thou didst drive out the nations and plant it.

⁹Thou didst clear the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.

¹⁰The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches;

¹¹it sent out its branches to the sea, and its shoots to the River.

¹²Why then hast thou broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

¹³The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.

¹⁴Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine,

¹⁵ the stock which thy right hand planted. ¹⁶They have burned it with fire, they have cut it down;

may they perish at the rebuke of thy countenance!

¹⁷But let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand, the son of man whom thou hast made strong for thyself!

¹⁸Then we will never turn back from thee; give us life, and we will call on thy name!

¹⁹Restore us, O LORD God of hosts! let thy face shine, that we may be saved!

DUET

HALLELUJAH!

LEONARD COHEN

MIKAYLA DODGE, SOPRANO; ZACH DODGE, GUITAR

SECOND READING

HEBREWS 11:29-12:2

²⁹By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as if on dry land; but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the harlot did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given friendly welcome to the spies.

³²And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— ³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. ³⁶Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated— ³⁸of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. ³⁹And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

SERMON

"SURROUNDED"

REV. ALISON PETERS

*** HYMN #22**

GOD OF THE SPARROW

"ROEDER"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY DUET

ANGELS AMONG US

BECKY HOBBS AND DON GOODMAN

MIKAYLA DODGE, SOPRANO; ZACH DODGE, GUITAR

Oh, I believe there are angels among us

Sent down to us from somewhere up above.

They come to you and me in our darkest hours

To show us how to live, to teach us how to give,

To guide us with the light of love.

* DOXOLOGY #643

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD (vs.3)

“NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT”

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is , and shall be evermore.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE CONCLUDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

* HYMN #418

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY JESUS IS CALLING

“SOFTLY AND TENDERLY”

* BENEDICTION

*(We will be forming a large circle around the sanctuary as we sing the Benediction Response this morning.
As you are able, move into the aisles and spread out during the musical introduction.)*

* RESPONSE AFTER BENEDICTION# 306

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS (Verse 1)

“SUO GAN”

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

POSTLUDE

ALLEGRO MODERATO

18TH CENTURY ANONYMOUS

JUDITH BROWN, ORGAN

* 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.....Hans Killius
Director of Music Ministries.....Judith Brown
Musician.....Mikayla Dodge, Soprano and Zach Dodge, Guitar
Audio/Video Technicians.....Joe Aurigemma and Eric Ringler
Ushers.....Bill and Ann Kellermeyer

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 worshiping 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. **Nursery care is provided during worship for all children 4 years of age and younger!**

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: The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of of Donald F. Evans by his wife, JoanEvans, and in loving memory of Anne and Raymond MacDonald, by their daughter, Joan Evans. The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of their son, William Shaffer Jr., on his birthday; Bill’s parents, Elsie & Tonie Shaffer; their daughter and son in law, Brenda and Gary Mc Kenzie, in celebration of their anniversary; and in celebration of their 68th wedding anniversary, by Bill & Carlotta Shaffer. 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 & GARY HENDRICKSON

| ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE: | as of August 7, 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 | \$109,878.00 |
| Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date | \$105,831.00 |
| Over/(Under) | \$ 4,046.00 |

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & OUTREACH

RULING ELDERS: MIKAYLA DODGE & SUSAN MILLS

✠ Rolfe Singerman will be in Devlin Manor until the end of August. If anyone would like to send him a card, please use the address below:

Devlin Manor, Room 215A
10301Christie Rd NE
Cumberland, MD 21502

FAITH FORMATION

RULING ELDERS: JOSH GILHART & KATIE ROSS

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING: We invite all children and educators to join us for worship on **Sunday, August 21st** for our Back to School Blessing. Please bring your backpacks or briefcases for a special blessing and gift for the upcoming school year.

MISSION

RULING ELDERS: AARON HENDRICKSON & BRENDA LUGER

A LETTER FROM THE PARENTS OF JANA SLAMOVÁ'S: We are sending, via this short email, sincere thanks to Cumberland church and community who arranged for Hana's wonderful stay. We still do not have her back home so to hear everything she experienced, what she saw and who she met, but the time is approaching when she will tell us when showing the photos after her arrival.

Summer holiday is going on unstopably, and the schoolchildren, of whom we have three at home, still have almost a month ahead before going back to school. We are very happy that Hana had the opportunity to stay with you - in a short phone call she told us how nicely you treated her during the stay in Cumberland, giving her the best experience of Cumberland and hosting generously.

We hope to have the opportunity to meet many of you from Cumberland at our ECCB-PCUSA conference next July in Olomouc.

Best,
Lucie and Petr

WORSHIP & MUSIC

RULING ELDERS: SHARON KAZARY & MIKE LEVITAS

HOME COMMUNION TRAINING: On **Sunday, September 18th** following worship, we will have a training for home communion. If you are an ordained elder in the Presbyterian Church and wish to help serve home communion, please call or e-mail Brittany and give her your name and contact information. We would like to begin serving home communion again this fall.

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

HOLY EXPERIMENT BRAINSTORM - AUGUST 21ST: Join us immediately after worship on Sunday August 21st to think together about exciting new or continued ministries we could engage in as a congregation.

A group called 'Cathedral Meets Commons' has been engaging in this visioning process and wants your input!

We will be finished by 1:00 PM and provide a light lunch. Contact the church office to RSVP or use the signup genius link provided in the bulletin e-blast.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

MONDAY, AUGUST (15)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

TUESDAY, AUGUST (16)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST (17)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
7:00 PM N.A. GROUP MEETING IN THE LIBRARY

THURSDAY, AUGUST (18)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
7:00 PM SESSION MEETING THE GATHERING PLACE

FRIDAY, AUGUST (19)

8:30 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, AUGUST (20)

SUNDAY, AUGUST (21)

10:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY